

12 JAN 2010

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DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



DENR FIELD EXECS, KINAKAILANGANG MAGING PAMILYAR SA GEOHAZARD MAPS

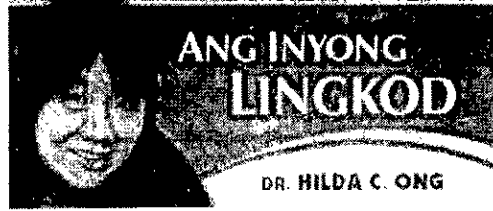
INATASAN ni Secretary Roy
A. Cimatu ang lahat ng field

officials ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na mas maging aktibo at handa lalo na sa tuwing magkakaroon ng malakas na pagbuhos ng ulan.

Ang kautusan na ito ay inilabas ni Cimatu matapos ang pananalasa ng Tropical Depression Usman na nagresulta ng flashfloods at landslides na ikinamatay na tinatayang 120 katao sa Bicol region bago magbagong taon.

Dalawang magkasunod na malalakas na bagyo rin ang nanalasa noong 2018 sa Itogon, Benguet at Naga City, Cebu na nagresulta ng landslides habang noong October naman ay nagkaroon din ng parehas na sakuna sa Natonin, Mt. Province.

Ayon kay Cimatu, ang pagkakaroon ng landslides dahil sa matinding pagbuhos ng ulan ay isa sa dahilan ng mapanirang epekto ng climate change kaya't nararapat lamang na mabigyan ng pro-



teksiyon ang bawat komunidad sa buong bansa.

"It is therefore imperative for the DENR and its field offices to be prepared and responsive to the dangers and adverse effects of excessive rainfall," nakasaad pa sa memo na inilabas ni Cimatu.

Ang naturang memo ay nakadirekta sa lahat ng DENR regional executive directors, regional directors ng Environment Management Bureau (EMB), Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), at sa mga provincial and community environment and natural resources officers (PENROs/CENROs) sa buong bansa.

Sinabi pa ng kalihim, upang mas maging aktibo at handa ang mga field officials ng DENR ay kinakailangang maging pamilyar ang mga ito sa geohazard maps na nagmula sa MGB kung saan ay nakalagay ang mga lugar na delikado sa pagbaha at landslides.

"With the use and understanding of the geohazard map, the likelihood that we will be able to proactively respond to weather disturbances like typhoon and even mere low pressure incidences causing abnormally high rainfall will be greater," dagdag pa ni Cimatu.

Ipinag-utos din ng kalihim sa lahat ng field offices ng DENR na maglagay ng kopya ng bagong labas na geohazard maps sa kanilang mga bulletin board habang gusto rin nitong masanay ang mga empleyado ng kanyang pinamumunuang ahensiya kung saan ang mga lugar na maaaring magkaroon ng landslides at pagbaha sa kanilang mga nasasakupan.



