

# DENR, PNP seize over P24K worth of hot lumber in Baybay City

By DENR-8Published on June 1, 2020

TACLOBAN CITY, June 1 -- Acting on reliable information from a concerned citizen, personnel from the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office of Baybay City (CENRO-Baybay), together with the DENR Regional Enforcement Division, elements of the Philippine National Police (PNP) from the 1st Leyte Norte Provincial Mobile Force Command and from the Baybay City Police Station, conducted a joint anti-illegal logging operation at Sitio Tinago, Brgy. Kansungka, Baybay City on May 25, 2020.

The said operation resulted to the apprehension of a certain Danilo G. Apas who was caught in the act of arranging and piling several lumber pieces beside his house which were later identified to be of antipolo (*Artocarpus blancoi*), narra (*Pterocarpus indicus*) and tugas or molave (*Vitex parviflora*) wood species.

"Continued vigilance of the public and the judicious response of environmental law enforcers have led to another seizure of illegally cut lumbers and the apprehension of the timber poacher," said Tirso P. Parian Jr., regional executive director of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Region 8.

The operation led to the seizure of 497 board feet of illegally cut lumber with a market value of Php24,850. CENRO-Baybay took custody of the seized lumber while the PNP arrested the suspect and was brought to the Baybay City Police Station. Criminal charges in violation of P.D. 705 or the "Revised Forestry Code" have been filed in court against Mr. Apas.

"It is a positive development that we are able to apprehend the suspect who was in violation of our environmental law. The full force of the law will be imposed on him to show the gravity of the offense against the environment and to be a precedent to others who may be entertaining of committing the same affront to environmental laws," said Director Parian.

In previous anti-logging operations for this year alone of the Enforcement Division within the jurisdiction of Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office-Leyte (PENRO-Leyte), a total of four persons were also arrested for violation of P.D. 705 as amended.

Of these, three were arrested at Brgy. Buntay Sea Side, Abuyog Leyte on March 11, 2020 for possession and control of Agar wood wedges, locally known as "lanete/lapnisan" weighing more or less 1.8 kilograms with an estimated market value of Php40,000. Another suspect was arrested for possession of 21 pieces of illegally cut narra lumber totalling 837.32 board feet with a market value of Php29,306.20 in Brgy. San Pedro, Jaro, Leyte on May 01, 2020.

Charges have been filed and the suspects are now undergoing trial. (DENR-8)



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF DENR

**Hot logs** Several boards of exotic lumber were seized by authorities as anti-illegal logging operations continued amid quarantine controls. (Story on Page B15)

Daily Tribune (Philippines)

## DENR, PNP seize 'hot' logs

Recovered from the joint operation by the were several cuts of hardwood such as antipolo, narra and molave

Crime · Department of Environment and Natural Resources · Ecology  
2 Jun 2020 BY ELMER RECUERDO

TACLOBAN CITY — A third suspect was arrested for illegal logging in Leyte last week, which showed that illegal cutting of trees still transpired despite quarantine measures imposed by the government.

Following a tip, authorities arrested suspect Danilo

Apas, who was caught in the act of arranging and piling 497 board feet of illegally cut lumber beside his house in Sitio Tinago, Barangay Kansungka in Baybay City on 25 May 2020.

Recovered from the joint operation by the were several cuts of hardwood such

as antipolo, narra and molave.

The suspect and was brought to the Baybay City Police Station as he faces criminal charges in violation of Presidential Decree 705 or the Revised Forestry Code.

The joint operation was led by the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office of Baybay City, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Regional Enforcement Division, the 1st Leyte Norte Provincial Mobile Force Command of the Philippine National Police

and the Baybay City Police Station.

DENR regional director Tirso Parian Jr. said that the continued vigilance of the public and the judicious response of environmental law enforcers have led to the seizure.

Two other timber poachers were arrested in March and May where several board feet of agarwood, locally known as "lanete" or "lapanisan," and narra wood were seized in the operations.



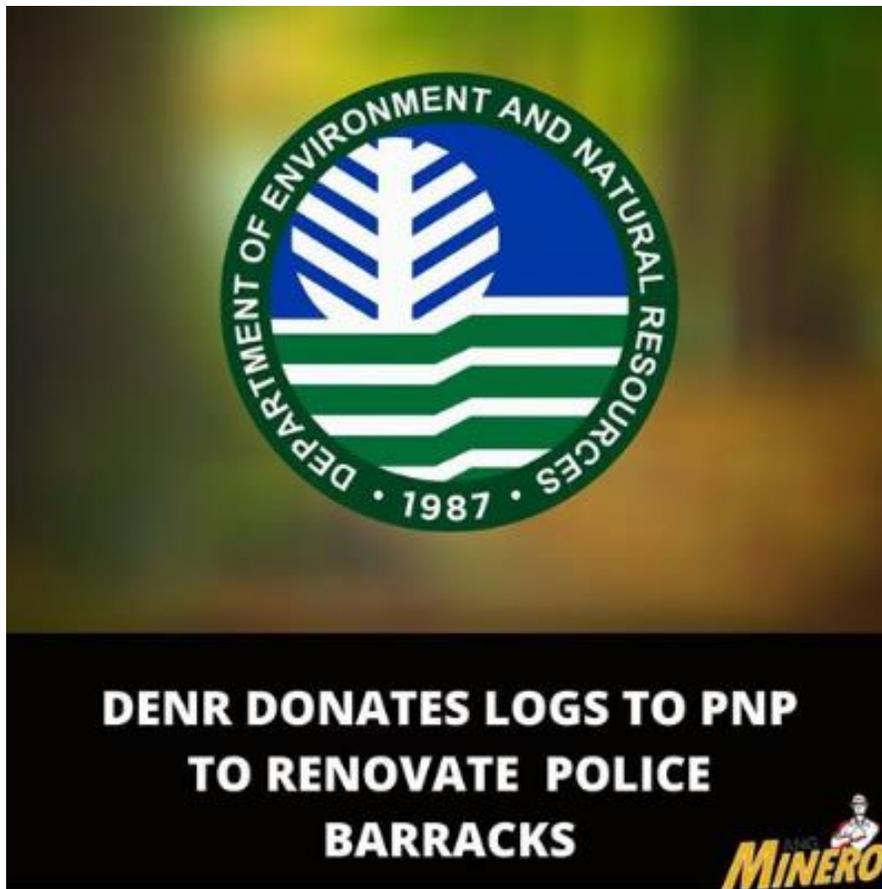
AngMinero

17 hrs · 🌐



The Department of Environment and Natural Resources- National Capital Region (DENR-NCR) has donated assorted logs of Mahogany, Narra, and Gmelina to Regional Mobile Force Batallion (RMFB) of PNP-NCRPO.

The logs have an equivalent volume of 2,198.40 board feet and estimated value of PhP 114,316.80 and will be used to renovate police barracks at Camp Bagong Diwa in Bicutan, Taguig City, as well as the creation of double-decks for frontliners deployed to man checkpoints.



👍 14

# 270 trees relocated for Isabela road project all dead

By [Peter Tabingo](#)

-June 1, 2020

NOT one of 270 trees survived an attempt to relocate them to clear space for a P1.382-billion road project in the province of Isabela, the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office told the Commission on Audit.

In a report released on May 29, the COA said the accomplishment report on the Ilagan to Divilacan Road Rehabilitation and Improvement Project was listed at 91.08 percent but on-site inspection by a technical team showed it was only 77.4 percent complete.

The road project was funded out of a P2.9 billion loan from the Development Bank of the Philippines and was undertaken by C.M. Pancho Construction Inc.

Aside from the inaccurate assessment of the accomplishment rate, the audit team also slammed the “improper disposal of excavate materials,” insufficient documentation to prove that detailed engineering surveys and designs were undertaken, and discrepancy in the computation of unit prices showed deficiencies totaling P45.17 million.

“The aforementioned deficiencies may imply that the transactions are of doubtful regularity/legality which could result in pecuniary loss to the government and may either be suspended or disallowed in audit,” the COA warned.

Auditors also hit what they described as a “haphazard” treatment of the balled trees as the audit team found no indication that saving them was originally included in the plans and estimated program of work.

They said verification proved difficult because concerned officials did not submit the detailed estimates for Work Item No. 100 “Clearing and Grubbing” under which the removal and relocation of said trees was provided.

“The specific activity for earth-balling of trees appears to have been haphazardly included ... as there was no apparent indication that it was part of that originally planned and estimated in the programmed works,” the COA added.

The provincial government insisted the work accomplishment of 91.09 percent was accurate, saying the COA-Technical Audit did not cover all structures on the project hence the low assessment report from the audit team was only based in a limited area.

It also defended the costing of the project, saying all cross drainage structures had to be torn down and replaced by newly-designed structures, hence the new unit pricing.

Quoting the Provincial ENRO report, the provincial government also said the 270 trees had to be moved as they were affected by the road right-of-way clearing.

The trees, each with trunks measuring 15 centimeters or lower, were reportedly transferred to a designated reforestation area measuring 2,430 square meters.

“However, it incurred zero survival rate despite intensive care because of the prolonged dry season prevailing in the area and the whole region,” the ENRO report said.

Because of the death of the trees, the forestry unit temporarily suspended earth balling activities.

Source: [https://malaya.com.ph/index/index.php/news\\_news/270-trees-relocated-for-isabela-road-project-all-dead/](https://malaya.com.ph/index/index.php/news_news/270-trees-relocated-for-isabela-road-project-all-dead/)

# Tawi-Tawi municipal gov't vows to protect otters found in Taganak Island

Published June 1, 2020, 1:01 PM

By *Nonoy Lacson*

**ZAMBOANGA CITY** – The municipal government of Turtle Islands in Tawi-Tawi has adopted stricter environment measures to protect the small sea otters (*Lutrogale perspicillata*) that were spotted recently at the coasts of Taganak Island.



(Nonoy Lacson / MANILA BULLETIN)

Turtle Islands Mayor Moh. Faizal Jamalul said residents of the town had spotted the sea otters in three different occasions since middle of May in the coastal sea areas of Taganak, a component island of Turtle Islands in Tawi-Tawi.

Jamalul described the creatures as smooth-coated skin otters, and of the omnivorous kind which eat insects, crustaceans, birds, frogs, water rats, eggs and fish.

The smooth-coated otter is an otter species lives in most of the Indian subcontinent, and Southeast Asia, while some of them can also be found in Iraq.

It is listed as Vulnerable on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species (IUCN) by habitat loss, pollution of wetlands and poaching for the illegal wildlife trade.

“It was quite surprising to all of us in this town to see such kind of sea species (otter) in our coast line,” said Jumalul.

According to Jamalul, the otters were known to inhabit Sarawak, Malaysia, and could have drifted to the island, or could also be exploring for new habitat because they were disturbed, or looking for food.

“While the otters are in Taganak we will ensure they will be protected,” the mayor said.



United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization assistant country representative for programs (Philippines)  
Tamara Jean P. Duran.

