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NEWS ALERTS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR takes down over 114,000 campaign materials posted on trees

Published April 27, 2022, 1:48 PM

by [Aaron Recuenco](#)

The Department of Natural Environment Resources (DENR) has intensified the crackdown on campaign materials that are posted on trees.

Based on the latest report, DENR Sec. Jim O. Sampilna said a total of 114,664 pieces of campaign materials were already taken down across the country.

The DENR field offices in Regions 9, 3 and 5 reported the highest confiscated materials with 21,650 pieces, 19,646 pieces, and 18,950 pieces of campaign materials, respectively.

Sampilna urged the candidates to be responsible enough to tell their supporters to follow the rules on posting campaign materials, which include the prohibition on posting them on trees.

Republic Act (RA) 3571 provides that cutting, destroying, or injuring of planted or growing trees, flowering plants and shrubs or plants of scenic value along public roads, in plazas, parks, school premises, or in any other public pleasure grounds are prohibited.

The DENR chief warned that violators may face sanctions not only pertaining to election-related laws, but also environmental laws. Section 3 of Presidential Decree No. 953 also states that violators could be punished with imprisonment from six months to two years, or a fine of not less than P500 and not more than P5,000, or both.

Despite citing the violations of the law, the DENR is yet to report if any candidate was already slapped with charges in connection with this violation.

However, the confiscated campaign materials, mostly tarpaulins, will be donated to environment groups such as EcoWaste Coalition and like-minded organizations that recycle the materials into useful items like bags and school supplies.



114,664 campaign posters on trees removed

By [Elizabeth Marcelo](#) (The Philippine Star)
- April 28, 2022 - 12:00am



A man removes a campaign poster from a tree on April 19, 2022.
Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Handout

MANILA, Philippines — Up to 114,664 pieces of campaign materials posted on trees across the country have been removed, according to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

DENR acting Secretary Jim Sampulna reminded candidates and their supporters that posting of campaign materials on trees is prohibited under environmental laws and the guidelines set by the Commission on Elections (Comelec).

"The candidates themselves should promote an environmentally conscious election campaign," Sampulna said.

The DENR said the dismantled campaign materials weighed 2,050 kilos.

The DENR field offices in Zamboanga peninsula, Central Luzon and Bicol reported the highest number of confiscated campaign materials with 21,650, 19,646 and 18,950 pieces, respectively.

Sampulna said campaign materials should be posted only in areas designated by the Comelec.

The DENR noted that Republic Act 3571 prohibits the "cutting, destroying or injuring" of planted or growing trees, flowering plants and shrubs or plants of scenic value along public roads, in plazas, parks, school premises or any other public ground.

It also cited a provision in Presidential Decree 953, which penalizes violators with imprisonment of six months to two years or a fine of P500 to P5,000 or both.

PD 953 allows the cutting of trees only "for public safety" and upon the approval of the duly authorized representative of the agency or political subdivision with jurisdiction over them.



114,664 campaign posters on trees removed

Sampulna said a joint memorandum circular by the DENR, Comelec and Department of the Interior and Local Government enjoined political parties, including party-list groups and individual candidates, to enforce relevant provisions of the Fair Elections Act and Ecological Solid Waste Management Act.

The DENR said the confiscated campaign materials, mostly tarpaulins, would be donated to environment organizations such as the EcoWaste Coalition, which recycle materials into useful items like bags and school supplies.



DENR takes down over 114K poll campaign materials nailed on trees



[BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

APRIL 27, 2022

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) reported removing campaign materials that are either tacked or nailed on trees two weeks before the May 9 national and local elections.

DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna said he is expecting an increase in the DENR's collection of illegal campaign materials days ahead of the elections.

So far, the DENR chief said a total of 114,664 pieces and 2,050 kilos of campaign materials posted on trees were removed during nationwide "Oplan Baklas" operations.

These campaign materials go outside or beyond the designated common poster areas designated by the Commission on Elections (Comelec), specifically trees, said Sampulna.

The DENR field offices in Regions 9, 3 and 5 reported the highest confiscated materials with 21,650 pieces, 19,646 pieces, and 18,950 pieces of campaign materials, respectively.

Republic Act (RA) 3571 outlaws the cutting, destruction, or causing injuring of planted or growing trees, flowering plants and shrubs or plants of scenic value along public roads, in plazas, parks, school premises, or in any other public pleasure grounds.

Section 3 of Presidential Decree 953 also states that violators could be punished with imprisonment from six months to two years, or a fine of not less than P500 and not more than P5,000, or both.

Meanwhile, Sampulna lauded the public's support in reporting to the Comelec and the DENR through social media and text messages, even as he urged them to take photographs or video recordings of violators.

"The candidates themselves should promote environmentally conscious election campaigns," Sampulna said.

The DENR, Comelec, and the Department of the Interior and Local Government signed the Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) 2010-01 on March 30, 2010, enjoining political parties, including party-list groups, and individual candidates to enforce relevant provisions of RA 9006 or the Fair Elections Act and RA 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

JMC 2010-01 calls for the reduction of the volume of wastes during and after election periods, use of recyclable and reusable materials for the production of eco-friendly items, and protection of trees from harm brought about by nailing or placing of campaign materials.

Higit 114K campaign materials sa mga puno, binaklas ng DENR



April 27, 2022 @ 5:18 PM 15 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Dalawang linggo bago ang eleksyon, pinagbabaklas ng mga tauhan ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang mga campaign materials at iba pang paraphernalia na ikinabit at ipinako sa mga puno sa buong bansa.

Ayon kay DENR Acting Secretary Jim Sampulna, inaasahan na ng DENR ang pagdami ng mga makokolektang illegal campaign materials ilang araw bago ang eleksyon kasunod ng pagbaklas nila sa 114,664 piraso ng mga poster at tarpaulin na may bigat at 2,050 kilo.

Paalala ni Sampulna, may inilagay naman na common poster areas ang Commission on Elections (Comelec) at hindi kabilang dito ang mga puno.

Kaugnay nito binalaan din ng DENR chief ang mga violator na maaari silang maharap sa multa at parusa sa ilalim ng election-related laws at environmental laws.

Samantala sa ulat mula sa DENR field offices, nakolekta ang pinakamaraming buldo ng mga campaign materials sa Region 9 na nasa 21,650; sinundan ng Central Luzon, 19,646 at Bicol Region na may 18,950 campaign materials.

Nabatid na sa ilalim ng Republic Act (RA) 3571, mahigpit na ipinagbabawal ang pagputol, pagsira o pagsugat sa mga, puno, flowering plants, shrubs o plants of scenic value na makikita sa mga pampublikong kalsada, plaza, parks, school premises o sa alinmang public pleasure grounds.



Higit 114K campaign materials sa mga puno, binaklas ng DENR

Nakasaad din sa Section 3 ng Presidential Decree No. 953 na ang sinumang lalabag dito ay maaaring maparusahan ng anim na buwan hanggang dalawang taong pagkakabilanggo o multang hindi bababa sa P500 at hindi naman lalampas sa P5,000 o parehas na kaparusahan.

Samantala, pinuri naman ni Sampulna ang pakikipagtulungan ng publiko sa pamamagitan ng pagsusumbong sa Comelec at sa DENR sa pamamagitan ng social media at text messages, at hinikayat ang mga ito na kuhanan ng litrato o video ang mga lumalabag. *Santi Celario*

There's no black sand mining in Cagayan – MGB



[By Leander C. Domingo](#)

April 28, 2022

APARRI, Cagayan: A FACT-FINDING composite team led by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) in Region 2 (Cagayan Valley) has declared that no black sand mining is taking place in the ongoing dredging of the heavily-silted Cagayan River.

The MGB report disputed claims of local fisherfolk that their livelihood has been affected by the black sand mining in the area.

Mario Ancheta, MGB Region 2 director, on orders of Executive Director Gwendolyn Bambalan of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Region 2, said that he led a composite team to investigate the dredging in the river on Monday, April 25.

Ancheta said the results of their investigation proved otherwise.

"Reports from the investigation are clear. We categorically state that there is no existing black sand mining in Aparri, Cagayan in relation to the ongoing river dredging project of the government," Ancheta said in the team's report to DENR Region 2.

Also included in the investigation team are personnel from the DENR Region 2 legal and enforcement divisions, Cagayan's provincial and community environment and natural resources offices, Environmental Management Bureau, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

On April 22, some 1,700 fisherfolk from Aparri, Gattaran, Ballesteros, Buguey, Gonzaga and Santa Ana marched to protest against black sand mining operations which they claim are happening in the guise of river dredging.

Ancheta explained that before the protest rally, there had been ongoing river dredging operations in Aparri under DENR Administrative Order 2020-07 following DPWH dredging master plan where exclusive river dredging zones were designated by the Inter-Agency Committee on River Restoration.

He said the dredging operations were to rehabilitate the Cagayan River from heavy siltation that causes massive flooding, especially during a heavy downpour.

Ancheta said that the composite team's investigation revealed that the fishermen were also alleging that ongoing conduct of black sand mining in the waters off Barangay Punta resulted in the decline of their fish catch including the Aparri-celebrated product called "aramang" or spider shrimp.

He said the fishermen attributed this to the ongoing dredging activity in the Cagayan River by vessels that they alleged were conducting black sand mining operations.



There's no black sand mining in Cagayan – MGB

As to the issue of aramang declining catch, the composite team's BFAR marine biologist has confirmed that based on the verifiable record, there was indeed a general downturn of the catch per unit effort in Aparri from 2014 up to the present.

"The decline in the fish catch or harvest may be aggravated by various causes both natural and man-made," Ancheta said referring to the statement made by the BFAR team member.

He said the decline is related to the seasonal effects, natural calamities, and possible overexploitation of the aquatic resources such as in the case of overfishing and that "we cannot plainly correlate the death of fish to the river dredging."

"It is not proper to correlate entirely to the river dredging activity which was resorted to by the government to restore the waterways in the municipality to be the real reason for the decline of fish catch or harvests," Ancheta said.

He added that the decline in the harvest is due to factors like anthropogenic sources and seasonal effects.

"Thus, it is not proper to reckon that the downturn of catch began when the river dredging operations commenced last 2021 in consonance with the fact that the pandemic has not allowed fisherfolk to freely work, especially during the peak months of the surge," Ancheta said.

Nevertheless, Ancheta noted that in case the operations of the vessels in the dredging activities caused the decline of the fish catch including the aramang, the BFAR Region 2 will provide the team with a study and data covering the past five and 10 years with scientific analysis and statement on the level of catches and harvests of aquatic resources.

"The BFAR findings will further enlighten us with the factors affecting the decline of the fishermen's catch and which will be provided to all interested parties once they are available," Ancheta said.