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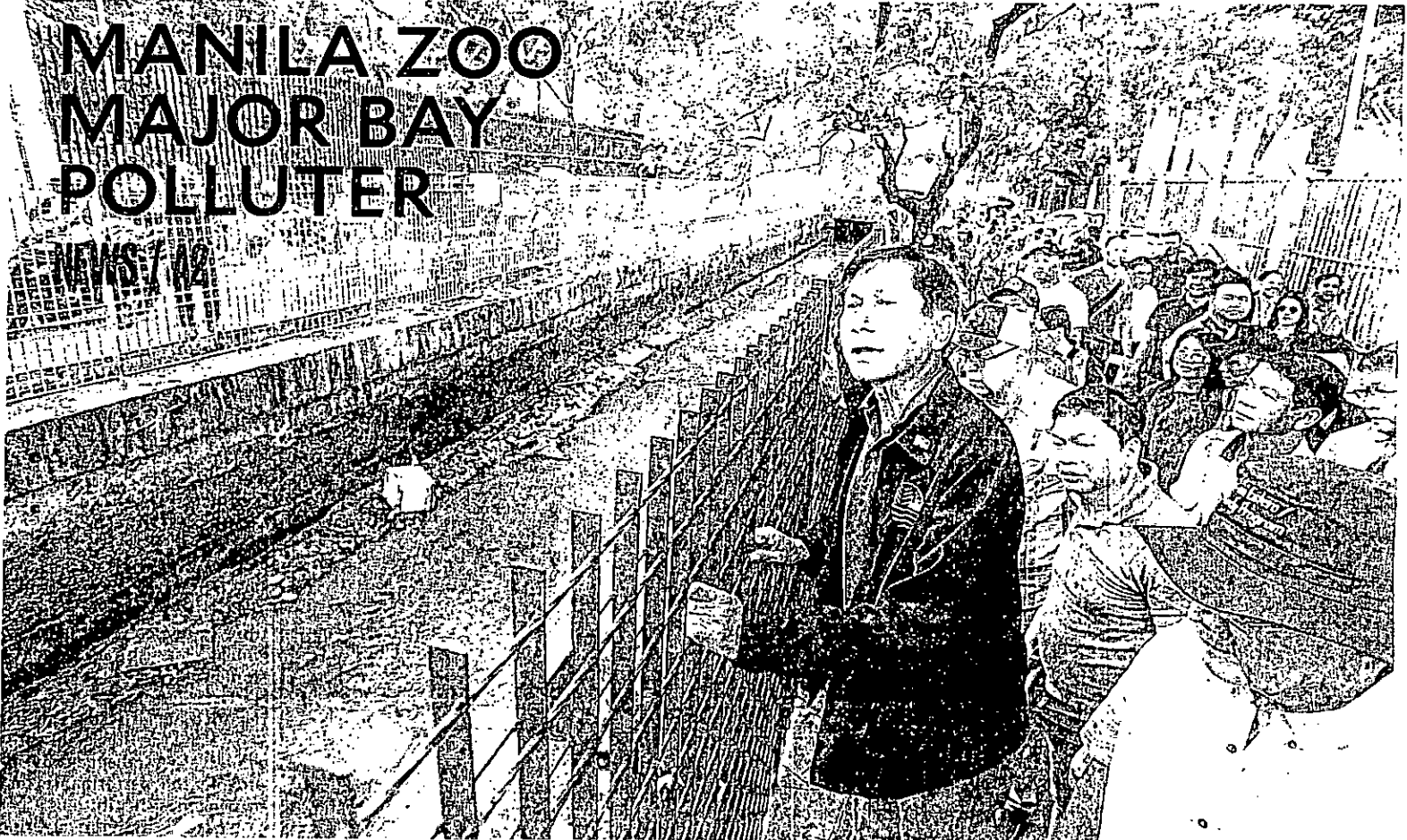
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P.1

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

MANILA ZOO MAJOR BAY POLLUTER

MANILA, PHILIPPINES



TOXIC FLOW Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu peers over the metal fence enclosing the smelly, murky ditch connecting Manila Zoo and Manila Bay, which the environment department plans to rehabilitate "a la Boracay," during Friday's inspection. —MARIANNE BERMUDEZ



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REHABILITATION PLAN

MANILA ZOO A MAJOR BAY POLLUTER, SAYS DENR CHIEF

BANNER STORY

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By Melvin Gascon
@melvingasconINQ

No animals were blamed in the making of this report.

The government-run Manila Zoo was cited as one of the top sources of pollution in the river system that drains into Manila Bay, which the Duterte administration intends to clean up and rehabilitate starting this month at a cost of P47 billion.

Leading an inspection of the zoo on Friday, Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu confirmed that the facility had been draining untreated sewage into one of the estuaries that lead to the bay.

Speaking to reporters, he said the section of the estuary that cuts through the zoo compound "registered the highest coliform level draining into the bay" at 1.3 billion for every 100 milliliters of water.

Cimatu and other officials earlier went to check the estero—officially called Estero de San Antonio Abad—at its bay-side tip in Pasay City, as they

mapped out problem areas for an interagency task force that is set to kick off a massive rehabilitation of the bay.

Must have STP

According to Cimatu, they have discovered that the zoo—which is operated by the city government of Manila—does not have its own sewage treatment facility and for years has been discharging its wastewater directly into the creek that flows into the bay.

"I have instructed them (zoo officials) to immediately construct their [sewage treatment plant, or STP], and until they do so they will not be allowed to discharge any more wastewater into the creek," he said.

As Cimatu toured the zoo, the stench of wastewater filled the air and some visitors, including children, were seen covering their noses.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) chief said the Manila city government had expressed willingness to provide funds to help



WATER OF DEATH A DENR specialist shows the high toxicity level of water from a sewage inside Manila Zoo that flows out to the nearby Manila Bay. —MARIANNE BERMUDEZ

in the rehabilitation of the zoo, including the construction of its own sewage treatment plant.