## Food security in the time of COVID-19

[MIKE ABOUT TOWN](#) - [Atty. Mike Toledo](#) (The Philippine Star) - June 2, 2020 - 12:00am

The Philippines has been acknowledged as one of the world's fastest growing economies.

Recently, it was also acknowledged by The Economist as sixth among 66 countries that are most financially secure during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic, so our hats off to President Duterte's economic team chaired by Finance Secretary Sonny Dominguez with members Trade Secretary Mon Lopez, Budget Secretary Wendel Avisado, Public Works and Highways Secretary Mark Villar, Transportation Secretary Art Tugade, Energy Secretary Al Cusi, Science and Technology Secretary Boy dela Peña, Tourism Secretary Berna Romulo-Puyat, Agriculture Secretary William Dar, Interior Secretary Ed Año, and Socioeconomic Secretary Karl Chua.

But even fast-growing and financially secure countries can be challenged, especially in this time of pandemic.

Make no mistake about it: the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted livelihoods, food supply chains, and people's access to food and basic services. There is a threat to food security, and this must be arrested at the soonest possible time.

Recently, Bughaw Digital Inc. and the Chevening Alumni Foundation of the Philippines Inc. (CAFPI) held a Digital Conversation on Food Security in the Philippines in the Time of COVID-19.

The Chevening Alumni Foundation of the Philippines Inc. is the organization of graduates of the UK Government's global scholarship program that offers future leaders the unique opportunity to study in the United Kingdom.

University of the Philippines president Danilo Concepcion is the chairman emeritus with House Deputy Speaker Ron Salo as president. I am privileged to serve this group as its chairman.

The conversation, broadcasted live over Facebook (welcome to the "new normal"), was ably moderated by Ronald Bong Rodriguez of Bughaw Digital. Rep. Ron Salo gave the opening remarks, which set the tone for the conversation. Secretary William Dar delivered the keynote message touching on the state of food security in the Philippines today.

Secretary Dar and I were together in the Cabinet of former President Erap Estrada. He also served as Agriculture secretary then. The fact that he has served both Cabinets in the same capacity shows the extent of his competence and expertise in the field of agriculture and food.

“The threat of hunger is as real as the threat of COVID-19.” This is the message that Secretary Dar brings with him wherever he goes, even to the meetings of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID), which he is a member.

Secretary Dar mentioned that the global impacts of COVID-19 on agriculture were the disruption in food supply, labor shortages, reduction in job quality, food wastage, affected livelihood of millions, and price spikes and increased price volatility.

He also said that a food security framework must be in place with a vision for a food-secure and resilient Philippines with prosperous farmers and fisherfolk, dubbed as “Survive, Reboot, Grow” towards socio-economic recovery and resiliency.

A mindset of survival, rebooting, and growth must be instilled in the agriculture sector, especially with the accelerated implementation of the Department of Agriculture’s (DA’s) “Plant, Plant, Plant” program.

The keynote speaker who gave an overview of the state of food security in the country today was Tamara Jean P. Duran, the assistant country representative for programs (Philippines) of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.

Tamara has been with the FAO for more than five years now and oversees the program development and management of FAO’s portfolio in the country, which, among others, includes initiatives that seek to promote food security and nutrition.

In her presentation, Tamara said that nearly half of Filipinos (45.4 percent) experience food insecurity.

No doubt, food is available, but it is a question more of moving them where they are needed most.

Tamara mentioned that this crisis is straining food systems and will continue to do so in the foreseeable future. She agreed with Secretary Dar that there was a need to reshape the DA’s strategic plan post-ECQ with the Survive, Reboot, Grow model.

Some institutional initiatives she suggested to strengthen food security were the establishment of a food security task group, a food resiliency plan for COVID-19 ECQ, the “Plant, Plant, Plant” program, urban agriculture, and support for local produce.

There were two resource speakers who shared what they were doing in the field of agriculture and food security, to inspire us, perhaps, to roll up our sleeves and pick up a trowel.

The first was Cherrie Atilano, the multi-awarded founder and CEO of AGREA Agricultural Systems International Inc., a for-purpose and inclusive business that is creating the first replicable one-island economy that promotes “zero hunger, zero waste, and zero insufficiency.”

AGREA aims to, among others, establish food security in the country by targeting to help 4.5 million smallholder farmers.

The second resource speaker was Moncini A. Hinay, who, with his nine-year-old daughter, Raaina, co-founded Kids Who Farm in Zamboanga City. Moncini explained that this was a food production plus education advocacy initiative that aimed to teach farming and the importance of food production to kids and women, even teens.

There has been a surge in interest, according to Moncini. Understandably so, because kids are just staying at home under quarantine, always looking for new things to do. Why not get them involved in farming, yes, and even develop food security for the coming generations. A brilliant idea, if I may say so.

Even kids have a role to play in food security. That I believe in as well.

All in all, it was a highly interesting, provocative and relevant discussion, which I hoped was picked up by many and cascaded to a lot more.

My hats off to the organizers for the success of this digital conversation. Trust that under the new normal, there would be more discussions of the sort on more topics that seek to help us adjust to a new way of life moving forward.

Always, with the care and the healing of the nation in mind.



“No place in the Philippines is under ECQ and MECQ. But if many of us do not follow health protocols or do not observe social distancing or physical distancing, wash hands, and continue to leave their homes for unnecessary reasons, we may revert to ECQ or MECQ,” said presidential spokesman Harry Roque.

Presidential Photo/Toto Lozano

## Palace warns ECQ may be reimposed if...

[Alexis Romero](#) (The Philippine Star) - June 2, 2020 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — As quarantine measures were eased nationwide yesterday, Malacañang warned the people that stricter protocols under another enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) could be reimposed if the public fails to observe safe physical distancing and health standards that would prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

Metro Manila, home to more than 12 million people and contributor of a third of the country’s gross domestic product, shifted from modified enhanced community quarantine (MECQ) to the more lenient general community quarantine (GCQ) yesterday.

Central Luzon and Calabarzon regions, Baguio City, and the provinces of Pangasinan and Albay in Luzon, Central Visayas region and Iloilo City in the Visayas, and the cities of Zamboanga and Davao in Mindanao have also been downgraded to GCQ while the rest of the country are now under the most lenient modified general community quarantine (MGCQ).

“No place in the Philippines is under ECQ and MECQ. But if many of us do not follow health protocols or do not observe social distancing or physical distancing, wash hands, and continue to leave their homes for unnecessary reasons, we may revert to ECQ or MECQ,” said presidential spokesman Harry Roque.

Officials have advised the public not to be complacent even if quarantine measures have been relaxed, saying the easing is being done to reopen the economy gradually and not because the threat of the virus is no longer present.

Interior Secretary Eduardo Año said that despite the rising number of COVID-19 cases, officials are convinced that the measures being implemented by the government are working.

“The lowering of (positive) rate is in our hands. We have to be homeliners. If we do not need to go out, stay at home, wash your hands, wear face mask, use disinfectants and for employers, if possible, adopt alternative work arrangements,” he added.

Año claimed the additional cases are old ones and the increase in the number of deaths is not that sharp.

“We do not see congestion in hospitals. That is a good indicator that we are containing this virus. Despite the late reporting, the situation is not that bad because we thought we are running out of hospital beds and hundreds are dying,” Año said.

“Overall, we can handle this situation and it does not mean we would go back to ECQ because based on our indicators, our health sector can respond to the patients of COVID,” he added.

Roque, however, noted that the capacity of hospitals may be overwhelmed if the number of cases increase.

“We have 1,273 ICU (intensive care unit) beds, 820 of them vacant and 453 of them occupied. While this is a good sign, it can be filled up easily if we are not careful and we do not follow health protocols,” the Palace spokesman said.

### **Survival of the fittest**

Carlito Galvez, chief implementer of the national policy on the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), disputed notions that it would be survival of the fittest once Metro Manila is placed under GCQ.

Galvez said businesses and local governments have been implementing strict measures to contain the virus, which has so far infected more than 18,000 people in the Philippines.

“I don’t think it’s right to say it would be survival of the fittest because based on what we saw, people are complying,” Galvez said.

“We can see that the business sector, they’re heightening up the strict protocols. We are even happy that the LGUs (local government units) in Metro Manila and the business sector have high awareness – even stricter than the IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases). We can see the concern of the LGUs and business sector,” he added.

Galvez also justified the IATF’s recommendation to ease quarantine restrictions, saying there is a need to reopen the economy.

President Duterte is expected to perform official functions while in Davao City, including presiding over a meeting of the government’s coronavirus pandemic task force, Roque said yesterday.

Duterte went home to Davao City over the weekend, the second time he traveled to the southern city since the Philippines imposed quarantine protocols.

The first time was in the middle of May or 67 days after he was stuck in Malacañang because of lockdown measures.

“First, the President remained in Manila for 67 days and he went home for three days... So three days are not enough. But now that he is in Mindanao, he is not there just for a reunion. He would also monitor what is happening in Mindanao,” Roque said.

“He will have official functions in Davao, including delivering a report to the nation and meeting with some members of the IATF,” he added.

Roque said some members of the IATF would travel to Davao to attend the meeting. The President may deliver a public address from the southern city on June 4, he added.

Critics have assailed Duterte for traveling to Davao to be with his family while ordinary Filipinos cannot visit their kin because of quarantine restrictions. Roque defended the trip, saying the President needed to know what was happening in Mindanao.

The Philippine National Police (PNP) is considering plans to scale down the full alert status of law enforcers as the country transitions into more eased quarantine measures amid the pandemic.

“The alert status has not yet been downgraded but we will assess in a few days whether we are going to downgrade it or not,” PNP chief Gen. Archie Gamboa said yesterday.

Police forces in several regions, including Metro Manila, Central Luzon, Calabarzon, Mimaropa and Bicol were placed on full alert last March when COVID-19 cases increased in many parts of the country.

Other police offices followed suit as the government declared a state of public health emergency.

Gamboa said that while the move to declare a full alert was in line with the emergency situation, the PNP encountered some difficulties as the maximum availability of cops under the full alert status coincided with the strict observance of social distancing in police facilities.

Under a full alert status, all day-off and leaves of PNP personnel were cancelled for maximum availability of officers.

“Where could they stay? So we still have to consider also. It’s also possible that our full alert does not mean police officers should be physically present in offices all of the time. Probably they will just be on call at any time,” he said. **Neil Jayson Servallos**

# Government details guidelines on travel after eased lockdown

June 1, 2020 | 8:06 pm



PHILSTAR/EDD GUMBAN

THE PRESIDENTIAL palace on Monday detailed the rules on local travel under a relaxed lockdown for much of the country, saying people's movements would remain restricted to contain a coronavirus pandemic.

Nonessential travel outside one's province or region would require permission from one's local government, presidential spokesman Harry L. Roque said at a news briefing.

A traveler must have a medical certificate before getting a travel authority to ensure he has not developed any symptoms of the coronavirus disease 2019 in the past two weeks, he added.

People traveling for medical and family emergencies and workers with company IDs and allowed to cross borders are exempted from the restrictions, Mr. Roque said.