The composite team also proceeded to inspect dredging vessels, particularly the Riverfront Construction Inc. which was mentioned and believed by protesting fisherfolk to be involved in the alleged black sand mining.

"Actual ocular inspection established that the said dredging vessels have no magnetic separators installed in them for possible conduct of black and mining contrary to reports of the fisherfolk. How can they operate as a black sand miner when they don't have the said equipment," Ancheta said.



SAKSI NGAYON: DENR PINAKIKILOS NG PALASYO VS MINING, QUARRYING SA RIZAL

TINAWAGAN ng pansin ng Malakanyang ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na imbestigahan ang napaulat na "construction and expansion" ng resort facilities sa Upper Marikina Watershed sa Masungi Georeserve.

Ayon kay Acting presidential spokesperson Martin Andanar, dapat lamang na imbestigahan ng DENR ang di umano'y illegal quarrying at mining activities sa protected area sa Masungi Georeserve sa Rizal province.

"Safeguarding the environment and natural resources is an important component in our sustainable development," ayon sa kalatas ni Andanar.

Idinagdag pa nito na nag-aalala ang Malakanyang sa napaulat na illegal development activities sa nasabing lugar.

"We urge the (DENR) Anti-Illegal Logging Task Force to look into the matter and file the necessary charges against violators of environmental laws," aniya pa rin.

Ang panawagan na ito ng Malakanyang sa DENR ay tugon sa kahilingan ng environmentalists at educators, sa kanilang joint letter, kina Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte at acting Environment Secretary Jim Sampulna na suspendihin ang quarrying activities sa Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape sa Rizal.

Noong nakaraang Pebrero 18, dalawang forest rangers ang nasaktan matapos atakihin ng ilan umanong residente ng Baras, Rizal.

Sinabi ng Masungi Georeserve Foundation (MGF) na isa sa mga umatake ay empleyado ng resort na nakatanggap ng cease-and-desist order mula sa DENR para sa building illegal structures sa loob ng protected area. (CHRISTIAN DALE)



Photo Courtesy of BONG BONG



Malakanyang sa DENR: Resort sa Masungi imbestigahan



April 27, 2022 @ 9:40 AM 22 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Tinawagang pansin ng Malakanyang ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na imbestigahan ang napaulat na “construction and expansion” ng resort facilities sa Upper Marikina Watershed sa Masungi Georeserve.

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Ang panawagan na ito ng Malakanyang sa DENR ay matapos na hilingin ng mga environmentalists at educators, sa kanilang joint letter, kina Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte at acting Environment Secretary Jim Sampulna na suspendihin ang quarrying activities sa Upper Marikina River Basin Protected Landscape sa Rizal.



Malakanyang sa DENR: Resort sa Masungi imbestigahan

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DENR pushes for an integrated QR code system to track Boracay's tourist arrivals



[BYJONATHAN L. MAYUGA](#)

APRIL 27, 2022

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is pitching for the implementation of a QR code system to monitor and control the number of tourists visiting Boracay Island.

This as the DENR is now discussing a workable action plan with officials and representatives of Task Force Boracay from the Department of Tourism (DOT), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Province of Aklan, and the Municipal Government of Malay.

The Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation and Management Group (BIARMG) has earlier reported that the surge in the number of visitors breached the government-set carrying capacity of the island during the Holy Week break on April 14 and 15, with 21,011 and 22,278 tourist arrivals, respectively.

A study commissioned by the DENR in 2018 bared that Boracay Island's carrying capacity is 19,215 tourists a day, or about 6,405 arrivals a day based on an average three-day stay.

"We are now discussing possible adjustments on policies and what strategies we will take to prevent this from happening again in the future," DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Atty. Jonas R. Leones said in a news statement.

Setting up a carrying capacity is in line with the DENR's ongoing mission to protect and conserve the environment in Boracay.

If the population continuously exceeds the given carrying capacity, the ecosystem may become unsuitable for other species on the island to survive, or other resources may deplete.

BIARMG General Manager Martin Jose Despi explained that one of their recommended measures to prevent another overcrowding in Boracay is to integrate the use of QR codes in contact tracing into a control program aligned with monitoring the number of tourists going to the renown island resort.

In line with this, a proposed real-time monitoring system is necessary to see the total number of tourists issued with the QR code on a particular date.

Despi recommended a review of the data of airline and shipping passengers and the total number of accommodations that booked tourists to prevent overbooking.

"We need an integrated information technology system that would take care of all these capabilities," said Despi.

"The moment that we put in place a relevant system or software, all of this would be properly addressed," he added.

Leones said that DENR's Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau would be tasked to study the possibility of increasing the island's carrying capacity, noting that the "DENR's policies should be based on science."

Source: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2022/04/27/denr-pushes-for-an-integrated-qr-code-system-to-track-boracays-tourist-arrivals/>



Paggamit ng integrated QR code sa Boracay, iminungkahi ng DENR



April 27, 2022 @ 7:13 PM 13 hours ago

MANILA, Philippines – Inirekomenda ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources na magkaroon ng integrated QR code system para makontrol ang bilang ng mga turistang bumibisita sa Boracay Island.

Kasunod ito ng hindi nasunod na carrying capacity ng mga turistang dumagsa sa isla noong nagdaang Holy Week.

Matatandaang noong Abril 14, nasa 21,011 na mga turista ang nagtungo sa Boracay habang 22,278 noong Abril 15.

Lampas ito sa carrying capacity ng isla na dapat ay hindi lalampas sa 20,000.

Dahil dito, kinukumbinsi ng DENR ang Department of Tourism, Department of the Interior and Local Government at ang mga lokal na pamahalaan ng Aklan at ng Malay na magkaroon ng real-time monitoring system upang malaman ang bilang ng mga turista na mabibigyan ng QR code sa partikular na petsa.

Ayon pa kay DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Atty. Jonas Leones, inirerekomenda rin ng ahensya ang pagsusuri ng data ng airline at shipping passengers gayundin ng mga hotel accomodation para maiwasan ang overbooking.

Inatasan naman ang Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau ng DENR para pag-aralan ang posibilidad na dagdagan ang carrying capacity sa isla.

Pero pagtitiyak ni Leones, anumang mabubuonng polisiya ay dapat na nakabatay pa rin sa siyensya. *RNT/JCM*

Source: <https://www.remate.ph/paggamit-ng-integrated-qr-code-sa-boracay-iminungkahi-ng-denr/>



Government employees join cleanup drive

[IAN OCAMPO FLORA](#)

April 27, 2022

OVER 200 government employees of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and partner agencies converged in a fun run and cleanup activity in support of the annual celebration of the Earth Day.

They collected over 2,000 kilos of solid waste from canals and creeks within the Diosdado Macapagal Government Center in Pampanga.

The event, dubbed as “KapaligiRUN: Kalinisan at Kalusugan, Dahil Ikaw, Ako, Tayo ang Kalikasan,” was a plogging activity that combined running with cleaning and picking up of trash.

DENR Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services Arthur Salazar noted that the activity called for strategic partnership and cooperation among government agencies to uphold environmental protection and sustainability.

He said the initiative was a value-adding component to the government’s continued efforts to clean and rehabilitate creeks, tributaries and river systems that drain to the Manila Bay.

The theme for this year’s Earth Day celebration is “Invest in Our Planet.” It promotes sustainability to safeguard biodiversity and the environment.



Philippine Crocodile Conservation Center established in San Mariano, Isabela

Published April 27, 2022, 4:32 PM

by [Liezle Basa Iñigo](#)

SAN MARIANO, Isabela – The critically small population of the Philippine crocodiles is likely to grow following the establishment of the Philippine Crocodile Conservation Center (PCCC) inside the Isabela State University campus in San Mariano.



The Philippine Crocodile Conservation Center in San Mariano. (Photo courtesy of Merlijn van Weerd / Mabuwaya Foundation)

The PCCC will play an important role in sustaining crocodile conservation activities in San Mariano and in generating income for communities conserving crocodiles.

The center is a joint project of Isabela State University, the local government of San Mariano and the Mabuwaya Foundation, and supported by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Department of Tourism.

The center consists of crocodile holding pens and a visitors' building.

The holding pens are used to house adult crocodiles for the first conservation breeding program with Luzon-origin Philippine crocodiles, and for wild-born hatchling crocodiles.



Philippine Crocodile Conservation Center established in San Mariano, Isabela



Aerial view of the Philippine Crocodile Conservation Center in San Mariano. (Photo courtesy of Merlijn van Weerd / Mabuwaya Foundation)

Crocodiles raised in the center will be released in the wild to augment the critically small wild population of one of the rarest animals on the planet.

The visitors building will be used for environmental education and as the gateway for visitors who want to explore the wilderness areas of San Mariano and the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park to see Philippine crocodiles and many other rare endemic species in the wild.

The Philippine crocodile *Crocodylus mindorensis* is endemic to the Philippines, and it is not found anywhere else in the world.

Marites Balbas, Chief Operating Officer of the Mabuwaya Foundation said that the species is nationally protected and because of its relatively small size, it does not pose a threat to people, as compared to the crocodile species in the Philippines, notably the saltwater crocodile *Crocodylus porosus*.

One of the last wild populations of the Philippine crocodile is found in the municipality of San Mariano in Isabela Province.



Philippine Crocodile Conservation Center established in San Mariano, Isabela



Wild adult Philippine crocodile in the Disulap River crocodile sanctuary in San Mariano. (Photo courtesy of Merlijn van Weerd / Mabuwaya Foundation)

The PCCC was made possible through financial support from international zoos in Australia and Europe that have the Philippine crocodile in their collection. These include Zoos Victoria in Australia, ZSL London Zoo, Crocodiles of the World and Wild Discovery in the United Kingdom, La Ferme aux Crocodiles in France, Koln Zoo in Germany, Bergen Aquarium in Norway, The Blue Planet, Krokodille Zoo and Terrariet – Reptile Zoo in Denmark, Zagreb Zoo in Croatia and Protovin Crocodile Zoo in the Czech Republic; and donations to the Mabuwaya Foundation.



Antipolo City's Ecopark provides jobs, promotes environmental awareness

Published April 27, 2022, 8:26 AM

by [Nel Andrade](#)

The forested Mount Purro Nature Reserve, located within the 26,000 plus hectare Upper Marikina Watershed in Purok 5 in Barangay Calawis in Antipolo City, not only provides a quick escape from the noise and pollution of the metropolis with its nipa-hut inspired accommodations for tourists but also helps native Dumagats in their education and provides jobs for the locals.



Tour guide and maintenance worker Ruben Caraballedo at the peak of Mount Purro Nature Reserve in Antipolo City.