Studies cited by the department noted a high concentra-

tion of fecal coliform—consisting of human and animal waste—in Estero de San Antonio Abad.

Officially called the Manila



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MANILA ZOO A MAJOR BAY POLLUTER SAYS DENIL CHIEF

Zoological and Botanical Garden, the zoo has been in operation since July 1959. The country's oldest zoo occupies 5.5 hectares in the heart of Manila and is currently home to some 500 animals.

Discussions for renovating the zoo started in 2013 when the city government entertained unsolicited proposals from a group of Singaporean investors and a local company.

Pending renovation plan

In 2015, the city government signed a P1.5-billion joint venture agreement with Metropolitan Zoo and Botanical Garden Inc. to undertake a total rehabilitation of the zoo. The agreement is pending in the city council for approval.

Aside from Manila Zoo, other government institutions in the vicinity of the estero include Ospital ng Maynila and Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

"We plan to drain the estero so we can find out which establishments are draining their waste here. We will also require

all establishments near this area to have their own STPs," Cimatu said.

Not the only polluter

Part of the rehabilitation work is to require Metro Manila water concessionaires Maynilad and Manila Water to connect to the sewage lines, he said.

In response, Manila Zoo officials said they were willing to submit to Cimatu's directive to construct an STP, but clarified that they were not the only source of pollution in the estero.

"We were not aware that we were required to [have a] sewage treatment plant, as we have only been discharging wastewater; and the animal waste, we convert to fertilizer," said lawyer Jasyrr Garcia, the acting zoo administrator.

Also on Friday and in line with the Manila Bay rehab, Cimatu inspected a community of informal settlers living along the riverbank at Barangay La Huerta, Parañaque City. —WITH A REPORT FROM INQUIRER RESEARCH INQ

BANNER STORY

P.3



Horrible discovery

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu takes a look at Estero de San Antonio as part of President Rodrigo Duterte's order to clean up Manila Bay. Many establishments had been found to be disposing untreated sewage into the sea.

BOB DUNGO JR.

Manila Zoo found sans sewage treatment

DENR inspection discovers bay establishments running afoul with environment regulations

By Kuhlín Ceslle Gacula

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu yesterday warned establishments along Manila Bay that they face closure similar to what happened to restaurants and hotels in Boracay Island if they do not implement proper waste disposal.

Along with other officials of the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Cimatu led the inspection of various establishments in Manila, as well as those close to *esteros* or creeks that drain into the Pasig River and into the sea.

Some 200 establishments and 38 hotels were subjected to the DENR inspection, which discovered that majority did not have proper sewage treatment plants (STP), including the government-run Manila Zoo.

The zoo management defended that they only came to know about a 1997 order requiring all establishments to have STP last week. They argued that animal waste from the zoo are converted to fertilizers and not thrown to the bay.

The Manila Zoo management said that the Manila government had promised to fund their own wastewater treatment facility.

The Laguna Lake Development Authority and the DENR are identifying which among the 204 establishments and 38 hotels around Manila Bay do not have STP.

Aside from hotels, the DENR also found that residential areas, hospitals

and factories, have violated the regulation prescribing the construction of STP.

Cimatu's team also inspected Estero de San Antonio Abad, which he identified as the "ground zero" of the Manila Bay rehabilitation efforts.

He said establishments which have no treatment facilities discharge polluted water straight to Manila Bay, home to 1.3 million coliform organisms from human wastes.

"I'm very much disappointed because this validates reports that these establishments throw their waste water here. We have to correct that," he said.

The DENR is set to meet with the agencies and stakeholders on 15 January to finalize the Manila Bay's rehab plan.

The DENR estimates that the rehabilitation of Manila Bay ordered by President Rodrigo Duterte will cost around P47 billion.



METROLINE

Cimatu inspects waterway, Manila Zoo ahead of cleanup

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu yesterday led the inspection of a polluted *estero* and the Manila Zoo as part of preparations for the cleanup of Manila Bay, which starts on Jan. 27.

Cimatu said Estero de San Antonio de Abad directly drains into the bay through an outfall at the Manila Yacht Club.