People may travel within their cities or provinces under a general community quarantine without a pass, he said, but advised the public to stay home just the same. Those below 21 years old, pregnant women, people with comorbidities and other illnesses; and those older than 60 years must stay home.

Leisure travel is prohibited, Mr. Roque said.

Last week, an inter-agency task force composed of Cabinet secretaries eased the lockdown in Metro Manila, Pangasinan, Cagayan Valley, Central Luzon, Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon), Central Visayas and the cities of Zamboanga and Davao to a general community quarantine. The rest of the country will be under a modified general quarantine starting June 1.

President Rodrigo R. Duterte locked down the entire Luzon island in mid-March, suspending work, classes and public transportation to contain the pandemic. People should stay home except to buy food and other basic goods, he said.

He extended the lockdown for the island twice and thrice for Manila and nearby cities where COVID-19 infections have been mostly concentrated.

Meanwhile, public transportation in the capital region will resume operations gradually as it reboots its economy after more than two months of strict lockdown, Interior Secretary Eduardo M. Año said at a news briefing. More public vehicles would be allowed to operate by June 21, he added.

Many workers in the metro were supposed to start working again on Monday but they had difficulty commuting to work for lack of public transportation.

“We will phase it,” Mr. Año said, adding that crowding in public vehicles could lead to a spike in infections and force the government to order a return to a strict lockdown.

Jeepneys and buses are still banned under a general community quarantine.

The government including the military deployed vehicles yesterday to help stranded workers.

Under the relaxed lockdown, trains have been allowed to operate as long as passengers observe social distancing. Point-to-point buses, taxis and ride-hailing services are now allowed. — **Gillian M. Cortez**

# Malacañang pushes 50/50 work scheme

Stranded commuters greeted the start of the GCQ, however, prompting the Palace to remind the employers to craft schemes to ferry their employees to their work places.

Published 5 hours ago  
on June 2, 2020 12:30 AM  
By [Francis Wakefield](#)



Malacañang on Monday admitted that not enough public transportation is available to serve the commuting workers following the metro-wide downgrading of the COVID-19 protocols to a more relaxed general community quarantine (GCQ).

The GCQ was announced after more than two months of stricter enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) and modified enhanced community quarantine (MECQ).

More than P275 billion has also been released to fund the government's fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, aside from foreign loans in several billion dollars as authorized by the emergency powers given to President Rodrigo Duterte through Republic Act 11469 or the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act.

These funds have been depleted after the implementation of various projects, especially the Social Amelioration Program (SAP), which doled out cash to the most economically vulnerable sectors of society. With not much fund available for further distribution, the GCQ was declared to help the economy grind once more.

Stranded commuters greeted the start of the GCQ, however, prompting the Palace to remind the employers to craft schemes to ferry their employees to their work places.

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque made the remark after receiving complaints from many commuters who experienced difficulties commuting to work.

Roque said employers can implement the 50/50 work arrangement, where half of its employees can work from home while the other half will be required in their offices. He also encouraged employers to provide their workers with transportation if possible.

"It's not yet one hundred percent, we have to limit the number of workers who should be out," Roque stated. "But there will be a limit to the public transportation. So, we encourage the 50/50 scheme."

"The MRT and LRT can also function at 12 percent capacity," he added. "Even with the TNVS and the shuttle services, and the limited number of buses plying their routes, we cannot serve all the workers."

Roque also reported that the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) have deployed additional buses and other vehicles to help transport the workers.

The MMDA has 80 vehicles that could fill the need in the metropolis. The AFP also deployed its own buses, trucks and other assets to assist the commuters.

In another development, Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) clarified that there are fewer routes for buses traversing Metro Manila at the start of GCQ.

In a radio interview, LTFRB chairman Martin Delgra III explained that buses will not stop at some previously designated spots as the number of routes were reduced from 96 before the pandemic to only 31.

“What we did was rationalize the routes from 96 to 31 and we identified bus stops that are feasible and different from the previously designated bus stops,” said Delgra, adding that the bus operators and drivers have been instructed not to load and unload passengers in between the new stops.

He said with the rationalized routes, there will be more “turnaround trips,” making it easier and faster for commuters to get their rides. He reminded commuters that health protocols like social distancing and wearing of face masks will be strictly implemented.

“That is our principal consideration, public health over public transport,” Delgra added.

# Kaligtasan ng mga manggagawa na magbabalik-trabaho, iprayoridad

June 1, 2020

Editorial

Balik-trabaho na ang marami sa ating mga kababayan. Ito ay kasunod ng pagpapatupad ng general community quarantine (GCQ) sa Metro Manila kung saan pinayagan nang makapagbukas ang ilang negosyo at industriya.

Kaugnay nito, hinikayat ng Malacañang ang mga employers na magpatupad ng 50/50 scheme sa pagbabalik ng trabaho ngayong Hunyo 1.

Ibig sabihin, hindi pagsasabay-sabayin ang pasok ng mga empleyado kung saan 50% ay papasok sa opisina habang 50% naman ang magwo-work-from-home o magtatrabaho sa bahay.

Maaari umanong magpatupad ng rotating schedule sa mga empleyado sapagkat limitado pa ang mga pampublikong sasakyan.

Kung papapasukin ang lahat ng mga empleyado, imposibleng magkaroon ng social distancing.

Sa kabila ng patuloy na pagtaas ng kaso ng COVID-19 sa bansa, sinisikap ng lahat na ipagpatuloy ang buhay.

Tunay na malaking hamon ang muling pagsabak sa trabaho ng mga manggagawa para lamang kumita ngunit, huwag sana nating kalimutan na kaligtasan pa rin ang dapat iprayoridad.

## GCQ opener: Transport lack

Commuters endure long wait for rides, government asks for patience, understanding

posted June 02, 2020 at 01:50 am

by [Vito Barcelo and Joel Zurbano](#)

Commuters returning to work after a two-month lockdown waited long hours for rides that never came on the first day that Metro Manila shifted to a general community quarantine (GCQ), which eased restrictions imposed to slow the spread of COVID-19.

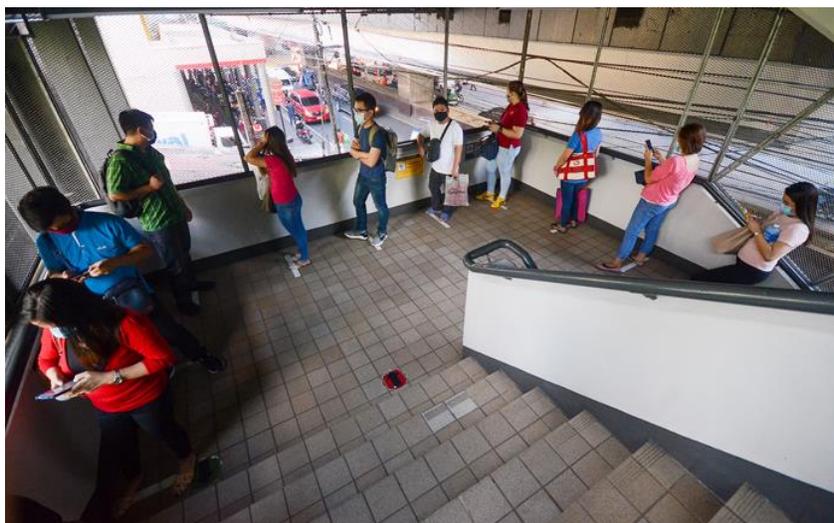


*QUEUES EVERYWHERE.* Lines, both human and vehicular, mark the first day of the general community quarantine in Metro Manila and other regions. Joseph Muego

A spokeswoman for the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), Celine Pialago, acknowledged that public transportation was insufficient, but said the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) was working to ensure that more vehicles would be available in the coming days for commuters.

Under the GCQ, buses along EDSA only had four drop-off points, but commuters who did not know this gathered in other bus stops.

Pialago said commuters who are far from the identified bus stops in North Avenue and Quezon Avenue in Quezon City, Ayala Avenue in Makati and Taft Avenue in Pasay City would have to take the MRT for now.



*QUEUES EVERYWHERE.* Lines, both human and vehicular, mark the first day of the general community quarantine in Metro Manila and other regions. This pictures shows orderly queues with social distancing at the LRT and MRT train stations. Norman Cruz

The Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) had earlier authorized 300 buses to operate on EDSA to augment urban train service of the MRT-3 and LRT. They formed long lines at both ends of the highway at Quezon City and Pasay City, as they could only leave on a set schedule.



*QUEUES EVERYWHERE. Lines, both human and vehicular, mark the first day of the general community quarantine in Metro Manila and other regions. This pictures shows orderly queues with social distancing at the LRT and MRT train stations. JR Josue*

Taxis, ride-hailing cars, shuttle services and bicycles are also allowed to operate at limited capacity from June 1 to 21, the first phase of public transport resumption.

For the second phase, from June 22 to June 30, public utility buses, modern jeepneys and UV express vans will be allowed to operate.

Labor groups assailed the government for its failure to provide adequate public transportation to thousands of workers on the first day of the GCQ, causing chaos and confusing workers who scrambled to get to work.

The Nagkaisa Labor coalition said they were disappointed with Department of Transportation (DOTr) for its failure to perform its primary mandate to provide "efficient, and dependable transportation systems" during the first day of GCQ.

In a statement, Partido Juan Manggagawa chairman Sonny Matula said physical distancing was completely compromised as commuters waited for transport services.

"For many, the wait was in vain as the MMDA did not provide bus stops from Quezon Avenue to Ayala Avenue," he said.

"In its rush to jump start a stalled economy without due consideration to the safety and welfare of workers, the national government has once again succeeded in heaping more unnecessary burdens to the working class," Matula said.

"Worse, with this transport fiasco, the DOTr and the MMDA risk wasting all the sacrifices forced on everyone for more than two months of lockdown to stop Covid-19," he said.

He said that all these could have been avoided had the national government provided "safe and free" transportation by implementing service contracting of PUVs that could have augmented the limited public transportation available.

He said the Move As One coalition proposed service contracting of PUVs to transport workers.

Under service contracting, the government pays the operators and drivers to run pre-determined routes to ferry workers. This is far different from the prevailing "boundary system," in which earnings are based on the number of passengers ferried.



*QUEUES EVERYWHERE.* This picture shows a scramble to ride a van along Commonwealth Avenue in Quezon City.

Senator Grace Poe on Monday urged the government to provide public transportation to returning workers now that Metro Manila and nearby provinces are under a GCQ.

"The long lines of commuters in bus stations, workers walking to offices and people scampering to get on every available ride should not be part of the new normal under GCQ," Poe said.

Clearly, she said, the mass transportation the country has does not meet the surge of people who have come out of quarantine to begin working again to feed their families.

"Government must show it is on top of the situation and take the necessary action to make available more public utility vehicles without compromising safety," said Poe.

"We also urge companies and businesses to maximize the work-from-home scheme, to help lessen the number of people who will need to go out and take mass transportation," she added.