Established by Toto Malvar and his family a few years back by reforesting it with some 700,000 trees, the ecological park has been helping the Dumagats who are the native of Sierra Madre mountains in Rizal Province, with their vocational and livelihood needs, and livelihood for other locals living within the upland community at Purok 5.

Among the residents who have been working as maintenance staff and tour guide at the nature reserve since 2007 is 62-year old Ruben Caraballedo, who talked about how working in the park enlightened his mind on becoming an environmentalist from being a charcoal maker who contributed in damaging the forest.

Caraballedo said working with the Malvars at the ecopark has taught him to care for the environment.

“Kagaya din ako noon ng mga Dumagat na hindi iniisip ang mangyayari sa kapaligiran sa pamamagitan ng pag-uuling, pagpuputol ng puno at pagkakaingin, basta lamang mabuhay, (I was like the Dumagats who did not care for the environment by doing charcoal making, cutting trees



Antipolo City's Ecopark provides jobs, promotes environmental awareness

and practicing slash and burn, in order to survive)," Caraballedo said while having a quick rest at Mount Purro's Malvar Peak.

Caraballedo, who was raised in Quezon Province but chose to settle in Antipolo to have his own family, added that like him, the Dumagats, who are living in different tribal communities within the watershed area, are now aware of how the trees and the ecosystem protect themselves and those living in the lowlands, those living in Metro Manila.

Workers and staff at the mountain park are mostly residents of Barangay Calawis.

Antipolo City government's tourism office head, Mar Bacani, told Manila Bulletin that the nature reserve is among the places in the city that promote eco-tourism.



IP group asserts role in combating climate change

[REYNALDO G. NAVALES](#)

April 27, 2022

"WE'RE defenders not just victims," a group of indigenous people said as the entire world observes Earth Day.

A leader of Global Indigenous Peoples stressed the importance of Indigenous Peoples in combating the climate crisis in time when the "Scientist Rebellion" raised alarm on the "grossly inadequate" current climate actions.

Beverly Longid, global coordinator of International Indigenous Peoples Movement for Self-Determination & Liberation (IPMSDL) and International Officer of Katribu Kalipunan ng Katutubong Mamamayan ng Pilipinas, shared this during the "Let the Earth Breathe: 3 to 5 Years Left!?" discussion last April 23 in time for Earth Day.

"There might be a certain extent or a certain level of acknowledgement but the actual participation or even acknowledgement of the role of Indigenous Peoples are missing yet we are one of the hardest hit in terms of the impact of climate change," she said.

The IPs are also one of the least contributors of climate change, according to Longid.

Indigenous Peoples protect around 80 percent of the world's biodiversity though comprising only approximately 6.0 percent of the global population, she said.

But IP's contribution in addressing issues of the climate crisis is underrepresented in scientific discourse, Longid added.

She said widespread attacks against Indigenous Peoples and the encroachment and destruction of their territories for business activities remain to be serious impediments in addressing climate change.

"If we look at the data of human rights monitors, it would indicate that Indigenous Peoples are one of the sectors in society that are under attack and largely these would stem from their current defense or protection of their lands, territories, and waters from further plunder and destruction," Longid said.

According to an investigation by Front Line Defenders (FLD) and the international consortium Human Rights Defenders Memorial, at least 358 human rights defenders were killed in 2021.

Nearly 60 percent of the total were land, environment, or Indigenous rights defenders, with more than a quarter being indigenous, Longid said.



IP group asserts role in combating climate change

“We need to have a shift in terms of the direction of current narratives and discourses by looking at Indigenous Peoples not simply as victims of climate change but also as active actors in addressing climate change,” added Longid.

The assertion to full, effective and meaningful participation; right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC); engagement with other impacted sectors and groups, transparency and accountability, and stricter regulation for investments were also highlighted as contributions in addressing climate change.

“We must be considered as partners in development wherein we are able to participate in governance, participate in the crafting of climate policies, and at the same time being able to participate in decision making processes in relation to activities that would impact on our rights and at the same time that would impact on the issue of climate change,” Longid said.

She said the concerted action and solidarity among different group including indigenous peoples in addressing the youth, environment and IP advocates in the audience.

The Let the Earth Breathe webinar is organized by Kabataan para sa Tribung Pilipino (Katribu Youth) and International IPMSDL in partnership with Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines.



QC to rehabilitate Memorial Circle, restore more green spaces

By Marita Moaje April 27, 2022, 5:46 pm



(PNA file photo)

MANILA – The Quezon City government is planning to redevelop the Quezon Memorial Circle (QMC), restore more green spaces, and renovate its parks and playgrounds.

In a statement issued on Wednesday, Mayor Joy Belmonte said the master plan to rehabilitate QMC took into consideration the construction of the MRT-7 station within the park.

“Quezon Memorial Circle is one of the assets of QC and is considered one of the major nodes of the City’s ‘Green Lung Network’ where families can enjoy green open spaces for outdoor activities. With this redevelopment plan, we are not just focusing on beautification per se but more on a purposeful design that our QCitizens will use and enjoy,” Belmonte said.

The redevelopment plan is scheduled to start by the last quarter of this year and will be carried out in phases.

Belmonte said approximately 70 percent of QMC will be dedicated to becoming major green areas that include picnic grounds and children’s playgrounds where families usually stay, themed gardens, and will also have areas for urban farming.

The city government is planning to build a multipurpose field that may be used for different sports activities like football, softball, baseball, and frisbee, among others.



QC to rehabilitate Memorial Circle, restore more green spaces

In addition, a skate trail and park; basketball, volleyball, and tennis courts; stepped lawns; and a cultural amphitheater to serve as venues for artists, entertainers, and musicians will be built.

Wider path walks, bike lanes, jogging paths, and exercise areas are included in the plan.

As the city government is promoting urban farming and gardening, there will also be botanical gardens with modular kiosks allotted for plant vendors inside the park.

Meanwhile, the Liwasang Aurora, or the circle-shaped open-air venue near the pylon will also be restored.

Vendors of food, wet and dry products, and souvenir items will have their own spaces as pop-up stores have been included in the master redevelopment plan.

CCTV cameras will be installed for additional park security while internet hubs for public use will also be provided.

Before the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic, Belmonte fought for the redesign of the MRT-7 station within the QMC to ensure that it will not ruin the heritage sites while preserving the park's integrity.

"We are developing this area for the next generation. QMC will remain to be an area where QC citizens can enjoy spending time doing sports and other recreational activities," she said.

The Quezon Memorial Shrine found inside the park has been declared by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) as a national cultural heritage in 2020.

QMC itself is a 27-hectare national park and is an important landmark located at the heart of the city that is dedicated to the memory of former President Manuel Luis Quezon.

It is jointly managed by the QC local government and the National Historical Commission. (PNA)



Dabawenyos urged on proper waste disposal to prevent flooding

By Che Palicte April 27, 2022, 3:48 pm



DAVAO CITY – The chief of the City Engineer's Office (CEO) reminded Dabawenyos Wednesday to observe proper garbage disposal to prevent clogged drainages that often cause flooding in the city.

In a statement, lawyer Joseph Dominic Felizarta, CEO officer-in-charge, noted that garbage and other materials such as driftwood are usually found in drainage canals, the primary cause of flooding in low-lying areas.

"Drainages are sometimes filled with trash and the pumps cannot siphon off the water," Felizarta said.

Felizarta urged residents to throw their garbage in disposal bins provided by the city and be responsible for cleaning their surroundings.

"If you see garbage within your area, please help clean it. It would be easy if you pick it up, otherwise, it will go straight to the canal and clog it," he said.

However, Felizarta said garbage disposed at collection points are sometimes not collected immediately and get washed away in open canals after a heavy downpour.

But he assured that the local government has the necessary equipment to respond to natural calamities, such as flooding.

"Our equipment is complete, including those needed for landslides. If a bridge or hanging bridge is destroyed, we have the personnel and equipment ready to be dispatched to the affected area to address the damage," he said. (PNA)

Source: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1173055>

Cleene Ethyl Alcohol and Plastic Bank Partnered to Help Stop Ocean Plastic Waste

by [Village Connect](#) about 17 hours ago



Event host Joyce Pring-Trivino with Philusa Corporation President and General Manager Neogin Evangelista and Plastic Bank Philippines Country Manager Rene Guarin

Cleene Ethyl Alcohol, a trusted Filipino brand that provides high-quality and affordable alcohol products from Philusa Corporation, extends its effort in reducing ocean-bound plastic waste as it partners with social enterprise Plastic Bank Corporation.

The initiative is unveiled during the virtual launch of Cleene Ethyl Alcohol's campaign entitled "Towards a Cleaner Philippines," a movement encouraging the public to be more mindful of the environment by adopting an eco-friendly lifestyle. This is in collaboration with Plastic Bank, a social enterprise building collection communities in coastal areas while improving the lives of community members.



Cleene Ethyl Alcohol and Plastic Bank Partnered to Help Stop Ocean Plastic Waste



With the Philippines named as one of the top producers of marine waste, Cleene Ethyl Alcohol has taken the leap in creating a positive impact on the environment together with Plastic Bank.

Cleene Ethyl Alcohol is helping to prevent the equivalent of 1.25 million plastic bottles from entering the ocean in collaboration with Plastic Bank. Cleene will also help improve the lives of more than 600 plastic waste collectors in vulnerable coastal communities in Makati, Pasig and Mandaluyong with the contribution of health kits.

"It's always been our commitment to finding sustainable ways to help our environment. And we hope that through this effort, we can contribute to minimizing ocean plastic waste and be of help to our hardworking Plastic Bank collectors," shared Philusa Corporation President and General Manager Neogin Evangelista.



Cleene Ethyl Alcohol and Plastic Bank Partnered to Help Stop Ocean Plastic Waste



Promoting collaboration between consumers and brands, the partnership with Plastic Bank enables Cleene Ethyl Alcohol to achieve its annual sustainability goals and empower its consumers to make an impact on the environment.

Cleene Ethyl Alcohol's partnership with Plastic Bank also contributes to the collectors' income, enabling them to afford basic family necessities such as food, clean water, and cellular service, among others.

Additionally, the company is distributing health kits in several cities nationwide to help improve the health of the collectors.

"We are honored to be joining Cleene in their journey in making this project come to life. At Plastic Bank, we are continuously strengthening our ocean-bound plastic recycling efforts and empowering companies like Cleene with opportunities to be a leader in the regenerative society," said Plastic Bank Philippines Country Manager Rene Guarin.

"We look forward to creating more impact on our oceans and coastal communities in the years to come together with Plastic Bank. We encourage everyone to create sustainability programs in our own simple ways and join our movement towards a Cleaner Philippines," Evangelista added.