The *estero* had a 1.3 billion most probable number (MPN) per 100 milliliters fecal coliform content the last time the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) tested the water, he said. The safe level is 100 MPN per 100 ml.

Cimatu stressed that rehabilitation of Manila Bay will be integrated. "It will include cleanup of all *esteros*, Laguna Lake and all the outfalls," he said.

Cimatu also warned that establishments surrounding Manila Bay "should have their own sewage treatment plants" or face sanctions.

He also inspected the Manila Zoo, which is near the *estero*. Zoo officials admitted they do not have a sewage treatment plant. Manila Mayor Joseph Estrada said they "are doing everything to correct the problem."

Estrada said he ordered city administrator Ericson Alcovendaz to ensure that all buildings owned by the city government, including the zoo, have proper waste disposal systems.

- Rhodina Villanueva, Jose Rodel Clapano



39 hotel yari sa pagsalaula sa Manila Bay

NGAYON pa lamang ay nagbanta na si Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu na maraming establisimyento sa paligid ng Manila Bay ang ipasasara dahil sa kawalan ng tamang waste disposal.

Ang banta ay ginawa ni Cimatu matapos ang inisyal na inspeksyon na isinagawa kapon sa may 200 establisimyento at 39 hotel sa paligid ng Manila Bay.

Sinabi ni Cimatu na ang resulta ng kanilang inisyal na inspeksyon sa mga hotel ay lumalabas na marami ang walang maayos na sewage treatment plants. Marami ding mga paglabag sa environmental laws ang nakita sa mga ospital, factory at residential na nasa paligid ng Manila Bay.

Ininspeksyon din ang Estero de San Antonio Abad, ang daanan ng tubig na konektado sa Manila Bay mula sa Manila Yacht Club at

ayon sa kalihim, nakalulungkot ang kanilang nadiskubre na ang mga establisimyento ay sa estero direktang nagtatapon ng kanilang waste water.

"I'm very much disappointed because this validates reports that these establishments throw their waste water here. We have to correct it," pahayag ni Cimatu.

Giit ng kalihim na bago ang paglilinis sa Manila Bay ay dapat unahin na ayusin ang mga daanan ng tubig.

Ininspeksyon din ng DENR ang Manila Zoo kung saan lumabas na wala itong sewage treatment plant gayong 1997 pa nang atasan sila na gawin ito.

Sa Enero 27 ngayong taon ay target ng DENR na simulan ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay kung saan ay gugugol ang gobyerno ng 47 bilyong piso.

Ang gagawin sa Manila Bay ay ihahalintu-

lad sa naging proseso sa Boracay.

Matatandaan na una nang tinawag na 'magnified cesspool' ni Cimatu ang 2,000 square kilometer na Manila Bay dahil sa nagtataglay ito ng high coliform level na 330 million na may 'most probable number (MPN) per 200 milliliter' kumpara sa safe level na 100 MPN/100ml.

Nauna dito, iniutos ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa DENR ang rehabilitasyon sa Manila Bay upang maibalik ang dating linis at ganda nito.

Magugunitang nagbabala si Pangulong Duterte sa mga establisimyento malapit sa Manila Bay na panatilihin ang kanilang sewage at wastewater treatment facilities kung nais nitong ipagpatuloy ang kanilang operasyon bunsod na rin ng matinding polusyon na nararanasan sa Manila Bay. (Tina Mendoza/Juliet de Loza-Cudia)



Manila Bay sinuyod — Ininspeksyon ni DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu ang mga daluyan at kanal sa Maynila na patungo sa Manila Bay kabilang ang Estero de San Antonio Abad bilang paghahanda sa proyekto ng gobyerno na linisin ang Manila Bay tulad ng ginawa sa Isla ng Boracay. Nasa

kaliwang larawan naman ang tauhan ng Laguna Lake Development Authority na nagsagawa ng water quality check para malaman ang antas ng polusyon sa isang creek sa Manila Zoo na sinasabing mataas ang fecal coliform. (Jonas Sullit)

200 establisimyento damay

39 HOTEL YARI SA PAGSALAUULA SA MANILA BAY

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SINUYOD — Si DENR Sec. Roy Cimatu nang mag-inspeksyon





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Iskwater, pabrika target, din ng Manila Bay rehab

Target na rin ngayon ang mga pabrika, estalisyimento, mga informal settler, fishpen at iba pa na nagtatapon ng mga dumi at basura sa Manila Bay.