Earlier, MMDA general manager Jose Arturo Garcia Jr. said public utility buses and jeepneys would be difficult to monitor for physical distancing and other quarantine requirements, given that they drop off and pick up passengers along the road.

Garcia said the point-to-point (P2P) bus services were allowed to operate since these can easily be monitored by authorities. P2P buses ferry passengers straight to their destination, with no pickups en route.



*QUEUES EVERYWHERE.* This picture shows a snaking chain of point-to-point buses before they run the length of EDSA, where only four stops were authorized for passengers to ride and alight from. Ey Acasio

Meanwhile, Quezon City Rep. Precious Castelo urged the IATF to allow back-riding on motorcycles for couples in Metro Manila.

“I think the government should not apply the ban on married couples riding together using their motorcycle as means of transportation in going to their workplaces or to the grocery to buy household essentials,” Castelo said.

“But if they can sleep together, dine together, why can’t they travel together?” she said.

Castelo added that it would be safer for couples to ride together on their motorcycle than to take the bus, where passengers would be at risk of getting the virus even with physical distancing.

Castelo pointed out that allowing couples to use motorcycles would ease passenger demand for and congestion on buses. Before the pandemic, motorcycles comprised 36 percent of public transportation, she said.

The Gabriela Women’s Party also urged the government to allow jeepneys, buses and other mass transport services to resume operations during the GCQ to help cash-strapped Filipinos to report again for work.

The Department of Transportation fended off criticism, saying that providing transport under a GCQ was a public health issue more than a public transportation issue.

“The threat is still here. And in this time of pandemic, health and safety must be of higher importance than comfort and convenience,” the department said in a statement.



*QUEUES EVERYWHERE.* This pictures show commuters in Valenzuela and Caloocan given free rides by their local government leaders.

“As mentioned by Secretary Arthur Tugade, while the mandate of the DOTr is to provide transportation, mobility and convenience, we are likewise vested with the responsibility to the people to help abate the spread of COVID-19.

“We do not want public transportation to become transmission vectors of the disease. Hence, the resumption of transportation entails a calculated, gradual, and partial approach if it is to regain its moniker as the lifeblood of the economy, not as an instrument of death,” the statement read.

Also on Monday, the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) called on all public utility jeepneys to participate in the Busina Balik-Pasada nationwide protest action on Monday, at around 10 a.m. There were pockets of protests, but were a far cry from the nationwide transport strikes that PUJ drivers staged in the past. With Maricel V. Cruz and Willie Casas

# Sustainable Urban Mobility sa Better Normal Bill, isinulong

By Rhodelia R. Divina Published on June 1, 2020

LUNGSOD CALOOCAN, Hunyo 1 (PIA) -- Tinalakay kamakailan lamang ng isang mambabatas kasama ang mga bike advocates at cyclists kung paanong ang pagbi-bisikleta ay makatutulong sa mga frontliner na makapagbiyahe sa gitna ng dinaranas na community quarantine at kung paano masusuportahan ng mga siyudad at probinsya ang pagbi-bisikleta bilang isang mas maka-kalusugang alternatibo para sa mga commuter at transport sector.

Sa pinakahuling Sustainable Urban Mobility episode ng programang “Stories for a Better Normal: Pandemic and Climate Pathways” isinulong ni House Deputy Speaker at Antique Congresswoman Loren Legarda ang pagkakaroon ng probisyon hinggil sa Sustainable Urban Mobility sa Better Normal Bill na ihahain sa Kamara.

Kasama ni Legarda sa naturang talakayan bilang co-anchor si Red Constantino, Executive Director ng Institute for Climate and Sustainable Cities; pati sina Undersecretary Frisco San Juan, Jr. ng Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA); Atty. Crisanto Saruca, MMDA Director para sa Legal and Legislative Affairs, Edison Nebrija ng MMDA Task Force of Special Operations; Keisha Mayuga, Life Cycles PH founder; Aldrin Pelicano MNL Moves founder Aldrin Pelicano; at Rommel Miles Corro, Climate Reality Leader at Triabetics member.

“Hindi dapat na maging pangarap na lamang ang Sustainable Urban Mobility. Gawin natin itong isang permanenteng solusyon para matugunan ang mga paghihirap at araw-araw na pakikibaka ng ating mga commuters. Sa ating Better Normal Bill, sisiguruhin ko na ang lahat ng mga konstruksyon at imprastraktura ay magkakaroon ng kani-kaniyang luntiang espasyo na may mga pagtataniman ng mga halaman at puno na akma sa ating klima, at may pedestrian at bike lanes. Ibalik natin ang mga espasyong ito sa ating mga mamamayan,” sabi ni Legarda, na mag do-donate ng bagong bike sa Life Cycles PH at MNL Moves.

Ibinahagi ni Red Constantino ang tantya ng Department of Transportation na mahigit kumulang na 50% na kabawasan sa passenger capacity ng mga bus, pampasaherong dyip o PUJ, at public utility vehicles o PUVs, kasama na rito ang 80-90% na kabawasan mula sa rail sector. Nagbigay din sya ng mga halimbawa at paliwanag ukol sa malaking pakinabang ng pagbi-bisikleta sa ating ekonomiya at klima.

“Ang pagbi-bisikleta papuntang trabaho ay mabuti para sa ating ekonomiya dahil nababawasan ang gamit na gasolina at importasyon ng langis, mas malinis ang hangin, at mas mainam ang kalusugan para sa ating mga manggagawa. Nakatutulong rin sa climate action. Napakaraming mga projection ang nagpapakita na napakalaki ng carbon emissions ang maaaring maibawas —makatitipid ang mga syudad ng \$25 trillion sa loob ng susunod na 25 na taon dahil sa pagbibisikleta at maaaring makaiwas ng 300 megatonnes ng carbon,” sabi ni Constantino.

Ibinahagi ni Keisha Mayuga ang mga simulaing isinagawa na ng Life Cycles PH upang matulungan ang ating mga frontliners sa gitna ng kasalukuyang pandemic at ang panawagan upang magkaroon ng mga dedicated at protected na mga bike lanes sa Metro Manila na konektado sa mga karatig-pook.

"Sinimulan ko ang grupong Life Cycles PH noong narinig namin na mawawalan ng mass transport sa gitna ng pandemic. Nadurog ang puso ko nang malaman na ang mga mamamayan ay hindi makauwi sa kani kaniyang mga tahanan kung kaya't namigay kami ng mahigit na 1,400 na mga bisikleta sa pamamagitan ng isang donation drive, na nakalikom na ng mahigit 3 million pesos na pondo. Sa pamamagitan ng community matching sa Facebook, ang mga pribadong indibidwal at mga frontliners ay maaring makahiram ng mga bisikleta. Gayundin, sa pamamagitan ng EDSA Evolution ay ipinaglalaman at isinusulong ang pagkakaroon natin ng permanent at protected bike lanes para masiguro ang kaligtasan ng ating mga frontliners at bikers," sabi ni Mayuga.

Ibinahagi ni Aldrin Pelicano kung paanong nagmula lamang sa kahiligang gawain ang MNL Moves, na ngayon ay naging isa ng pamayanan ng mga nagsusulong ng pagbibisikleta. Ibinahagi din niya ang survey na kanilang ginawa kasama ng ICSC at ng University of Twente (UT) sa Netherlands ukol sa regular na bike routes ng mahigit na 400 cyclists at ang naging resultang mga rekomendasyon ukol sa pagkakaroon ng interconnected bike lanes.

"Ang pagkakaroon ng mas maraming oras para sa pamilya dahil sa pagbi-bisikleta ang naging mensahe ko para mapalawak ang MNL Moves hanggang ito'y maging isang community. Kami ngayon ay nagsimulang manawagan at manghikayat sa mga organisasyon maski na sa labas ng cycling community upang makapagdaos ng mga pagsasanay at ang pagkakaroon ng mga programa upang makapagbahagi ng kaalaman. Maaaring ipatupad muna ng mga LGUs ang pagkakaroon ng temporary bike lanes upang matutunan din paano gawing permanente ang mga bike lanes," sabi ni Pelicano.

Tinalakay at ibinahagi din ni Rommel Miles Corro ang kanyang mga karanasan sa pagbi-bisikleta mula Muntinlupa, kung saan inihatid nya ang kanyang mga anak sa kanilang paaralan, at pagkatapos noon patuloy siyang nagbibisikleta papunta sa kanyang trabaho sa Makati.

"Papaano at bakit ba ako nagkaroon ng matinding kahiligan at pagmamahal sa pagbibisikleta? Hindi lamang ito dahil nakaka-menos ako sa gastos. Hindi lamang ito dahil binabawasan ko ang ating carbon footprint. Kundi, napupukaw din nito ang pagiging malaya ng aking kaluluwa at damdamin. Nagkaroon na din ako ng natural na pagkasuklam sa kadalasang pag-iisa ko sa loob ng kotse. Nakaka-konsensya kasi bahagi ako ng traffic at hindi bahagi ng solusyon. Ngunit kapag ikaw ay nagbibisikleta papuntang trabaho, nagkakaroon ka ng bahagyang kalayaan at nabibigyan ako nito ng malawakan na laya sa anumang oras na mayroon ako," sabi ni Rommel Miles Corro.

Samantala nagpahayag ng suporta sa rekomendasyon ni Legarda na magkaroon tayo ng isang bike masterplan sa Metro Manila si MMDA Usec. San Juan. Bahagi ng bike masterplan na ito ay kang pagkakaroon ng dedicated at protected bike lanes, na isusulong sa House Bill 6864, o ang "Better Normal for the Workplace, Communities and Public Spaces Act" o ang Better Normal Bill na ini-akda at itinaguyod ni Legarda.

"Kami ay sumusuporta sa bike lane program sa Better Normal Bill. Bago magkaroon ng pandemic, mayroon nang kasalukuyang umiiral na bike lane project sa kahabaan ng Ilog Pasig, mula Pasig hanggang Manila. Inaayos pa po ang obstructions para maging continuous bike lane siya. Ang ating panaginip ay binibigyan ng pagkakataon na maging isang katotohanan sa mga darating na buwan," sabi ni Usec. San Juan. (PIA NCR)

## Gov't mulls bicycle lane network in Metro Manila

June 1, 2020 | Filed under: [Headlines, News](#) | Posted by: [Tempo Desk](#)

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) are planning to link the bicycle lanes of EDSA to other bicycle lanes of local governments of Metro Manila.

“Ito ho ikokonek namin sa ibang bike lane sa ibang siyudad at local governments,” said DOTr Sec. Arthur Tugade during an interview over CNN Philippines.

“Gusto ho namin magkaroon na talaga bike lanes na buo at kumpleto,” he pointed out.

Tugade said he has already discussed this possibility with MMDA General Manager Jojo Garcia.

In the meantime, Tugade said they are preparing bike lanes along EDSA.

“Uumpisahan ho ang pagmarka ng mga bicycle lane, ‘yung paggawa ng istraktura, uumpisahan na rin ho in close coordination with MMDA, the Department of Public Works and the assistance of DILG,” he said.

Tugade disclosed that as early as mid-May he sought help from DPWH Secretary Mark Villar to revive the bike lanes along EDSA.