PH seeks expanded maritime cooperation with EU

By Joyce Ann L. Rocamora April 27, 2022, 9:23 pm



COMMITTEE MEETING. Foreign Affairs Acting Undersecretary for Bilateral Relations and ASEAN Affairs EU Delegation Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro and Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific at the European External Action Service Gunnar Wiegand before and during their joint committee meeting in Makati last Tuesday (April 26, 2022). (Photos by DFA/Philip Adrian Fernandez)

MANILA – The Philippine government is seeking an expanded maritime cooperation with the European Union.

During the second Philippine-EU joint committee meeting in Makati on April 26, Manila proposed a new subcommittee on maritime matters and floated the possible expansion of cooperation on maritime jurisdictions, security, ocean governance, shipping, and seafaring with the EU.

In a joint statement released April 27, the two parties also expressed concern over "unilateral actions that endanger peace, security and stability and the international rules-based order".

Referring to the South China Sea row, the two underscored the importance of abiding by international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and recalled the landmark 2016 Arbitration Award.

"The two parties agreed to further explore modalities for strengthening cooperation on the full scope of maritime matters," the joint statement read.

Among the subjects also discussed is how to enhance partnership on environment and climate change; disaster management and preparedness; fight against illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing; connectivity; and science and technology.

The second joint committee was held in a hybrid format with Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Ma. Theresa Lazaro and European External Action Service Managing Director for Asia and the Pacific Gunnar Wiegand heading the Philippine and EU delegations, respectively.



PH seeks expanded maritime cooperation with EU

Its main agenda was to review ongoing bilateral cooperation under the Philippines-European Union Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) and discuss possible future cooperation initiatives.

The joint committee builds upon the outcome of the three subcommittee meetings on Trade, Investment, and Economic Cooperation; Good Governance, Rule of Law and Human Rights; and Development Cooperation last year.

The next Joint Committee meeting will take place in Brussels in 2023. (PNA)

28 APRIL 2022, Thursday



DENR

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STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



DENR takes down over 114K poll campaign materials nailed on trees

By JONATHAN L. MAYUGA

[@jonlmayuga](#)

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) reported removing campaign materials that are either tacked or nailed on trees two weeks before the May 9 national and local elections.

DENR Acting Secretary Jim O. Sampulna said he is expecting an increase in the DENR's collection of illegal campaign materials days ahead of the elections.

So far, the DENR chief said a total of 114,664 pieces and 2,050 kilos of campaign materials posted on trees were removed during nationwide "Oplan Baklas" operations.

These campaign materials go outside or beyond the designated common poster areas designated by the Commission on Elections (Comelec), specifically trees, said Sampulna.

The DENR field offices in Regions 9, 3 and 5 reported the highest confiscated materials with 21,650 pieces, 19,646 pieces, and 18,950 pieces of campaign materials, respectively.

Republic Act (RA) 3571 outlaws the cutting, destruction, or causing injur-

ing of planted or growing trees, flowering plants and shrubs or plants of scenic value along public roads, in plazas, parks, school premises, or in any other public pleasure grounds.

Section 3 of Presidential Decree 953 also states that violators could be punished with imprisonment from six months to two years, or a fine of not less than P500 and not more than P5,000, or both.

Meanwhile, Sampulna lauded the public's support in reporting to the Comelec and the DENR through social media and text messages, even as he urged them to take photographs or video recordings of violators.

"The candidates themselves should promote environmentally conscious election campaigns," Sampulna said.

The DENR, Comelec, and the Department of the Interior and Local Government signed the Joint Memorandum Circular (JMC) 2010-01 on March 30, 2010, enjoining political parties, including party-list groups, and individual candidates to enforce relevant provisions of RA 9006 or the Fair Elections Act and RA 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.



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DENR takes down over 114K campaign materials posted on trees

By AARON B. RECUENCO

The Department of Natural Environment Resources (DENR) has intensified the crackdown on campaign materials that are posted on trees.

Based on the latest report, DENR

Sec. Jim O. Sampulna said a total of 114,664 pieces of campaign materials nationwide were already taken down.

The DENR field offices confiscated 21,650 campaign materials in Regions 9; 19,646 materials in Region 3; and 18,950 materials in

Region 5.

Sampulna urged the candidates to be responsible enough to tell their supporters to follow the rules on posting campaign materials, which is prohibited on trees.

Republic Act 3571 provides that cut-

ting, destroying, or injuring of planted or growing trees, flowering plants and shrubs or plants of scenic value along public roads, in plazas, parks, school premises, or in any other public pleasure grounds are prohibited.

The DENR chief warned that violators may face sanctions for violating not only election-related laws, but environmental laws, too.

Section 3 of Presidential Decree No. 953 provides that violators could be punished with imprison-

ment from six months to two years, or a fine of not less than ₱500 but not more than ₱5,000, or both.

Despite violations of the law, the DENR is yet to report if a candidate has already been charged. However, the confiscated campaign materials, mostly tarpaulins, will be donated to environment groups such as EcoWaste Coalition and like-minded organizations that recycle the materials into useful items like bags and school supplies.



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EDITORIAL



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114,664 campaign posters on trees removed

By ELIZABETH MARCELO

Up to 114,664 pieces of campaign materials posted on trees across the country have been removed, according to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

DENR acting Secretary Jim Sampulna reminded candidates and their supporters that posting of campaign materials on trees is prohibited under environmental laws and the guidelines set by the Commission on Elections (Comelec).

"The candidates themselves should promote an environmentally conscious election campaign," Sampulna said.

The DENR said the dismantled campaign materials weighed 2,050 kilos.

The DENR field offices in Zamboanga peninsula, Central Luzon and Bicol reported the highest number of confiscated campaign materials with 21,650, 19,646 and 18,950 pieces, respectively.

Sampulna said campaign materials should be posted only in areas designated by the Comelec.

The DENR noted that Republic Act 3571 prohibits the "cutting, destroying or injuring" of planted or growing trees, flowering plants and shrubs or plants of scenic value along public roads, in plazas, parks, school premises or any other public ground.

It also cited a provision in Presidential Decree 953, which penalizes violators with imprisonment of six months to two years or a fine of P500 to P5,000 or both.

PD 953 allows the cutting of trees only "for public safety" and upon the approval of the duly authorized representative of the agency or political subdivision with jurisdiction over them.

Sampulna said a joint memorandum circular by the DENR, Comelec and Department of the Interior and Local Government enjoined political parties, including party-list groups and individual candidates, to enforce relevant provisions of the Fair Elections Act and Ecological Solid Waste Management Act.

The DENR said the confiscated campaign materials, mostly tarpaulins, would be donated to environment organizations such as the EcoWaste Coalition, which recycle materials into useful items like bags and school supplies.



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Real-time tracking proposed in Boracay

BY JED MACAPAGAL

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will craft an action plan that will control the number of tourists visiting Boracay after the number of visitors breached the government-set carrying capacity of the island during the Holy Week break.

Jonas Leones, DENR undersecretary for policy, planning and international affairs, said Leones expressed the possibility of increasing the island's carrying capacity based on the study that will be produced by the DENR's Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau if such proposal will be feasible.

Leones said maintaining the carrying capacity of the island is crucial for the protection and conservation of the environment.

The DENR-led Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation and Management Group (BIARMG) is working with the Department of Tourism, the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the province of Aklan and the municipal government of Malay for the action plan which will initially adopt a wider utilization use of an expanded of QR codes to track the number of visitors.

Martin Jose Despi, BIARMG general manager, said the use of QR codes integrated with contact tracing will have a real-time monitoring system.

Despi also recommended a review of the data of airline and shipping passengers and the total number of accommodation facilities that book tourists to prevent overbooking.

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REAL

"We need an integrated information technology system that would take care of all these capabilities...The moment that we put in place a relevant system or software, all of this would be

properly addressed," Despi said. The BIARMG reported tourist arrivals in Boracay last April 14 reached 21,011. The following day, the number ballooned to 22,278.

In 2018, a study commissioned by the DENR found Boracay's carrying capacity is only 19,215 tourists or about 6,405 arrivals a day based on an average three-day stay.



DENR pushes for an integrated QR code system to track Boracay's tourist arrivals

BY JONATHAN L. MAYUGA

[@jonlmayuga](#)

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is pitching for the implementation of a QR code system to monitor and control the number of tourists visiting Boracay Island.

This as the DENR is now discussing a workable action plan with officials and representatives of Task

Force Boracay from the Department of Tourism (DOT), Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Province of Aklan, and the Municipal Government of Malay.

The Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation and Management Group (BIARMG) has earlier reported that the surge in the number of visitors breached the government-set carrying capacity of the island during the Holy Week break on April 14 and 15,

with 21,011 and 22,278 tourist arrivals, respectively.

A study commissioned by the DENR in 2018 bared that Boracay Island's carrying capacity is 19,215 tourists a day, or about 6,405 arrivals a day based on an average three-day stay.

"We are now discussing possible adjustments on policies and what strategies we will take to prevent this from happening again in the future," DENR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs Atty. Jonas R. Leones said in a news statement.

Setting up a carrying capacity is in line with the DENR's ongoing mission to protect and conserve the environment in Boracay.

If the population continuously exceeds the given carrying capacity, the ecosystem may become unsuitable for other species on the island to survive,

or other resources may deplete.

BIARMG General Manager Martin Jose Despi explained that one of their recommended measures to prevent another overcrowding in Boracay is to integrate the use of QR codes in contact tracing into a control program aligned with monitoring the number of tourists going to the renown island resort.

In line with this, a proposed real-time monitoring system is necessary

to see the total number of tourists issued with the QR code on a particular date.

Despi recommended a review of the data of airline and shipping passengers and the total number of accommodations that booked tourists to prevent overbooking.

"We need an integrated information technology system that would take care of all these capabilities," said Despi.