Ito ay bunsod na rin sa isasagawang inspeksiyon ng Department of Environment ang Natural Resources (DENR) sa Manila Bay bilang pasimula sa ilalatag na P47 bilyon Manila Bay Rehabilitation Project.

"They need to comply with the law rather than us to tell them that you need to comply. We are not baby sitters. Based on the statement of other people, we should give them ample time. It has

been 10 years that the mandamus coming from the Supreme Court tell us to clean up the Manila Bay," ayon kay DENR Usec. Benny Antiporda.

Nalaman na ang Manila Bay Rehabilitation Project ay nahahati sa tatlong phase kung saan ang phase 1 ay ang gagawing paglilinis, phase 2 rehabilitasyon kung saan kasama na rito ang reloksyon ng mga informal settler at ang phase 3 ay ang enforcement.

Sakaling mapatunayang lumabag ay ipasasara ang mga pabrika at estalisyimento na nagtatapon ng kanilang mga basura at dumi sa Manila Bay. (Juliet de Loza-Cudia)



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DENR to lead 'Bora-like' rehab of Manila Bay

By Vito Barcelo

THE DEPARTMENT of Environment and Natural Resources on Friday said it will lead the rehabilitation of Manila Bay starting Jan. 27 similar to the successful rehabilitation of Boracay to address mounting pollution on Manila's popular coastline.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu described the Manila Bay a "magnified cesspool" because of the high coliform level of 330 million "most probable number" (MPN) per 100 milliliter, compared to the safe level of 100 MPN per 100 milliliter.

Manila Yacht club commodore Robert Joseph said it will support and take part in the massive cleanup of Manila by to bring the pristine and glory of the once popular "Manila Bay sunset".

Manila Bay is not a tourist destination because more than half of the entire bay has floating garbage, mostly plastic, woods, Styrofoam and other waste materials are discriminately thrown by residents that lives along the rivers and esteros, according to the government.

Cimatu vowed to apply the same "political will" to Boracay in the rehabilitation of 19-kilometer long Manila Bay and make the waters fit for swimming, diving, and other forms of contact recreation.



THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1900

MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

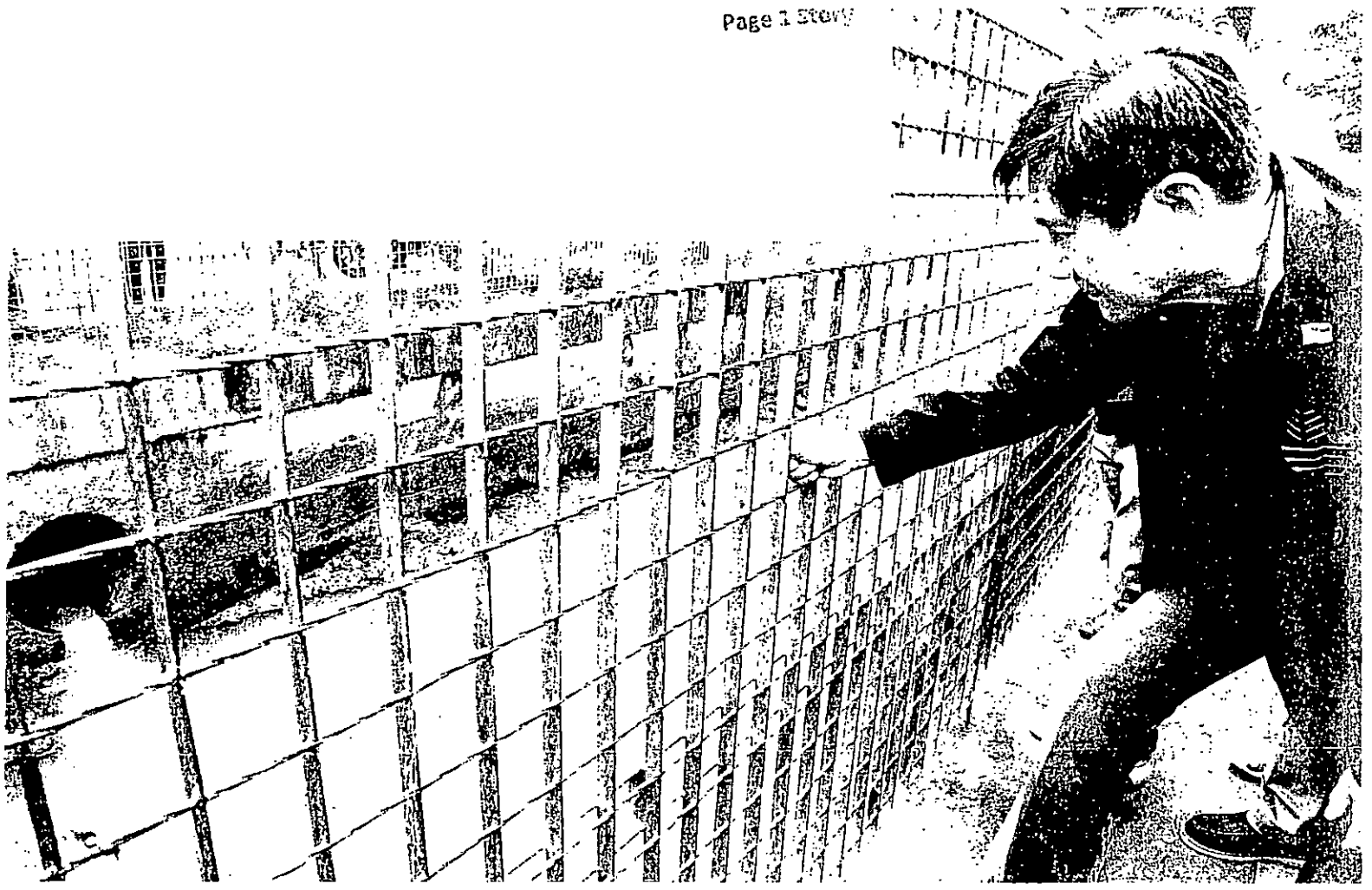
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SEWAGE FLOW - Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu points to effluents flowing from a sewage pipe near Manila Bay in Manila during his inspection to determine how many establishments are storming wastewater into the bay without treating it. There is a plan to clean up the bay. (Czar Dance)