“Pag ito nabuo at na-implement sa EDSA, makikita ninyo may dedicated lane — bus sa kaliwa, sa gitna ho private cars, doon sa bandang kanan will be the bicycle lanes,” he said.

At the moment, augmentation buses are using the bus lane during the DOTr’s Phase 1 resumption of public transportation which covers the period of June 1 to 21.

Other modes of transportation allowed during Phase 1 include trains, taxis, transport network vehicle services (TNVS), shuttle services, point-to-point buses, and bicycles.

“Pagdating sa new normal dito na rin ho dadaan sa lugar na ito ‘yung mga bus na papayagang tumahak sa EDSA,” Tugade said. **(Jeffrey Damicog)**

Malacañang defends decision to discontinue hazard pay  
to gov't workers, says coronavirus now 'manageable'

PAGE 1/ 1/2

June 2, 2020  
DATE

# Malacañang defends decision to discontinue hazard pay to gov't workers, says coronavirus threat now 'manageable'

Published June 1, 2020, 3:50 PM

By Genalyn Kabiling

Malacañang has defended its decision to discontinue the grant of COVID-19 hazard pay to government workers who physically report for work during the general community quarantine (GCQ) by saying that the coronavirus threat has become "manageable."

Presidential spokesman Harry Roque asked state workers for understanding especially since the government need funds for efforts to contain the spread of the disease.



Presidential spokesperson Harry Roque Jr. (CAMILLE ANTE / MANILA BULLETIN FILE PHOTO)

"Yung banta bagamat naririyang pa, it has become manageable dahil humaba ang doubling rate ng sakit at saka na-increase ang capacity natin to provide critical care. Hindi na po katindi ang banta pero kinakailangan na mag-ingat pa rin (Although the threat is still there, it has become manageable because the case doubling rate has dropped and our capacity to provide critical care has increased. The threat is not as severe but we must continue to take precautions)," Roque said during a televised press briefing about the decision to stop the hazard pay for certain state workers.

Asked if there was no chance to resume COVID-19 hazard pay for some government workers, Roque said: "Talagang 'yan naka budget lahat yan. Ang lahat ng budget nakalaan sa COVID-19 so kaunting pasensya sa ating government workers (The funds are all budgeted. The budget is allocated for COVID-19 so we appeal for the understanding of our government workers)," he added.

Last March, President Duterte issued Administrative Order No. 26 authorizing the grant of COVID-19 hazard pay to government personnel who physically report for work during the enhanced community quarantine. The personnel working in national government agencies, state universities, and colleges and government corporations were entitled to hazard pay not exceeding P500.

The AO stated that public health workers, social workers, science and technology personnel, military and uniformed personnel, and other workers already receiving hazard allowance or similar benefits shall continue to be entitled to such benefits or the COVID-19 hazard pay, whichever is higher.

Last Friday, Civil Service Commission commissioner Aileen Lizada announced that state workers who physically report for work during GCQ are no longer entitled to hazard pay.

Public health workers, policemen and soldiers, and others mandated to receive hazard pay under the law, however, will still receive such benefit, according to the CSC official.



Malacañang defends decision to discontinue hazard pay  
to gov't workers, says coronavirus now 'manageable'

PAGE 1/ 2/2

June 2, 2020

DATE

“Hazard pay is given to all those mandated to receive hazard pay under the law, ito po iyong public health workers and iyong PNP, AFP mayroon po but those who did skeleton workforce po ever since March 16, they are entitled to hazard pay, pero kapag nag-GCQ na po tayo, wala na pong hazard pay,” she said during the Laging Handa public briefing last Friday.

“Hazard pay is only given during ECQ outside of those entitled to hazard pay,” she added.

Metro Manila and nine other areas have been placed under the less stringent general community quarantine starting June 1. Lockdown measures are further relaxed in the rest of the country, which are now under modified GCQ.

In GCQ areas, Roque said government work may resume at full operational capacity or under alternative work arrangements.

In MGCQ areas, government offices may be allowed to resume physical reporting for work at full capacity, while alternative work arrangements are encouraged for those over 59 years old.

# CSC issues reminder for gov't workers amid GCQ

June 1, 2020



The Civil Service Commission (CSC) directed government agencies and officials to follow minimum health standards of the Department of Health (DOH) amid the implementation of the general community quarantine.

The CSC has ordered the strict observance of social distancing, and a 50 percent workforce in offices.

Commissioner Aileen Lizada said the work schedule must not be in full force because if an entire unit is hit by COVID-19, "the whole of your unit will be placed under quarantine."

The CSC also proposed an alternate office schedule of employees for 14 days while those pregnant, elderlies, and those with health risks continue to work from home. The commission assured the 14-day sick leave of employees will not be reduced if they undergo quarantine. – *Report from Cleizl Pardilla*



## GOOD NEWS, BAD NEWS SA COVID-19

June 2, 2020 @ 12:35 AM 8 hours ago

Kung titingnan ang takbo ng Corona Virus Disease-19, malalaki ang mga good news at bad news dito.

Sa buong mundo, magkasalungat ang takbo ng mga nagkakasakit at namamatay.

Sa pag-aaral ng Worldometer, mula Marso 28 hanggang Abril 30, naglaro sa 100,000 araw-araw ang nagkakasakit at mula sa Mayo 11 hanggang 22, umakyat ang bilang ng mga nagkakasakit sa mahigit 100,000 hanggang 125,000 araw-araw.

Bad news ito dahil tayo'y nadadamay rito.

Sa patay naman, noong Marso 8 hanggang Abril 8, naglaro sa 7,500 hanggang 8,500 ang namamatay araw-araw ngunit simula noong Abril 19, bumaba ang bilang ng namamatay sa nasa 6,000 araw-araw hanggang 5,000 araw-araw sa huling linggo ng Mayo.

Good news naman ito na lumalabas ding nangyayari sa mahal kong Pinas.

### SA EKONOMIYA

Good news din ang pagbubukas ng mga negosyo at pamahalaan sa ibang bansa na lumilikha ng mga produkto at serbisyo.

Kung saka-sakali, kahit papaano, mababawasan ang mga overseas Filipino worker na uuwi o ide-deport ng ibang mga bansa dahil may makababalik sa trabaho.

Maalaalang tantiya ng pamahalaan na aabot sa mahigit 300,000 ang mga OFW na gustong umuwi sa kawalan ng trabaho o sapilitang pauwiin ng ibang mga bansa dahil sa pagbagsak ng kanilang ekonomiya.

Dito sa atin, good news din ang pagkakasibak ng enhanced community quarantine at pagkakalagay natin sa general community quarantine dahil simula na rin ang pagbubukas ng mga negosyo at pamahalaan na lumilikha ng mga produkto at serbisyo.

Sa paggawa ng mga produkto at serbisyo, magkakasahod ang mga obrero sa mga pabrika at pamahalaan at magkaroon ang mga mamamayan ng pambili ng pangangailangan nila na pasimula ng pag-andar ng pambansang ekonomiya.

Ang bad news, may posibilidad na muling darami ang mamamatay sa Covid-19 dahil sa hawaan ng mga mamamayan na nagsisilabasan sa kanilang mga tahanan na may kasamang kawalan ng disiplina at paglabag na rin sa mga patakaran sa social distancing, pagsusuot ng face mask at iba pa.

### SA HEALTH AND BEAUTY

Pinaka-bad news ang kawalan pa rin ng saktong bakuna laban sa Covid-19 at usapin ito ng kalusugan.

Sa Thailand, ngayon pa lang sila nagte-testing sa mga unggoy at saka na sila mag-testing sa tao kung panahon na ito.

‘Yun bang === hindi madededo ang mga unggoy na mapag-testingan at hindi matutulad sa maraming bata sa mahal kong Pinas na pinag-testingan ng Dengvaxia.

Sabay-sabay ring sumali sa mga clinical trial ang maraming bansa gamit ang mga gamot laban sa malaria, tuberculosis, human immuno-virus at maging ang pagsasalin ng dugo ng mga nakaligtas sa Covid-19 sa mga nasa ospital ngayon.

Ngunit wala pa ring magandang balita.

Dahil dito, bad news naman ito sa mga beauty product dahil naka-face mask ang lahat ng babae at lalaki paglabas ng kanilang mga tahanan at may umaabot sa pagsusuot nito ng 24 oras.

Paano kung aabot ng isa, dalawa, tatlong taon o higit pa ang pagkakaroon ng saktong bakuna at kailangan mag-face mask ang lahat sa mga buong panahon na ito?

Bagsak ang mga paninda para sa make-up, halimbawa, dahil masisira lang ito sa face mask.

Kung meron mang aarangkada na pampabyuti, walang iba kundi ang mga para sa kilay at pilik-mata at buhok.

Tinutunaw o sinisira naman ng alcohol o hand sanitizer o palagiang paghuhugas ng kamay na may sabon ang mga produktong gamit sa manicure at pedicure.

## ANG PINAKAMAHALAGA

Sa gitna ng mga good news at bad news, binigyan muli tayo lahat ng pagkakataon at kalayaan na magtrabaho at magnegosyo para kumita.

At ito ang pinakamahalaga sa ngayon.

Sa pagkakaroon ng kita ng mga mamamayan, mapupunan ang kumakalam nilang sikmura at mababalikat nila ang mga obligasyon sa mga bayarin sa tubig, kuryente, utang, hulugang bahay, pag-aaral ng mga bata at marami pang iba.

Ikot naman ang kita para sa pagpapalago ng negosyo ng mga naluging negosyante o nagsisimulang magnegosyo.

Ang pamahalaan, sa pamamagitan ng buwis, makaiipon ito ng mga pondong para sa mga pagawaing-bayan na lilikha ng trabaho at magpapasigla sa negosyo na lalahukan ng nasa 50 milyong obrero.

Gayundin na maisusulong nito ang edukasyon na nilalahukan ng nasa 25 milyong kabataan taon-taon.

Mahalaga ring isiping bibigyan ng pamahalaan ng pansin ang kalusugan ng mga mamamayan at kailangan talaga nito ang sapat na pondo laban sa Covid-19 at sa mga darating na sakit sa tag-ulan gaya ng pumapatay ring dengue.

Kaya naman, huwag nating abusuhin ang bago nating pagkakataon at kalayaan para sa bagong buhay natin sa ilalim ng tinatawag nilang new normal.

Makinig at sumunod lagi sa mga habilin ng pamahalaan para sa ating kaligtasan sa sakit at para hindi na tayo babalik pa sa ECQ at GCQ na may halo pang ECQ at sa halip, didiretso na tayo na normal, bagama’t bago, na pamumuhay.



## **NAGKANDAHETOT-HETOT ANG METRO MANILA SA GCQ**

June 1, 2020 @ 11:38 AM 18 hours ago

NAGKANDAHETOT-HETOT ang buhay ng mga mananakay, karamihan obrero sa pribadong sektor at pamahalaan, sa unang pasok sa trabaho sa araw na ito, lalo na sa Mega Manila na binubuo ng National Capital Region, Rizal, Bulacan Cavite at Laguna, kasama na rin ang Batangas.