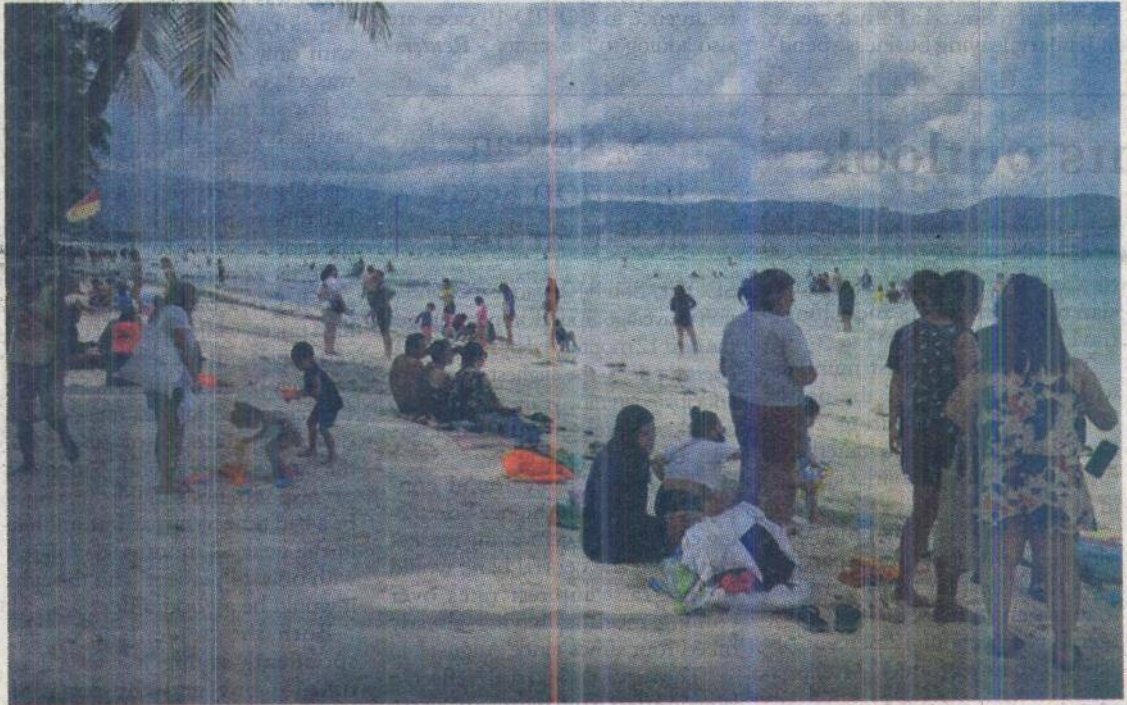


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Tourist arrivals seen hitting 1.3M by yearend



Overcrowding. The DENR is working on an action plan that would limit the number of visitors in Boracay island, saying maintaining the carrying capacity of the island is crucial for the protection and conservation of the environment. (PNA photo)

BY IRMA ISIP

AS foreign tourist arrivals breached 300,000 less than three months into the reopening of the country's orders in February 10, the Tourism Congress of the Philippines (TCP) projects arrivals to hit a million to 1.3 million by the end of the year.

Jojo Clemente, TCP president, told the Livable Cities forum yesterday, this number is a far cry from the 8.6 million arrivals in 2019 but "considering where we came from, that bodes well for the recovery of the tourism sector."

Clemente said bookings are high for the winter months in the latter part of the year and most arrivals are coming from long-haul markets such as Europe and North America which are less strict in their travel requirements.

Clemente added domestic tourism also started to increase as the

Omicron infection continues to decline.

But Clemente noted the need to institute measures to fully bounce back.

These include the development of more destinations which will determine new gateways.

The industry also needs investments in tourism infrastructures, hotels, airports, ferries among others as the country develops new destinations.

Clemente called for a more "appropriate budget" for the Department of Tourism (DOT) for continuous marketing and for the Philippines to be in step with its Asean neighbors which have more resources allocated for tourism.

Stressing the role of government and private sector partnership for the long-term, Clemente called for the creation of a disaster calamity fund for the tour-

ism industry in case of another pandemic-like event.

"The tourism industry was considered to be non-essential during the pandemic and that is the reason why some of our partners are no longer in the industry because we had nowhere (to go)," Clemente said.

In a separate statement, DOT said the country registered total inbound arrivals of 319,047 from February 10 to April 25.

The DOT is optimistic foreign tourism arrivals will pick up even more as foreigners are made aware of the Philippines.

"The sustained growth in foreign arrivals in the country indicates the recovery of our tourism industry, said DOT Secretary Berna Romulo-Puyat.

The number comes in the wake

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TOURIST

of the country's successful hosting of the 21st Global Summit of the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) last April 20 to 22.

The majority or 66,245 of the total tourist arrivals came from the United States. Canada

and South Korea followed with 15,024 and 14,697 respectively. Australian, British and Japanese tourists came next on the list with 14,530; 13,560; and 7,335 respectively.

Puyat said the Philippines still has one of the simplest and most

relaxed entry protocols in Asia; fully vaccinated foreigners do not need to test upon arrival nor quarantine, and they can also choose between an RT-PCR test or a lab-based antigen test to comply with the pre-departure test requirement.

- Irma Isip



DUTERTE SIGNS E-VEHICLE LAW

PRESIDENT Rodrigo Duterte signed into law a measure that will ramp up efforts to develop electric vehicles (EV) in the country.

Signed on April 15, Republic Act 11697, otherwise known as the "Electric Vehicle Industry Development Act," seeks the creation of a comprehensive roadmap for the electric vehicle industry (Crevi) that aims "to accelerate the development, commercialization and utilization of EVs" in the Philippines.

The Crevi has four components — EVs and charging stations, manufacturing, research and development, and human resource development. It shall be incorporated in the Philippine Energy Plan and the National Transport Police.

"This Act shall apply to the manufacture, assembly, importation, construction, maintenance, trade and utilization, research and development, and regulation of electric vehicles, charging stations,

and related equipment, parts and components, batteries, and related support structure," part of the legislation reads, a copy of which was released by the Palace yesterday.

The Department of Energy (DoE) will be the main agency that will oversee the adoption of EVs.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources will outline and enforce rules and guidelines for recycling and disposal of EVs, charging stations and related equipment, parts and components and batteries to ensure compliance with the Toxic Substance Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Control Act of 1990.

The Department of Transportation, Department of Trade and Industry, and the DoE will work in close coordination with public and private stakeholders for the issuance of the implementing rules and regulations of the law not more than 120 days after it takes effect.

KRISTINA MARALIT



There's no black sand mining in Cagayan – MGB

APARRI, Cagayan: A FACT-FINDING composite team led by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) in Region 2 (Cagayan Valley) has declared that no black sand mining is taking place in the ongoing dredging of the heavily-silted Cagayan River.

The MGB report disputed claims of local fisherfolk that their livelihood has been affected by the black sand mining in the area.

Mario Ancheta, MGB Region 2 director, on orders of Executive Director Gwendolyn Bambalan of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Region 2, said that he led a composite team to investigate the dredging in the river on Monday, April 25.

Ancheta said the results of their investigation proved otherwise.

"Reports from the investigation are clear. We categorically state that there is no existing black sand mining in Aparri, Cagayan in relation to the ongoing river dredging project of the government," Ancheta said in the team's report to DENR Region 2.

Also included in the investigation team are personnel from the DENR Region 2 legal and enforcement divisions, Cagayan's provincial and community environment and natural resources offices, Environmental Management Bureau, Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

On April 22, some 1,700 fisherfolk from Aparri, Gattaran, Ballesteros, Buguey, Gonzaga and Santa Ana marched to protest against black sand mining operations which they claim are happening in the guise of river dredging.

Ancheta explained that before the protest rally, there had been ongoing river dredging operations in Aparri under DENR Administrative Order 2020-07 following DPWH dredging master plan where exclusive river dredging zones were designated by the Inter-Agency Committee on River Restoration.

He said the dredging operations were to rehabilitate the Cagayan River from heavy siltation that causes massive flooding, especially during a heavy downpour.

Ancheta said that the composite team's investigation revealed that the fishermen were also alleging that ongoing conduct of black sand mining in the waters off Barangay Punta resulted in the decline of their fish catch including the Aparri-celebrated product called "aramang" or spider shrimp.

He said the fishermen attributed this to the ongoing dredging activity in the Cagayan River

by vessels that they alleged were conducting black sand mining operations.

As to the issue of aramang declining catch, the composite team's BFAR marine biologist has confirmed that based on the verifiable record, there was indeed a general downturn of the catch per unit effort in Aparri from 2014 up to the present.

"The decline in the fish catch or harvest may be aggravated by various causes both natural and man-made," Ancheta said referring to the statement made by the BFAR team member.

He said the decline is related to the seasonal effects, natural calamities, and possible over-exploitation of the aquatic resources such as in the case of overfishing and that "we cannot plainly correlate the death of fish to the river dredging."

"It is not proper to correlate entirely to the river dredging activity which was resorted to by the government to restore the waterways in the municipality to be the real reason for the decline of fish catch or harvests," Ancheta said.

He added that the decline in the harvest is due to factors like anthropogenic sources and seasonal effects.

"Thus, it is not proper to reckon that the downturn of catch began when the river dredging operations commenced last 2021 in consonance with the fact that the pandemic has not allowed fisherfolk to freely work, especially during the peak months of the surge," Ancheta said.

Nevertheless, Ancheta noted that in case the operations of the vessels in the dredging activities caused the decline of the fish catch including the aramang, the BFAR Region 2 will provide the team with a study and data covering the past five and 10 years with scientific analysis and statement on the level of catches and harvests of aquatic resources.

"The BFAR findings will further enlighten us with the factors affecting the decline of the fishermen's catch and which will be provided to all interested parties once they are available," Ancheta said.

The composite team also proceeded to inspect dredging vessels, particularly the Riverfront Construction Inc. which was mentioned and believed by protesting fisherfolk to be involved in the alleged black sand mining.

"Actual ocular inspection established that the said dredging vessels have no magnetic separators installed in them for possible conduct of black and mining contrary to reports of the fisherfolk. How can they operate as a black sand miner when they don't have the said equipment," Ancheta said. **LEANDER C. DOMINGO**



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Leyte more vulnerable to landslides after 'Agaton'

No vegetation type on hillsides can absorb and evaporate the huge volume of water in so short a time

TACLOBAN CITY – Soil scientist Visayas State University Professor Victor Asio has warned that “incipient” landslides caused by tropical depression “Agaton” in Baybay City may trigger major landslides in the future.

Asio said that there is now an urgent need to come up with more detailed and updated geohazard maps of communities in the city that are vulnerable to landslides.

“I suspect that several incipient landslides (landslides in the initial stage) were produced in various areas during ‘Agaton’ but are hidden by the vegetation cover. Another storm or typhoon may trigger these landslide incidents to become full or even catastrophic landslides,” Asio said in an interview with the *Philippine News Agency*

He added that while there were landslides in the past decades, some areas were overlooked since it was still uninhabited.

“Through more detailed and updated hazard map, residents living in landslide-prone areas will be given proper and timely attention,”

Asio said.

“The Baybay landslides were triggered by the extremely heavy rainfall and enhanced by the unstable and highly weathered soils, weak geologic material composed of pyroclastic rocks, and the steep slopes,” he added.