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The Manila Times

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UP-CLOSE INSPECTION Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy Cimatu inspects the Estero de San Antonio de Abad in Manila. The waterway is connected to the Manila Bay, which the DENR is planning to rehabilitate.
PHOTO BY DJ DIOSINA



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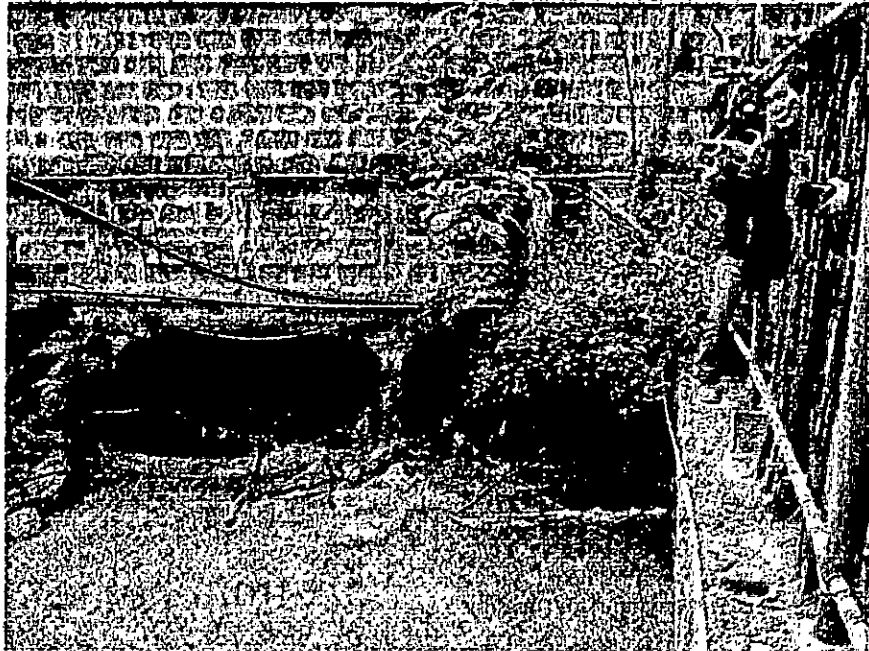
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ESTERO INSPECTION. Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu (right) peers over the polluted Estero de San Antonio Abad along Mabini Street in Manila as he leads an investigation into how much coliform infection has made its way to Manila Bay. **Lino Santos**



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Balita

ANG NANGUNGUNANG PAMAYAGANG TAGAL OG SA BANSA

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GAANO KALALA? Pinangunahan kahapon ni Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu ang ocular inspection ng mga tubo, imbumal, at mga daluyan patungo sa Manila Bay, kaugnay ng napipintong rehabilitasyon nito.