Walang gaanong naging problema ang mga may sariling sasakyan kundi ang trapik sa new normal na kalagayan na dati namang nararanasan sa old abnormal situation noon.

Kasama sa kinaganapan ng masamang trapik ang mga papasok mula sa South at North Luzon Expressway at mula sa Rizal.

Imadyinin mo na lang din na binawasan ng Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board mula sa mahigit 90 na bus station sa mahigit 20 lamang sa Metro Manila.

Nabulaga ang mga mananakay at pasahero sa proyektong ito gaya ng nangyari sa EDSA Cubao na dating nagpupupugan ang mga pasahero at bus.

Olat ang mga pasahero at kinailangan nilang maglakad nang malayo para roon sumakay.

Tila walang sapat na abiso ang LTFRB sa taumbayan ukol dito at naging sobrang pahirap sa huli.

### **HINDI SAPAT**

Bibihira ang mga establisimiyentong pinayagan ng pamahalaan na magbukas at mag-operate sa ilalim ng General Community Quarantine at karamihan ay hanggang 50 porsyento lamang.

Kasama ang media sa pinayagang mag-operate ng 100 porsyento pero may limitasyon naman ang galaw ng mga dealer ng print media, lalo na ang mga nagbibiyaha papasok at palabas ng Metro Manila.

Ito'y para mabuhay ang ekonomiya ng mahal kong Pinas at malagyan ng laman ang bulsa ng mga mamamayan para mabuhay at makapagsilbi naman ang mga kawani ng pamahalaan.

Pero lumabas na kulang na kulang ang pampublikong transportasyon na inasahang sasakyan ng higit na nakararami.

Hindi sapat ang mga tren na pinatakbo, ang mga augmentation bus sa North EDSA patungong Ayala at EDSA-Avenida at TNVS gaya ng Grab kung tawagin.

Nagkaroon pa ng mga checkpoint kung saan-saan na sinabayan ng pagkuha ng temperature ng mga tao at pagsusuri sa quarantine passes.

At hindi pinalampas ang mga may angkas sa motorsiklo kahit sabihin pa ng mga rider na magkaangkas sila maging sa kama.

Kaya naman, maraming late sa pagpasok sa trabaho kahit pa madaling araw pa sila nagsimulang gumalaw-galaw at kumaway-kaway, lalo na ang mga naglakad lamang dahil sa kawalan ng masakyan.

May mga hindi na rin nakapasok.

Kung magpapatuloy ang ganitong kalagayan, ano kaya ang mangyayari?

Sana, walang mag-init sa ulo na mga mamamayan, mamatay na lang bigla sa kalsada sa pagod at stress at iba pa.

Pero kailangang magdesisyon at kumilos nang mabilis ang mga kinauukulan upang matugunan nang maayos at walang perwisyo ang pangangailangan ng mga mamamayan sa transportasyon.

## CALIBRATED O KONTROLADO

Para sa ating Uzi, malinaw na pinairal ng mga awtoridad ang calibrated o kontrolado o dahan-dahang pagbubukas ng ating ekonomiya para makontrol din ang pananalasa ng coronavirus disease-19.

Hindi pupwedeng pakawalan ang lahat ng tao na lumabas ng bahay at gawin ang gusto nilang gawin baka biglang magwala ang COVID-19 at manghawa nang manghawa ang mga may dala nito saka papatay nang papatay gaya ng nagaganap sa loob at labas ng bansa.

Kaya naman, sa pangkalahatan, hinati ang mga pangkabuhayan at serbisyo sa dalawa: essential at non-essential.

Itong essential, nakatutok talaga sa pangangailangang pinakamahahalaga ng mga mamamayan at pamahalaan at para muling gumana ang ekonomiya ng bansa gaya ng gawaan ng materyales na para sa pagawaing-bayan o konstruksyon, pagkain at gamot.

Ang mga non-essential naman ay mga produkto at serbisyo na meron o wala, hindi namang mamamatay ang sinomang indibidwal.

Kaya rito dapat intindihin ang limitadong sasakyang pinagagana para sa publiko, bukod pa ang pangangailangang social distancing at iba pang patakaran laban sa COVID-19.

## BARBERYA AT SALON

Ang pagbubukas ng barberya at salon ang isang nakatutuwang pangyayari.

Dapat kasing groomed ang mga lalaki at fresh and beautiful kababaihan sa pagpasok sa trabaho at mga barbero at beautician ang sagot diyan.

Hindi pupwedeng mukhang dugyutin ang mga kalalakhian at losyang ang mga kababaihang papasok sa kanilang trabaho sa pribadong sektor at pamahalaan.

Ang new normal ay dapat na salubungin at itaguyod ng panibagong personalidad ng lahat at huwag hayaang magmukhang inaaligiran ng COVID-19 ang mga ito.

Ang totoo, patagong naggugupit ang mga barbero sa kani-kanilang mga barangay, gayundin ang mga beautician.

Pero iba talaga ang mga barbershop at salon na roon feel na feel ang mga propesyonal na serbisyo na kailangan sa mga pinapasukang kompanya at opisina na pribado at publiko.

Good luck pa rin sa lahat at sana, manatiling masunurin ang lahat sa lahat ng mga patakaran o disiplinang pinaiiral ng mga kinaukulan laban sa COVID-19 dahil para rin sa kapakanan natin ang lahat ng ito.

**COMMENTARY**

# Shifting to GCQ/MGCQ

As there is still no miracle cure or vaccine for this dreadful virus, we should continue to be vigilant. The government cannot fight COVID-19 alone.

Published 5 hours ago  
on June 2, 2020 12:30 AM  
By [Harry Roque](#)



I would like to commend everyone who had been diligent in cooperating with the government and practicing the minimum health protocols in the more than 70 days that we have been in quarantine.

Your sacrifices have helped slow down the spread of the coronavirus disease 2019, or COVID-19, significantly. Had we not followed quarantine protocols and the minimum health standards set by our Health department, many of us, much more than the current numbers, would have gotten sick or succumbed to our unseen enemy.

Because of our sacrifices, our country had time to prepare our critical care capacity, and the case doubling time, or the time it takes for the number of COVID-19 cases to double, has significantly slowed down.

An improved critical care capacity and slowed down case doubling time, among social, economic and security factors, are the reasons why the government has eased out quarantine restrictions in many parts of the country.

We have graduated from an enhanced community quarantine (ECQ) to a modified ECQ, and now we are in Day Two of general community quarantine (GCQ) and modified GCQ.

The latest Inter-Agency Task Force resolution that has been approved by the President has placed the following areas under GCQ from 1 June until 15 June: Pangasinan, Region II, Region III, Region IV-A, Region VII, Zamboanga City, Davao City and the National Capital Region (NCR). Meanwhile, the rest of the country are now under MGCQ until June 15.

What does this mean? For many who are employed in allowed sectors and industries, the shift to GCQ/MGCQ means a return to work after more than two months of home quarantine.

I know it has been hard for many of you to go back to work, especially to the commuters who had a hard time getting a ride in going to their workplaces. Pasensya na po. I am asking for your patience and understanding, as your government is doing its best to help everyone transition to these eased quarantine restrictions without sacrificing both our nation's economy and the health of our countrymen.

Please understand that we cannot allow all public utility vehicles to operate right away as we are still taking into serious consideration how to maintain the minimum health standards in public transportation to keep the commuter's safety in check.

Rest assured that the administration, with its whole-of-government approach, has put in place interventions and measures following minimum public health standards to ensure the safety of Filipinos. We have issued guidelines that apply to workplaces, employers and workers, and public transportation.

As I have said in numerous occasions, as there is still no miracle cure or vaccine for this dreadful virus, we should continue to be vigilant. The government cannot fight COVID-19 alone. We need the concerted effort of everyone.

Let us continue supporting our authorities in enforcing quarantine protocols. Let us take care of each other by wearing face masks/face shields, maintaining physical/social distancing, staying at home, avoiding crowded places and going out only if/when need. Only then we can heal and rise as one.

# Stumbling into GCQ

posted June 02, 2020 at 12:05 am

by [Gary Olivar](#)

**"Wear masks. Wash hands. Keep your distance. We shouldn't need to be perpetually reminded by our government to do these."**

Yesterday, Metro Manila joined much of the rest of the country in relaxing its Covid-prompted lockdown to general community quarantine (GCQ) status. This opens up a lot more of the economy and public spaces, although public transportation and schools are still shut down together with seniors like me. Thankfully the barber shops will also reopen next week and I can finally get rid of four months of hair growth. We can only hope that the authorities will soon give as much importance to churches as they do to barber shops.

The relaxation comes at an inopportune time in terms of the health stats we've gotten used to following. The curve of daily new incidents is nowhere near flat, and in fact there was a recent spike of new incidents, exceeding a thousand in one day. The Department of Health hastily explained that the spike was just a backlog of older test results that had not yet been reported and finally entered the system. This may be true, but it certainly doesn't encourage confidence in the integrity of the entire curve itself, whether conceptually or the way it's been tracked and reported the last several months.

The death rate is, thankfully, still a lot lower than in many other countries, including some of our neighbors in the region. Assuming all the Covid fatalities are being properly reported, the credit for this can't go solely to the lockdown—a brutal though necessary measure—nor to the capabilities of our healthcare infrastructure, which were never high to begin with—as witness the unusually high mortality rate among our own doctors and nurses.

For our low death rate, we may also have to thank our environment—hot and sunny weather—as well as the painfully earned high immunity levels of our urban poor. Having grown up in squalid conditions, crowded into each other, the emerging hypothesis is that our people developed immunities against which even the Covid virus must contend. We've been talking a lot lately about herd immunity, when in fact it's something that we all unknowingly already developed while growing up in this country. When we look at the raging death rates in the West, in Europe and the US, whose citizens have spent their lives coddled and cossetted, maybe we should thank our native, home-grown viruses.

\*\*

As we cross over from MECQ into GCQ, it doesn't feel like we're breaking a ribbon at the finish line of a sprint race, arms held high. It feels a lot more like we're stumbling through the door from one desolate room to another less lonesome. This is a feeling we may have to get used to for a long while.

The only positive we can be sure of is that our health system has improved a lot under the crisis—specifically in terms of testing, isolation, and treatment, though not yet in contact tracing, at least until government finally gets together with the telcos and mobile app developers to digitize the entire process.

We now expect with confidence to hit the stretch target of 30,000 tests per day sometime in June. There seem to be enough quarantine facilities already set up, enough even to handle a growing influx of dislocated OFWs. Already some people are starting to talk about totally randomized mass testing, perhaps because they think we already have more than enough testing equipment and materials to handle only persons of interest, i.e. starting with asymptomatic persons who had a potentially infectious travel history.

Luckily, that was always the objective anyway. We locked down our people primarily to enable our healthcare system to catch up, and only secondarily to protect or treat them for the virus. If we keep that in mind, we can feel better about what we had to give up during the lockdown, whether it was our personal freedoms or the costs to a now enfeebled economy.