Asio explained that “Agaton” dumped a tremendous volume of rain from 9 to 11 April – a “whopping” 907-millimeter rainwater – amounting to four months of rain, but poured in Baybay in just three days.

No vegetation type on hillsides can absorb and evaporate the huge volume of water in so short a time, he added.

Meantime, Mines and Geoscience Bureau (MGB) Eastern Visayas geologist in charge Leandrew Luz said assessment is still ongoing in landslide-hit areas, and they have already initially identified five villages as danger zones.

The MGB regional office is to present the result of their initial assessment next week.

ENM



'Agaton' raises landslide vulnerability in Leyte - expert

TACLOBAN CITY – A soil scientist warned that “incipient” landslides caused by Tropical Depression Agaton in Baybay City may trigger major landslides in the future.

The situation, according to Visayas State University Professor Victor Asio, calls for the need to come up with more detailed and updated geohazard maps of communities in the city that are vulnerable to landslides.

“I suspect that several incipient landslides (landslides in the initial stage) were produced in various areas during 'Agaton' but are hidden by the vegetation cover. Another storm or typhoon may trigger these landslide incidents to become full or even catastrophic landslides,” Asio said in a phone interview on Wednesday, April 27.

Examining the surroundings of landslide-hit communities in the city, Asio said there were landslides in the past decades, but were overlooked since the area was still uninhabited.

“Through more detailed and updated hazard map, residents living in landslide-prone areas will be given proper and timely attention,” Asio added.

In his research published online on April 21, the soil science expert who has been in the field for 30 years, presented his analysis of the April 10 landslide incident that killed at least 128 people with over a hundred missing.

“The Baybay landslides

were triggered by the extremely heavy rainfall and enhanced by the unstable and highly weathered soils, weak geologic material composed of pyroclastic rocks, and the steep slopes,” he said.

Asio explained that “Agaton” dumped a tremendous volume of rain from April 9 to 11 — a “whopping” 907mm (millimeter) — amounting to four months of rain, but poured in Baybay in just three days.

No vegetation type on hillsides can absorb and evaporate the huge volume of water in so short a time, according to him.

“Trees and plants can only do so much, since it can partly prevent shallow landslides, but not deep-seated landslides such as those in Bunga, Kantagnos, and Mailhi villages. This means that the coconut's shallow root system (about a meter deep) may not have effectively prevented the landslides, but the same can be said of the trees with their two- to three-meter-deep rooting zone since the landslides are several meters deep in their source areas,” Asio added.

In a phone interview, Mines and Geoscience Bureau (MGB) Eastern Visayas geologist in charge Leandrew Luz said assessment is still ongoing in landslide-hit areas, and they have already initially identified five villages as danger zones.

The MGB regional office is to present the result of their initial assessment next week. (PNA)



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Editorial

Quarrying sa Marikina Watershed, ipatigil

SINISIRA ng illegal mining, quarrying at resort construction ang Masungi at Upper Marikina Watershed sa Baras, Rizal. Kapag hindi ipinatigil ang mga ginagawang illegal na aktibidad sa nasabing protected area, babaha sa Marikina at sa maraming bahagi ng Metro Manila. Nakalulunus ang maaring mangyari kapag hindi naputol ang mga ginagawang paghuhukay sa reserve areas. Ang Marikina watershed ay napagkalooban ng proteksiyon sa ilalim ng Republic Act No. 7586 o ang National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act of 1992.

Sabi ng ilang residente sa Baras, nang manalasa ang Bagyong Ulysses noong 2020, buong bayan ng Baras ay binaha na hindi naman nangyayari dati. Mabilis umanong tumaas ang tubig. Nangangamba sila na kung hindi mapipigil ang illegal activities sa Marikina watershed protected areas, baka raw sila naman ang mawala sa mga susunod na panahon. Dapat na umanong maputol ang illegal quarrying at mining sa lugar para maiwasan ang pagkasira.

Noong Miyerkules, ang Masungi Georeserve Foundation sa Baras ay umapela na kay President Duterte at kay DENR Sec. Jim Sapulna na kanselahin ang mineral production sharing agreements sa Upper Marikina Watershed upang mapigilan ang panganib na idudulot ng mga ginagawang aktibidad sa lugar. Ang grupo ng Masungi ang nagpapanatili at nagre-rehabilitate sa portion ng watershed upang magsilbi itong "first line of defense" laban sa pagbaha kung may malakas na bagyo.

Sagot ni President Duterte sa apela ng Masungi Foundation, sampahan ng kaso ang mga sumisira sa Marikina Watershed. Ipinag-utos niya ito sa kalihim ng DENR at sa Anti-illegal logging Task Force. Ayon sa Presidente, nangangamba siya sa nangyayaring illegal activities sa watershed.

Ngayong may direktiba na ang presidente, kumilos sana ang DENR at iba pang ahensiya para mapigil ang illegal quarrying at mining sa lugar. Alamin din ng DENR kung sino ang nasa likod ng quarrying operations. Ayon sa report "malalakas at malalaking pulitiko" ang may-ari ng quarrying kaya hindi maipatigil na noon pa nag-ooperate. Nararapat nang wakasan ang kasibaan ng mga ito.



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KALAGAYAN NG ATING INANG KALIKASAN (PART 3)

NASA kategoriyang "biodiversity hotspot" na ang Pilipinas. Ibig sabihin ni- to, marami na sa mga natatanging halaman at buhay ilang sa ating mga kabubayan ang nanganganib nang maubos o tuluyang mawala.

Kabilang sa mga ito ang Philippine Eagle (Pitheophaga jefferyi) na sa pagtataya ng International Union for the Conservation of Nature at Birdlife International ay mayroon na lamang nalalabing 180 hanggang 400 sa buong bansa. Ang endemic o tanging sa Pilipinas lamang makikitang ibon ay sinasabing

"rarest, largest and most powerful birds in the world". Sa bisa ng Presidential Proclamation No. 615 ay kinilala ito bilang siya nating "pambansang ibon" na kilala rin sa tawag na Agila, Haribon (Haring Ibon), at Banog.

Ganito rin ang kalagayan ng Tamaraw (Mindoro Dwarf Buffalo, Bubalus Mindorensis), isang katutubong hayop na tanging sa isla ng Mindoro lamang matatagpuan. Ito ay nahahawig sa kalabaw ngunit mas maliit ang mga binti at

ge. Sabi nga, nagpapaluset kung makalusot.

Kung talagang mahal ka niya, gagawa siya ng paraan para lagi kayong magkita at ganap na magkakilala. Hayaan mo na lang ang panahon ang magsabi kung lawig pa ang inyong relasyon. Marami ka pang makikitang iba na lubos mong mamahalin dahil lubos mong kakilala.

Enjoyin ang buhay habang ikaw ay bata pa. Makisalamuha at makibagay sa mga tao at huwag ipako ang isip at panahon sa iisang taong hindi mo lubos na kilala.

Mr. Dick



REMATE OPINION

ANG INYONG LINGKOD

NI DR. HILDA C. ONG

sungay at lubhang mapanganib lalo na kapag pinapasok ang kanilang teritoryo. Ayon sa mga eksperto, 274 na lamang ang nalalabi sa mga ito.

Matinding kahirapan: Mula sa datos ng World Bank, mayroong 1.29 bilyong tao ang namumuhay sa kategoriyang "absolute poverty" na isang kondisyon kung saan mayroong severe deprivation of basic human needs gaya ng pagkain, inuming tubig, bahay, sanitasyon, edukasyon, impormasyon, at mga serbisyo ng gobyerno.

Base sa talaan ng Global Finance Magazine mula taong 2009 hanggang 2013, ang sampung pinakamahirap na bansa ay ang - Congo Kinshasa, Zimbabwe, Burundi, Liberia, Eritrea, Central African Republic, Niger, Malawi, Madagascar, at Afghanistan. Nasa ika-58 na puwesto naman ang Pilipinas sa 183 bansa.

Ang nakalulungkot, 75 porsiyento ng mga duma-

ranas ng gutom sa mundo ay mula sa mga kanayunan na umaasa sa pagsasaka at pangangisda para mabuhay. Ngunit habang dumaraan ang mga araw, paunti ng paunti ang kanilang inaani at nahuhuling isda.

Sa pagtataya ng mga eksperto, upang matugunan ang basikong pangangailangan para sa edukasyon, kalusugan, at sanitasyon, kinakailangang magdagdag ng pondong US\$ 28 billion. Kung tutuusin, kayang-kaya naman itong mapunuan dahil batay sa pag-aaral, kayang gumastos ng mga nakakarirwasang tao ng US\$105 billion para sa iba't ibang klase ng alak, US\$50 billion sa sigarilyo, US\$20 billion sa pagbango at kolorete, US\$17 billion sa pagkain ng mga alagang hayop, at US\$8 billion sa ice cream.

Malinaw ang kasagutan - makababawas ng mga taong naghihirap kung magkaron lamang ng malasakit ang maraming tao sa mundo.



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Abante TONITE

MABILIS SA BALITA



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BANNER
STORY



EDITORIAL



CARTOON

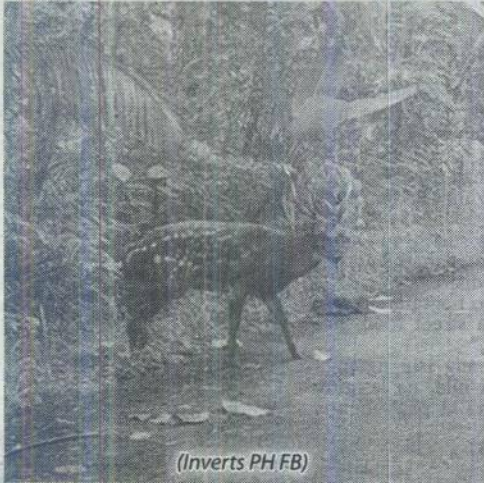
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Usa na malapit nang maubos nasilayan sa Panay



(Inverts PH FB)

NAISPATAN kamakailan sa Panay Island ang Visayan spotted deer, isang klase ng usa na sa Pilipinas lang matatagpuan at nanganganib nang maubos.

Ayon sa ulat, ang Inverts PH ang nakakita sa Visayan spotted deer na ito, na may scientific name na Rusa alfredi o tinatawag din na Philippine spotted deer at Prince Alfred's deer, habang nasa isla ng Panay noong Abril 18.

Nakita umano ang usa sa isang nature reserve na nangangalaga dito.

"We did not harm or interacted with the animal. And this is in a certain nature reserve where they put efforts to conserve and help this beautiful animal multiply,"

Nasa 100 na lamang umano ang bilang ng nasabing usa ang nasa Panay Island. Itinuturing ito bilang isa sa mga pinakabihirang mammal sa mundo at pinakabihirang species ng usa.