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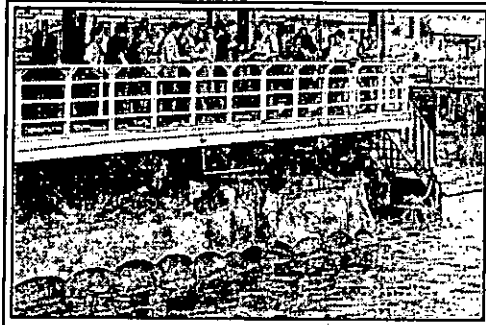
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Nag-inspeksiyon na kalahon si DENR Sec. Roy Cimatu sa mga establisimyento at esterô sa palibot ng Manila Bay para sa isasagawang rehabilitasyon nito. (Jeremy Pintolo)



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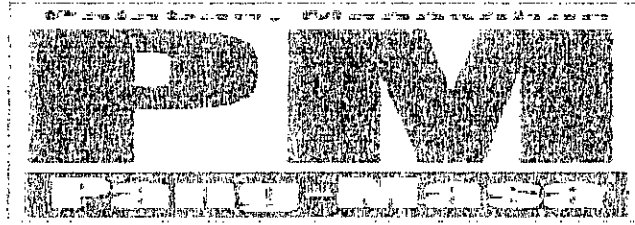
**Erap sa Mla. Zoo, Local gov't bldgs.:
Sumunod sa proper waste disposal**

INATASAN ni Manila Mayor Joseph Estrada si City Admin. Ericson Alcovendaz na tiyaking maayos ang waste disposal ng mga istrakturang pag-aari ng local na pamahahalaan kasunod ng plano ng national government na isagawa ang major rehabilitation ng Manila Bay.

Partikular na pinatututukan ni Mayor Estrada ang Manila Zoo na kabilang sa nabanggit ng DENR na walang maayos na waste disposal system upang matiyak na makakatutugon ito sa Environmental Code Ordinance 8371 na naipasa ng konsheho sa ilalim ng kanyang termino.

Nagbigay din ng direktiba si Estrada kay Alcovendaz na mag-sagawa ng imbentaryo sa mga gusali na pag-aari ng city government para sa lalong madaling panahon ay magawan ng mga tamang waste disposal ang mga ito bago pa magsimula ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay.

Tiniyak ni Estrada na suportado niya ang proyektong rehabilitasyon ni Pangulong Duterte kaya't ngayon pa lamang pinaiin-speksiyon na rin niya ang iba pang city owned premises na posibleng direktang nagtatapos sa Manila Bay.



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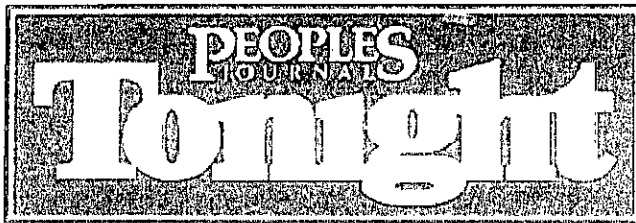
Waste disposal pinatutukan ni Erap

Dahil sa plano ng national government na mag-sagawa ng major rehabilitation sa Manila Bay ay pinatutukan ni Manila Mayor Joseph Estrada kay City Administrator Ericson Alcovendaz ang maayos na waste disposal ng mga istrakturang pag-aari ng local na pamahalaan.

Pinatututukan ni Mayor Estrada ang Manila Zoo na kabilang sa nabanggit ng DENR na walang maayos na waste disposal system upang matiyak na makakatu-tugon ito sa Environmental Code Ordinance 8371 na naipasa ng konseho sa ilalim ng kanyang termino.

Bukod dito ay pagsasagawa ng imbentaryo sa mga gusali na pag-aari ng city government para sa lalong madaling panahon ay magawan ng mga tamang waste disposal ang mga ito bago pa magsimula ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay.