But the same numbers of people are still getting infected, or even dying, out there. The virus is still very much alive and kicking. As relaxation sets in, this sobering reality is sinking in among many of us, those who're now posting online that GCQ means "get cremated quickly." The same people who used to be screaming about the injustice, or the imperfections, of the lockdown are now thinking twice before leaving their houses, now that they're allowed to freely do so.

\* \* \*

What's particularly galling to me is a common theme that's going around: under GCQ, allegedly, "bahala na kayo sa buhay niyo." This reflects a couple of peculiar conceits of popular Filipino thinking: one, that we are somehow not ultimately the ones responsible for our own lives; and two, that because of this, government is somehow always on the hook to look out for us.

These are conceits that the virus ought to help us unlearn. Nobody else is responsible for the lives we live—and that includes people like me who, of their own free will and volition, turn over that responsibility to God. And because of that, there are limits to what we ought to expect from government. Strictly speaking, those limits are set by the amount of taxes we pay in to support government. Beyond that, we risk giving up for the promise of eternal government largesse our right to complain about government infringing on our freedoms, with or without lockdowns.

Wear masks. Wash hands. Keep your distance. We shouldn't need to be perpetually reminded by our government to do these. Because we're responsible not just for our own lives, but also for the lives of others by the way we use—or abuse—our personal freedoms, these simple reminders, post-GCQ, ought to come habitually and unthinkingly to us.

Readers can write me at [gbolivar1952@yahoo.com](mailto:gbolivar1952@yahoo.com).

Swimming sa Bora, papayagan na basta't may  
TITLE: physical distancing

PAGE 1/ 1/2

June 2, 2020  
DATE



## Swimming sa Bora, papayagan na basta't may physical distancing

June 1, 2020 @ 8:15 PM 9 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Papayagan na ang swimming sa Boracay basta't susundin ang physical distancing, ito ay matapos isailalim ng Provincial Government of Aklan sa Modified General Community Quarantine nitong Lunes, Hunyo 1.

Ayon sa Executive Order na inilabas ng Municipality of Malay sa kanilang Facebook page, pinapayagan na ang non-contact sports kabilang ang swimming.

Sa Facebook post ng LGU Malay, nakasaad ang specific swimming guidelines sa Boracay.

### **SWIMMING GUIDELINES FOR BORACAY ISLAND:**

1. To limit the number of people and implement physical distancing, swimmers must register to the designated swimming area at the lifeguard station.
2. Body temperature shall be taken before going to the swimming area.
3. Observance of physical distancing of at least 2 meters.
4. When using goggles and snorkeling masks, only use your own. Renting of such is strictly prohibited.
5. Swimming shall only be allowed from 6:00AM until 6:00PM.

Nakasaad din sa LGU Malay Facebook page ang walong lugar na itinalaga para sa swimming.

1. In front of White House (Station 1)
2. In front of Willy's Rock (Station 1)
3. In front of the Elizalde Compound (Station 1)
4. In front of D'Mall (Station 2)
5. In front of Mandarin Hotel (Station 2)
6. *In front of La Carmela (Station 3)*
7. *In front on Paradise Garden (Station 3)*

Swimming sa Bora, papayagan na basta't may  
TITLE: physical distancing

PAGE 1/ 2/2

June 2, 2020  
DATE

8. *Puka Beach (Barangay Yapak)*

9. *Nagpaalala rin ang LGU Malay sa mga swimmer na non-swimming areas ang mga lugar na may pulang bandila.*

*“Beach viewing and sunbathing areas are hereby designated after every 200-meter swimming area mark. Beach walking is allowed subject to strict observance of physical distancing and wearing of masks,” ayon sa EO. RNT/MM*

TITLE: Swimming with physical distancing is allowed in Boracay: Here are the 8 designated areas for it

PAGE 1 / 1/2

June 2, 2020 DATE

# Swimming with physical distancing is allowed in Boracay: Here are the 8 designated areas for it

Published June 1, 2020 12:31pm

Swimming, as long as physical distancing is observed, is now allowed in Boracay after the Provincial Government of Aklan is placed under Modified General Community Quarantine on Monday, June 1.

According to the Executive Order released by the Municipality of Malay on their Facebook page, non-contact sports including swimming is allowed.



In a Facebook post on LGU Malay, specific swimming guidelines in Boracay was provided.

## SWIMMING GUIDELINES FOR BORACAY ISLAND:

1. To limit the number of people and implement physical distancing, swimmers must register to the designated swimming area at the lifeguard station.
2. Body temperature shall be taken before going to the swimming area.

Swimming with physical distancing is allowed in

June 2, 2020

TITLE: Boracay: Here are the 8 designated areas for it

PAGE 1/ 2/2

DATE

3. Observance of physical distancing of at least 2 meters.
4. When using goggles and snorkeling masks, only use your own. Renting of such is strictly prohibited.
5. Swimming shall only be allowed from 6:00AM until 6:00PM.

The LGU Malay Facebook page also provided the eight (8) areas are designated for swimming.

- In front of White House (Station 1)
- In front of Willy's Rock (Station 1)
- In front of the Elizalde Compound (Station 1)
- In front of D'Mall (Station 2)
- In front of Mandarin Hotel (Station 2)
- In front of La Carmela (Station 3)
- In front on Paradise Garden (Station 3)
- Puka Beach (Barangay Yapak)

LGU Malay also reminded swimmers that areas with red flags are non-swimming areas.

Meanwhile, the EO also stated that beach viewing, sun bathing, and beach walking are also allowed with observance of physical distancing and wearing of masks.

"Beach viewing and sunbathing areas are hereby designated after every 200-meter swimming area mark. Beach walking is allowed subject to strict observance of physical distancing and wearing of masks," The EO read. — **Jannielyn Ann Bigtas/LA, GMA News**



Acting Mayor Frolibar Bautista yesterday lifted the ban on swimming, but required residents to have their body temperature checked and register at the lifeguard stations.

Philstar.com/Chamen Catli, file

## Boracay swimming ban lifted

[Ghio Ong](#), [Roel Pareño](#), [Evelyn Macairan](#) (The Philippine Star) - June 2, 2020 - 12:00am

MANILA, Philippines — The municipal government of Malay in Aklan has allowed swimming in Boracay, but only for local residents.

Acting Mayor Frolibar Bautista yesterday lifted the ban on swimming, but required residents to have their body temperature checked and register at the lifeguard stations.

Swimmers were required to observe social distancing and use their own gear such as goggles and snorkels.

Malay shifted to modified general community quarantine effective yesterday after the Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases identified it as a low-risk area for coronavirus disease 2019 or COVID-19.

In Cebu, priests and personnel of the Basilica del Santo Niño Convent were placed on quarantine after it was reported that some of them showed symptoms of COVID-19.

The suspected cases were discovered on May 25, prompting the city health department to subject the personnel and the priests to swab tests.

Cebu Augustinian prior provincial Fr. Andres Rivera Jr. gave the assurance that the situation is being managed properly.

Meanwhile, seven undocumented Filipinos from Sabah, Malaysia were intercepted and placed on quarantine on Turtle Island in Tawi-Tawi on Sunday.

The Filipinos were spotted on board a motorized boat that docked in Barangay Poblacion at around 8:30 p.m.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2020/06/02/2018055/boracay-swimming-ban-lifted>

# Mga residente ng Boracay, pinayagan nang maligo sa beach

Hunyo 1, 2020 12:10pm GMT+08:00

SINULAT NI: JUN N. AGUIRRE

BORACAY ISLAND, Malay Aklan - Pinayagan na ng lokal na pamahalaan ng bayan ng Malay, Aklan ang mga residente ng Boracay na maligo sa beach.

Ito ay matapos isailalim ang isla ng Boracay sa modified general community quarantine (MGCQ) nitong Lunes.

Bago maligo ang mga residente, kinakailangan muna nilang mag-rehistro sa lifeguard.

Ang listahan ay magiging basehan kung kailangang gawin ang contact tracing sakaling magkaroon ng kaso ng COVID-19 sa Boracay. Kasalukuyang COVID-19-free ang isla.

Hinikayat din ang mga maliligo na mag-social distancing.

Ayon naman sa isang residenteng tumanging magpakilala, masaya siyang muling makaligo sa Boracay matapos ang mahigit dalawang buwan na lockdown. —**KG, GMA News**

Masbate residents get P16.8-million relief from  
TITLE: mining firm PGPRC

PAGE 1/ 1/2

June 2, 2020  
DATE

# Masbate residents get P16.8-million relief from mining firm PGPRC

By [BusinessMirror](#)

June 1, 2020



*Delivery personnel pose for a souvenir shot before the distribution of a truckload of rice to Aroroy, Masbate, residents.*

SOME 21,329 families in Aroroy, Masbate have received relief packs from the Philippine Gold Processing and Refining Corp., which had earlier earmarked P16.8 million to support the anti-Covid19 efforts of the province and the municipality which hosts PGPRC's mining site.

The firm also turned over an ambulance unit to the Masbate Provincial Health Office through the Office of the Governor, and another unit is set to be delivered in the next few weeks.

PGPRC owns and operates the processing plant of the Masbate Gold Project located in the municipality of Aroroy, which has stimulated the local economies and created jobs for people in Masbate, particularly in Aroroy.

PGPRC had already disbursed P12 million (from the P16.8 million), specifically for funding support directed at Aroroy's rural health units, including medical frontliners, who have also received weekly food packs, plus food relief pack for 6,398 families in eight barangays, and 14,931 families from 33 neighboring barangays.

PGPRC President Dan Moore said that in the context of the "worldwide health and economic crisis that we are experiencing, we all have to do our part in working together to protect and provide not only for ourselves and our families but also for the community as a whole."

Since March 15, the gold firm has been working with Masbate Gov. Antonio Kho, Aroroy Mayor Art Virtucio, and local line agencies to provide Aroroy's rural health unit quarantine tents with health amenities, gallons of rubbing alcohol, N95 masks, and food packs. Some 500 sacks of rice were also donated to the provincial government for distribution to marginalized constituents in other municipalities.

Masbate residents get P16.8-million relief from  
TITLE: mining firm PGPRC

PAGE 1/ 2/2

June 2, 2020  
DATE

In April, PGPRC and the municipal government of Aroroy distributed food packs for the eight impact barangays and 33 neighboring barangays. This effort covered rice subsidies of all of Aroroy's 41 barangays. PGPRC has sustained its continuing support programs, such as providing meals to the enforcement frontliners of Aroroy who man the check points and quarantine areas.

The donations came from PGPRC's realigned Social Development Program (SDMP) fund.

Aside from the the funds sourced from PGPRC's SDMP funds, the firm also donated P5 million to the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office (PDRRMO).

He cited the provincial and municipal governments for providing these services, saying

“It is good that the government is providing all these services and relief to the community; so we in the private sector, as well as private individuals, should take on the challenge and do our share to make sure the communities and their people around us stay afloat.”