Pangangaso at pagkalbo ng mga kagubatan ang mga pangunahing sanhi ng pagkaubos nito. **(Mark Joven Delantar)**



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AGRICULTURAL CONCESSIONS The Quirino provincial government and the Japanese government-owned firm Tokushima Auction Market have recently signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) at the Watersports Complex in Capitol Hills, Cabarroguis, Quirino. The partnership was done to strengthen import and export opportunities for Quirino products to and from Japan, including the manufacturing, promotion and distribution of 100-percent calamansi puree made by villagers. The MoU was signed by Quirino Gov. Dakila Cua (second from left) and Yoshihisa Arai, president/CEO of Takushima Auction Market, Japan (center). Also present at the signing ceremony were Kenji Sato, president/CEO of Biometrix Corp. Pharmaceutical Manufacturer; Dr. Kazuo Hara, chairman of Japan Medical Association; Mr. Amin Javadi, Iran ambassador; and regional directors and representatives from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Department of Agriculture, Department of Trade and Industry, and Department of Science and Technology. PHOTO BY VINCE JACOB A. VISAYA



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Landbank loans for renewable energy projects hit over P20 B

By ELIJAH FELICE ROSALES

The Land Bank of the Philippines has extended more than P20 billion in loans for renewable energy projects mostly located in rural areas.

Landbank president and CEO Cecilia Borromeo yesterday said the state-run bank has released a total of P20.1 billion to 56 borrowers in support of local renewable energy undertakings as of March 31.

Landbank grants loans to local partners building renewable energy projects as part of its commitment to finance sustainable development.

Under Landbank's Renewable Energy Program, borrowers are provided with financing as long as their projects promote alternative sources of power. The program seeks

to expand access to reliable, clean and sustainable energy in line with the government's thrust to mitigate the impact of climate change.

"As an industry leader in promoting environmental sustainability in the country, Landbank is at the forefront of supporting initiatives aimed at protecting our environment. We are looking to work with more customers and development partners toward a more sustainable future for the next generation, and beyond," Borromeo said.

Further, she said the program entices development partners to look into the viability of the use of biomass, geothermal, solar, hydro, ocean and wind energy.

Likewise, the program can finance projects on hybrid

renewable energy, including hybrid electric and compressed natural gas, as well as the manufacture of renewable energy technologies and their components and equipment.

Borromeo also said the program could be tapped by borrowers whose projects are in the preparation stage, so much that the financing could be deployed for developing a feasibility study, detailing an engineering design and coming up with supporting research.

Eligible borrowers, particularly electric cooperatives, local governments, state-owned firms and national agencies, may apply for up to 90 percent of the total project cost. For cooperatives, associations and private borrowers, which are enlisted as single proprietor-

ships, partnerships or corporations, they may borrow up to 80 percent.

Term loans acquired for working capital and project preparation should be paid within five years, with a grace period of six months on principal payment. Loans for capital expenditure should be paid within 15 years based on the borrower's cash flow, with a grace period of three years.

The interest rate shall be based on the prevailing market rate, but not lower than five percent per annum, according to Landbank.

The government is pushing for expanded efforts to support sustainable projects as the country suffered more than P500 billion in damage between 2010 and 2020 due to climate risks.



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Editorial

RE key to energy security

TOMORROW (Friday, April 29), the *Manila Times* will present another in our series of online forums, this one entitled, "Boost the Power of Future Stakeholders." The forum will focus on developments and opportunities in renewable energy for consumers, producers, investors and the economy as a whole, and can be viewed live on the *Manila Times'* Facebook, YouTube and DailyMotion pages beginning at 10 a.m.

The forum comes at a particularly significant moment for the Philippines. The national election that will be held in just over a week's time is naturally consuming much of our attention, as it will almost certainly lead to big changes in many government policies, with energy being rather high on that list for a variety of reasons. At the same time, the country is, unfortunately, also entering its annual period in which electricity can be expected to be in short supply, with all the difficulties that implies even under the best of circumstances.

In addition, all of this is happening at a time when the economy, though not in dire straits by any means, is nevertheless in a bit of a delicate condition due to inflation pressures, the lingering effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the unavoidable uncertainty about what a change in government might bring. Finally, there is the critical need to mitigate and adapt to climate change effects, which can be expected to become progressively more immediate and severe as time passes.

With these various factors in mind, it is an interesting and welcome coincidence that the International Renewable Energy Agency (Irena) just last week released its annual report on global renewable energy (RE) for the year 2021. The report revealed several encouraging and somewhat unexpected developments.

First, of the approximately 3,783 gigawatts (GW) of electricity capacity added in 2021 worldwide, 3,064 GW, or 81 percent, was in various forms of RE, with 88 percent of that being solar and wind power. Most of the development, about 60 percent of the total, is taking place in Asia, led by China, but with significant RE expansion in India, Japan, South Korea and Indonesia as well.

The comparatively low cost and rapid development time of these forms of RE compared to conventional fossil fuel or nuclear energy makes them an attractive solution for countries that need energy quickly.

Investor interest has likewise been growing over the past few years, but 2021 seemed to represent a tipping point; the rapid growth of investment in RE projects, while investment in conventional fossil fuel generation was almost flat, is a clear signal that investors now consider RE the preferable, more productive investment.

One attractive area in which RE capacity grew was in so-called off-grid capacity, which includes microgrids and other forms of distributed generation systems (watch today's forum if you want to learn more about what those are), and various types of single-user systems powered primarily by solar, hydropower, or biofuels. Besides being cheaper and relatively less complex than larger, grid-connected systems, these offer a great deal of flexibility in countries — the Philippines being an outstanding example — where there are areas that are unattractive economically or technically too challenging to energize through more conventional means.

The incoming administration should prioritize the development of RE, as opposed to what has been done with policy up to now, which has been to pursue an arbitrary target percentage of RE in the country's energy mix. There is no real argument against taking this approach; the most common counterargument, that RE is unreliable because it depends on sun or wind and cannot supply 24-hour power, is no longer relevant. The mix of RE technologies that are readily available, along with rapid developments in energy storage systems, allow RE to be deployed as so-called baseload power, albeit in a different way than what conventional energy policy thinking imagines.

Likewise, the extreme vulnerability of the Philippines to energy shortages or high prices because the country is a net energy importer in terms of fossil fuels can quickly be reduced or even eliminated entirely by prioritizing RE development. We look forward to learning ways to achieve this from tomorrow's experts, and we certainly hope you — and those who will be determining national policy in the very near future — will join us.



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Poor, vulnerable at center of dev't post-COVID

By LOUISE MAUREEN SIMEON

The Philippines will put the vulnerable groups of society, especially the poor and marginalized, at the center of its development plan as the country moves toward COVID recovery.

Speaking at the 55th Session of the Commission on Population and Development in New York, Socio-economic Planning Secretary and National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) chief Karl Chua said the Philippines remains

committed in accelerating inclusive economic growth.

"As we move forward from this crisis, we need to put the poor and vulnerable more at the center of our development strategies," Chua said.

He said this would be done by prioritizing smart infrastructure, regional equity, innovation, and climate change mitigation and adaptation to achieve faster and more inclusive growth.

"While progress is evident, we need to do more to create change that

is truly transformative. To this end, strengthening regional cooperation is crucial," Chua said.

Prior to the pandemic, Chua said the Philippines made significant strides in achieving the International Conference on Population and Development Program of Action.

Among the accomplishments include the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act, which granted universal access to nearly all modern contraceptives at government health centers.

The Enhanced Basic Education

Act also enabled better social and economic outcomes for the youth, while the Universal Health Care Act expanded healthcare access and coverage for Filipinos.

Chua said the measures contributed to significant poverty reduction to 16.7 percent in 2018, lifting six million Filipinos out of poverty four years ahead of the target schedule of 2022.

"But the pandemic temporarily halted our progress. In 2020, people's incomes and jobs were significantly affected by the pandemic and strin-

gent quarantines," Chua said.

"The pandemic was a litmus test on the resilience of our systems and institutions. Quarantines and mobility restrictions exacerbated inequalities and temporarily increased unemployment," he said.

Last year, the economy managed to bounce back, growing at 5.7 percent from a 9.6 percent contraction in 2020.

This was supported by the country's vaccination program, which allowed the economy to gradually reopen.



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
CENRO RXI, Bangkal, Davao City
Telephone No. (082) 287-2695

PAGPAPAUPA NG LUPANG PUBLIKO

Ipanabibigay alam sa madla na ang Community Environment and Natural Resources Office, Davao City ay itatanggap ng selyado o nakasulat na alok sa ika alas 10:00 ng umaga sa ika 14 ng Hunyo 2022 para paupahan ang isang sukat na lupang publiko na inilarawan sa ibaba nito:

Lugar	: Panacan, Davao City
Deskripsyon	: Lot 2-A, Mlc-11-001241-D
Sukat	: 2,310 square meter
Tasahan ng Lupa	: Php 11,990.00 kada metro kwardrado o Kabuuang Php. 27,696,900.00
Halaga ng nakatayo At itatayong Proyekto	: Php. 385,200.00
Aplikante	: DAVAO MODERN PORT TERMINAL, INC. Rep. by James Lee Ang

Ang karapatan na upahan ng nasabing lupa ay ibibigay sa tao o partido na makapagbigay ng pinakamataas na upa sa isang taon na hindi bababa sa tatlong porsyento (3%) sa halaga ng lupa at isang porsyento (1%) sa halaga ng itatayong estruktura. Upang ang isang tao ay makakasama sa isasagawang subasta, kailangang siya ay karapat dapat na aplikante at kailangan bago magsimula ang subasta ay nakadeposito siya ng halagang katumbas ng tatlong buwang upa. Ang deposito ay kailangang salaping papel, money order, cashier's or manager's check, ang siya lamang itatanggapin. Ang isang tao na sumali sa subasta na nagrepresenta ng ibang tao ay makakasali lamang kung mayroon siyang pahintulot na ibinigay sa pamamagitan ng kaukulang pahintulot na nilagdaan ng Notaryo Publiko. Sa panahon ng subasta, ang taong sumali ay makaroon ng dagdag na deposito kapag ang kayang alok ay itinataas para makupletang ang kabuuang tatlong buwang upa. Ang karapatang tumanggi o tanggihan ang anumang alok o sa lahat ng alok ay palaging nakalaan para sa mapahalaan.

Ang magwawagi sa alok na ito kung hindi siya ang aplikante ay kinakailangang tutumbasan ang kabayaranang nagugol sa pagpapalathala ng panawagang ito at sa pagpapasukat ng lupa.

Lungsod ng Dabaw, **April 28, 2022.**

JUVY C. HOFILEÑA
OIC, CENR Officer



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
CENRO RXI, Bangkal, Davao City
Telephone No. (082) 287-2695

LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

Notice is hereby given that Community Environment and Natural Resources Office, Davao City will accept oral or written bids not later than ten (10:00) o'clock A.M. on **June 14, 2022** for the lease for **commercial** purposes of the tract of land herein below described:

Location	: Panacan, Davao City
Description	: Lot 2-A, Mlc-11-001241-D
Area	: 2,310 square meter
Appraisal of Land	: Php 11,990.00 kada metro kwardrado o Kabuuang Php. 27,696,900.00
Value of Existing & Proposed Improvements	: Php. 385,200.00
Applied for by	: DAVAO MODERN PORT TERMINAL, INC. Rep. by James Lee Ang

The successful bidder if other than the applicant must reimburse the latter of the expenses for the publication of the notice of lease and the survey of the land.

The right to lease the land will be awarded to the person offering the highest annual rental, which shall not be less than three per centum (3%) of the value of the land plus one per centum (1%) of the value of the proposed/existing improvements. In order that a person may be entitled to participate in the bidding, he must be a qualified public land applicant, and must, before the commencement of the same, make a deposit equivalent to at least three (3) months rental. Only deposit in cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified checks, cashier's or manager's check can be accepted. A person bidding in representation of another may do so under a duly executed power of attorney. During the bidding, the bidder has to make an additional deposit every time his bid is raised, to complete the three (3) months rental, otherwise such bid as raised shall not be accepted. The government reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Davao City, Philippines, April 28, 2022.

JUVY C. HOFILEÑA
OIC, CENR Officer



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
CENRO RXI, Bangkal, Davao City
Telephone No. (082) 287-2695

LEASE OF PUBLIC LAND

Notice is hereby given that Community Environment and Natural Resources Office, Davao City will accept oral or written bids not later than ten (10:00) o'clock A.M. on **June 14, 2022** for the lease for **commercial** purposes of the tract of land herein below described:

Location	: Panacan, Davao City
Description	: Lot 1, Mlc-11-001242-D
Area	: 5,340 square meter
Appraisal of Land	: Php 11,990.00 kada metro kwardrado o Kabuuang Php. 64,026,600.00
Value of Existing & Proposed Improvements	: Php. 52,364,621.15
Applied for by	: DAVAO MODERN PORT TERMINAL, INC. Rep. by James Lee Ang

The successful bidder if other than the applicant must reimburse the latter of the expenses for the publication of the notice of lease and the survey of the land.

The right to lease the land will be awarded to the person offering the highest annual rental, which shall not be less than three per centum (3%) of the value of the land plus one per centum (1%) of the value of the proposed/existing improvements. In order that a person may be entitled to participate in the bidding, he must be a qualified public land applicant, and must, before the commencement of the same, make a deposit equivalent to at least three (3) months rental. Only deposit in cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified checks, cashier's or manager's check can be accepted. A person bidding in representation of another may do so under a duly executed power of attorney. During the bidding, the bidder has to make an additional deposit every time his bid is raised, to complete the three (3) months rental, otherwise such bid as raised shall not be accepted. The government reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

Davao City, Philippines, April 28, 2022.

JUVY C. HOFILÉÑA
OIC, CENR Officer



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
CENRO RXI, Bangkal, Davao City
Telephone No. (082) 287-2695

PAGPAPAUPA NG LUPANG PUBLIKO

Ipanabigay alam sa madla na ang Community Environment and Natural Resources Office, Davao City ay tatanggap ng seliyado o nakasulat na alok sa ika alas 10:00 ng umaga sa ika 14 ng **Hunyo 2022** para paupahan ang isang sukat na lupang publiko na inilarawan sa ibaba nito:

Lugar	: Panacan, Davao City
Deskripsyon	: Lot 1, Mlc-11-001242-D
Sukat	: 5,340 square meter
Tasahan ng Lupa :	: Php 11,990.00 kada metro kwardrado o Kabuuang Php. 64,026,600.00
Halaga ng nakatayo At itatayong Proyekto Aplikante	: Php. 52,364,621.15 : DAVAO MODERN PORT TERMINAL, INC. Rep. by James Lee Ang

Ang karapatan na upahan ng nasabing lupa ay ibibigay sa tao o partido na makapagbigay ng pinakamataas na upa sa isang taon na hindi bababa sa tatlóng porsyento (3%) sa halaga ng lupa at isang porsyento (1%) sa halaga ng itatayong estruktura. Upang ang isang tao ay makakasama sa isasagawang subasta, kailangang siya ay karapatdapat na aplikante at kailangan bago magsimula ang subasta ay nakadeposito siya ng halagang katumbas ng tatlóng buwang upa. Ang deposito ay kailangang salaping papel, money order, cashier's or manager's check, ang siya lamang tatanggapin. Ang isang tao na sumali sa sabasta na nagrerepresenta ng ibang tao ay makakasali lamang kung mayroon siyang pahintulot na ibinigay sa pamamagitan ng kaukulang pahintulot na nilagdaan ng Notaryo Publiko. Sa panahon ng subasta, ang taong sumali ay makaroon ng dagdag na deposito kapag ang kayang alok ay itinataas para makupletong ang kabuuang tatlóng buwang upa. Ang karapatang tumanggi o tanggihan ang anumang alok o sa lahat ng alok ay palaging nakalaan para sa mapahalaan.

Ang magwawagi sa alok na ito kung hindi siya ang aplikante ay kinakailangang tutumbasan ang kabayaranang nagugol sa pagpapalathala ng panawagang ito at sa pagpapasukat ng lupa.

Lungsod ng Dabaw, **Abril 28, 2022.**

JUVY C. HOFILÉÑA
OIC, CENR Officer

28 APRIL 2022, Thursday



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NEWS ALERTS

COVID-19 NEWS

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE



Galvez backs approval of 2nd booster shot for other sectors

By Lade Jean Kabagani April 27, 2022, 8:07 pm



(PNA file photo)

MANILA – The country's vaccine czar has appealed to the Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC) to hasten the approval of second booster shots administration to more vulnerable sectors and include other priority sectors in their recommendation.

During President Rodrigo Duterte's Talk to the People aired on Wednesday, National Task Force (NTF) against Covid-19 chief implementer Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr. cited the need to fast-track the vaccination of booster shots to other vulnerable sectors such as healthcare workers, senior citizens, and persons with comorbidities amid the threat of waning immunity vaccines and a possible surge of cases.

"Because of the current urgency of the situation, we are appealing to the HTAC to expedite the inclusion of health care workers, seniors and other vulnerable sectors *para po mapataas significantly ang ating bakunahan* (so that we can significantly increase our vaccination coverage)" he said.

Galvez said the HTAC and the country's Food and Drug Administration (FDA) should also consider giving second booster doses to overseas Filipino workers, seafarers, and uniformed personnel.

"HTAC/FDA should also look and include the seafarers, OFWs and uniformed personnel to be included in the priority due to their long duration deployment to [high-risk] and vulnerable areas," he said.

To date, 2,108 fully vaccinated immunocompromised individuals have received second booster shots since its official rollout on Monday.



Galvez backs approval of 2nd booster shot for other sectors

The Philippines has so administered a total of 146,227,002 Covid-19 doses nationwide, with 67,640,431 individuals having full primary series and 13,043,715 fully vaccinated having first booster shots. (PNA)



OCTA: New Omicron subvariants might trigger up to 10,000 COVID-19 cases daily

By [Gaea Katreena Cabico](#)(Philstar.com)

- April 27, 2022 - 1:52pm



Commuters queue to board a bus at the EDSA Bus Carousel at Ortigas EDSA Station as MRT-3 halt operations for maintenance on Wednesday, April 13, 2022.

MANILA, Philippines — OCTA Research said Wednesday that new COVID-19 cases in the Philippines may reach up to 10,000 a day once new Omicron subvariants enter the country.

"We might be seeing 5,000 to 10,000 cases per day but nowhere near the 40,000 we saw back in January," OCTA Research fellow Guido David said in an interview with ABS-CBN News Channel.

He, however, said the entry of new Omicron subvariants is not projected to "trigger a major threat of an outbreak."

"Based on the data we're seeing, the presentation is not that much different from Omicron, and the characteristics are not that much different, which means most cases will most likely be mild," David said, adding authorities might not need to raise alert levels if the country records only 5,000 cases per day.

"We'd like to remind our kababayans that even though this will likely be mild for vaccinated people, it may not be mild necessarily for unvaccinated people or those with comorbidities," he added.

The OCTA Research fellow urged those who remain unvaccinated to get jabbed and those who are eligible for boosters to get additional protection, and follow public health safeguards, especially during the election season.

The firm's projections are still preliminary, according to David who said they are monitoring trends in South Africa, India and the United States.



OCTA: New Omicron subvariants might trigger up to 10,000 COVID-19 cases daily

The Department of Health earlier warned there could be half a million active cases in Metro Manila by mid-May if people continue to disregard public health standards.

Data from the DOH showed that the number of active cases nationwide was 11,580 as of April 26. From April 12 to 24, the agency logged 1,465 additional infections, or an average of 209 cases per day.

Since the start of the pandemic, the country has registered over 3.68 million COVID-19 cases, with 60,195 deaths.

WHO chief says we are 'increasingly blind' on COVID transmission

By [Reuters](#)

- April 27, 2022 - 5:34 PM



World Health Organization (WHO) Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus speaks during a bilateral meeting with Swiss Interior and Health Minister Alain Berset on the sidelines of the opening of the 74th World Health Assembly at the WHO headquarters, in Geneva, Switzerland May 24, 2021. (Laurent Gillieron/Pool via Reuters/File Photo)

GENEVA/LONDON — The head of the World Health Organization on Tuesday urged countries to maintain surveillance of coronavirus infections, saying the world was “blind” to how the virus is spreading because of falling testing rates.

“As many countries reduce testing, WHO is receiving less and less information about transmission and sequencing,” Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told a news conference at the U.N. agency’s headquarters in Geneva.

“This makes us increasingly blind to patterns of transmission and evolution.”

Bill Rodriguez, chief executive of FIND, a global aid group working with WHO on expanding access to testing, said “testing rates have plummeted by 70 to 90%.”

“We have an unprecedented ability to know what is happening. And yet today, because testing has been the first casualty of a global decision to let down our guard, we are becoming blind to what is happening with this virus,” he said.

Source: <https://interaksyon.philstar.com/politics-issues/2022/04/27/215907/who-chief-says-we-are-increasingly-blind-on-covid-transmission/>

28 APRIL 2022, Thursday



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
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