PGPRC is a wholly-owned firm by Vancouver-based B2 Gold Corp., a 13-year old low cost, international senior gold producer, which has operations in Mali and Namibia and numerous exploration and development projects in various countries like Colombia, Burkina Faso, and the Philippines.

Recently, PGPRC was cited by the Department of Finance as one of the top 20 of the corporations who paid their income tax ahead of the deferred payment deadline. “This was meant to help the government sustain in its current efforts against coronavirus, and to bolster its economic recovery programs,” company officials said.

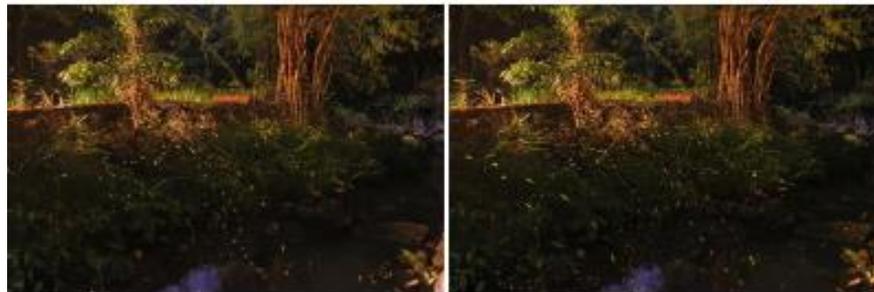


Philippine Star

8 hrs ·

Masungi Georeserve shares more photos of the firefly trails that were spotted in the conservation area on Friday.

"Fireflies are an important bioindicator or a species that can help gauge how healthy an ecosystem is. Bioindicator species are sensitive to pollution or other habitat changes, making them good signs of a thriving ecosystem," Masungi Georeserve said last week. (Photos courtesy of @kaljoffres/Masungi Georeserve)



👍👎👉 Elisha Jho Sonio and 3.6K others · 89 Comments · 690 Shares



## **Bulkang Taal niyanig ng 9 na lindol sa 1 araw**

June 1, 2020 @ 6:33 PM 12 hours ago

Manila, Philippines – Naitala ang siyam (9) na volcanic earthquakes sa Bulkang Taal sa nakalipas na 24 oras Hunyo 1, 2020 (Lunes).

Ayon sa Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) bukod sa pagyanig, nakapagtala rin ng mahinang pagsingaw sa paligid ng bulkan.

Pinaalalahanan din ng Phivolcs na mahigpit ng ipinagbabawal ang pagpasok ng tao malapit sa bulkan dahil sa banta ng pagsabog.

Nagbabala rin ang ahensya sa posibleng pagbuga ng ashfall at mahinang lindol dahil sa pag-aalboroto ng bulkan Taal. *Santi Celario*

## The consequential effects of Covid-19 on the climate crisis

By [Inter Press Service](#)

June 2, 2020

**By Osagyefo Amoatia Ofori Panin Okyenhene**

ACCRA, Ghana: The tragedy of the coronavirus pandemic and its associated challenges have thrown our world into chaos with the virus destroying lives and livelihoods in its path.

The whole world is presently seized by the effects of the pandemic, but there is a silent crisis of equal measure that has long been ravaging lives, devastating livelihoods, destroying property and threatening the fate of our entire planet.

This is the global climate crisis.

Unlike Covid-19, climate change and its impacts are not novel processes. What is new is the severity, frequency and rapid rate of change laced with extreme events that are slowly becoming metaphors for human suffering and deprivation.

Incontrovertible evidence firmly anchored in science suggest that the climate crisis is reaching a tipping point, with huge and potentially irreversible damage to our planet, our economies and overall human security.

The World Meteorological Organisation states emphatically that the impact of climate change on our planet is ‘reaching a crescendo, with the past five years being the hottest on record’.

Our world cannot be in denial of the climate crisis any longer. Covid-19 is devastating thousands of lives and threatening millions, but the impacts of climate change are endangering the lives and livelihoods of billions of people.

The ongoing pandemic must be a wake-up call to our global community of the ultimate costs of inaction on the silent, but rapidly unfolding, catastrophic climate crisis.

The shock of the sudden onset coronavirus pandemic and the dreadful experience that the world is presently going through must laser-focus us all on the benefits of proactive action on climate change.

Against the lessons that the pandemic is painfully teaching us, it would be irresponsible to wait until the climate crisis reaches ‘pandemic’ levels for the world to act aggressively. We must take politics out of the climate crisis, embrace the evidence generated by science, and act decisively on climate change now.

As climate activist, Emily Atkins, aptly puts it ‘the pandemic is showing us that rejecting science doesn’t make the laws of nature go away.’

As with the coronavirus pandemic, climate change is a threat multiplier. It makes existing problems worse, creates new ones, makes a mockery of boundaries whilst striking with great force in rich and poor countries alike.

And crucially, dealing with the climate crisis now is in itself a mitigation action against future pandemics. Protecting the environment and addressing climate change is not about abstract emotionalism. It is about protecting people, saving lives and livelihoods and safeguarding our heritage.

As a traditional leader, I deem saving our heritage a non-negotiable goal, and I am determined to do exactly that.

The climate crisis is as much a global crisis as the on-going pandemic, and there are real parallels between the two. As the debilitating effects of the Covid-19 pandemic are forcing changes in our ways of life and lifestyles, we must, with a sense of urgency, move from business as usual and confront the existential threat posed by the climate crisis head-on.

We must focus on and accelerate actions on the necessary adjustments needed to safeguard our ecosystems, halt and reverse the effects of climate change and protect our planet and its future as the Sustainable Development Goals enjoin us to do.

Although we have yet to win the war, our collective experience in fighting the coronavirus should serve as an inspiration and spur the needed changes and global actions.

The extraordinary cooperation in the global response to the pandemic, evidenced amongst others, in China sending critical supplies to the United States, the US donating ventilators to Europe, and Cuban doctors being sent to Italy to treat patients must serve as a shining example for global action on climate change.

It is manifestly clear that the effects of the virus, just as those of climate change, are not circumscribed to national boundaries, and that solidarity, whether in the context of a climate crisis or a health pandemic is about our shared humanity.

We must muster the same vigour, the equivalent political will and the bountiful energy that we are seeing in the battle against the pandemic to fight climate change.

As nations unveil trillions in stimulus packages to deal with the economic effects of the pandemic, environmental equity and environmental protection must be integral components to help build back better, and address the needs of millions of global citizens so vulnerable to the effects of climate change.

Our aspirations and desires to address the climate crisis are right and those aspirations must be non-negotiable. But with the consequential lessons that the coronavirus pandemic is teaching us, we must be resolute in our resolve to move from aspirations to swift and robust actions.

We must pool and scale up our efforts to deal a mighty blow to climate change using all the worthy lessons that have emerged through the unfortunate and dreadful Covid-19 pandemic.

We must act now and do so with gusto, to protect the future of the planet and our shared humanity, as the cost of inaction to our common future, our joint heritage and our shared humanity is too dire to ponder.

*Osagyefo Amoatia Ofori Panin Okyenhene is King of Akyem Abuakwa, Ghana*

# World urged to rebuild greener, more equal economies after coronavirus

By Rosette Adel

- June 1, 2020 - 5:31 PM



A woman wearing a protective face mask walks on the sidewalk of a main road amid the spread of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in Jakarta, Indonesia, May 27, 2020. (Reuters/Willy Kurniawan)

**LONDON (Thomson Reuters Foundation)** — Plans to rebuild shattered economies after the new coronavirus pandemic offer a chance to create greener, fairer societies amid growing anger worldwide at rising inequality, the civil society group CIVICUS said on Thursday.

The crisis has deepened and laid bare economic inequalities, with many essential roles such as food delivery and medical care undertaken by people with low pay, job insecurity and few social safety nets, the international civic action organisation said.

“This is really a turning point,” chief programmes officer Mandeep Tiwana told the Thomson Reuters Foundation in an interview from New York, adding that desperation could boil over into unrest if action was not taken.

“People are both hungry and they are angry ... it’s absolutely critical that decision-makers at this time make sure those who are facing the most deprivation are kept first in mind.”

More than a billion workers, many of whom are low-paid, could lose their jobs to the pandemic, the International Labor Organization warned last month.

CIVICUS said that any attempts to reassert austerity policies or prioritise the needs of big business in recovery must be avoided as the impacts would hurt those who have already suffered the most.

It also called for action to combat climate change, including by encouraging people to continue to work in ways that reduce carbon footprints and by developing green proposals to promote sustainable production, consumption and jobs.

World encouraged to rebuild greener, more equal  
economies after coronavirus

TITLE:

PAGE 1/ 2/2

June 2, 2020  
DATE

Protests in 2019 already showed a clear trend in calling for fairer economies, CIVICUS said in its annual report, drawing on 50 interviews with civil society activists and leaders from around the world.

Many demonstrations were triggered by economic pressures – from transport costs in Chile to fuel prices in Zimbabwe – but grew into wider campaigns against inequities and corruption, said researchers.

Separately, campaigners called for global reforms to block corporations that use tax havens from receiving COVID-19 bailouts and to ensure that developing countries earn the revenues they need to finance their recovery from coronavirus.

“There are choices to be made,” Susana Ruiz, co-chair of The Independent Commission for the Reform of International Corporate Taxation, which was set up by a coalition of charities in 2015 to campaign for tax reforms.

“And those choices can lay the foundation for a more equal, feminist and sustainable world or they can accelerate inequality,” she told the “Health versus Wealth?” online forum. —**Reporting by Sonia Elks @soniaelks; Editing by Katy Migiro**

# Deaths from Storm Amanda rise to 20 in Central America

Published June 2, 2020 4:21am

By NELSON RENTERIA, Reuters



Government workers try to move a car affected by floods caused by Tropical Storm Amanda, at San Francisco neighborhood, in San Salvador, El Salvador May 31, 2020. REUTERS/Jose Cabezas

SAN SALVADOR - Torrential rains at the weekend caused by Tropical Storm Amanda have killed at least 20 people in Central America, authorities said on Monday, as remnants of the weather front moved north into Mexico and threatened to form a new cyclone.

The bulk of the victims were in El Salvador, where Amanda led to the deaths of 15 people and the disappearance of seven more, as well as destroying hundreds of homes and damaging roads, the National Commission for Civil Protection said.

Carolina Recinos, a senior aide to Salvadoran President Nayib Bukele, told a news conference that Amanda had dumped the equivalent of "almost 10 percent" of the annual rainfall on the country in a relatively short space of time.

In Guatemala, officials reported the deaths of two people due to the storm, including a boy of nine. The rains killed at least three people in Honduras, including a brother and sister swept into a river in a car, local authorities said.

By Monday afternoon, remnants of Amanda were on the western flank of Mexico's Yucatan peninsula and expected to drift west into the Bay of Campeche, a major oil producing area, according to projections by the US National Hurricane Center (NHC).

The weather front is likely to form a tropical depression later on Monday or by Tuesday, the Miami-based NHC said. -- Reuters

Source: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/world/740749/deaths-from-storm-amanda-rise-to-20-in-central-america/story/>