Tiniyak ni Estrada na suportado niya ang proyektong rehabilitasyon ni Pangulong Duterte kaya't ngayon pa lamang ay pinaiinspeksiyon na rin niya ang iba pang city owned premises na posibleng direktang nagtatapos sa Manila Bay. **-Doris Franche-Broja-**



Erap: Tutukan waste disposal ng zoo

By JON-JON REYES
MAHIGPIT na ipinagutos ni Manila Mayor Joseph Estrada kay City Administrator, Ericson Alcovendaz na tiyaking maayos ang waste disposal ng mga istrakturang pag-aari ng local na pamahalaan kasunod ng plano ng national government na isagawa ang major rehabilitation ng Manila Bay.

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aling panahon ay magawan ng mga tamang waste disposal ang mga ito bago pa magsimula ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay.

“Dinatnan na nating ganyan ang situwasyon ng Manila Zoo kaya’t ginagawan natin ng paraang maayos ito. Kaya nga tayo nagkaroon ng Environmental Code

Ordinance para nga masolusyunan ang mga problemang sumisira sa ating kalikasan,” ani Estrada.

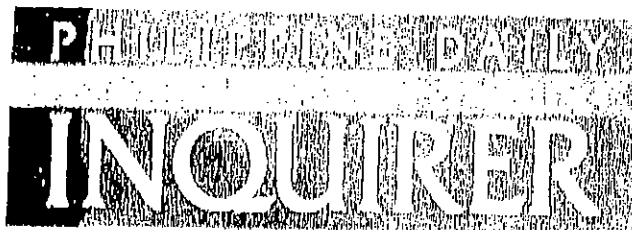
Tiniyak ni Estrada na suportado niya ang proyektong rehabilitasyon ni Pangulong Duterte kaya’t ngayon pa’ lamang ay pinaiinpekasyon na rin niya ang ibang pang city-owned premises na

posibleng direktang nagtatapos sa Manila Bay.

“Inuuna natin ang mga local government properties na sumunod sa mga environmental laws bago nating tutukan ang mga commercial establishments. Kailangan makita nila na tayo sa gobyerno ang unang sumusunod sa batas,” sabi pa ni Mayor Estrada.



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HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT RISKS

FIRM, HOSPITAL FACE FINES FOR MEDICAL WASTE AT SEA

By **Norman V. Mendoza**
and **Morexette Marie B. Erram**
@inquirervisayas

CEBU CITY—A private hospital in Mandaue City and the service provider it hired to dispose of its medical waste had been ordered to pay fines for violating laws governing the handling of hazardous hospital waste.

The regional office of the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), recommended a P250,000 fine for Davao City Environmental Care Inc. (DCECI) and P110,000 for Chong Hua Hospital for medical waste found floating in the seas of Mandaue.

The waste were traced to Chong Hua.

More wastes

But as the EMB wrapped up its investigation, more hospital waste placed in yellow trash bags were found on Thursday in three more areas in Lapu-Lapu City along the Mactan Channel.

Residents in these areas reported to seeing hospital waste floating near the coastlines.

Several plastic yellow trash bags were found in two areas in the village of Pusok while hospital waste inside more yellow trash bags were found in the village of Poblacion on Thursday.

The City Environment and Natural Resources Office (Cenro) of Lapu-Lapu City said it imme-

diately contacted a representative from Chong Hua Hospital about the new bags of hospital waste that had been collected.

Boy Padilla, Lapu-Lapu Cenro officer, said the newly found hospital waste weighed close to 50 kilograms.

Health risks

He said the trash bags contained plastic tubes from dextrose, syringes, dialysis sets, bloodstained plasters, cottons and others.

DCECI, according to the EMB report, "exceeded its allowable annual treatment capacity of eight metric tons."

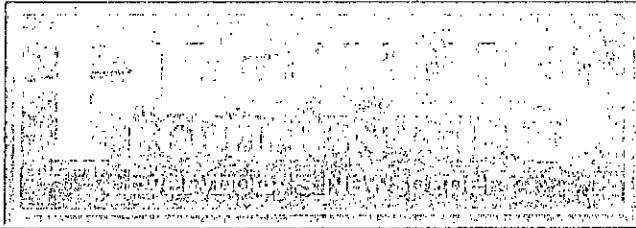
The facility, said the report, "shall not exceed the capacity indicated in its environmental compliance certificate."

"As such, the subject waste shall be treated within six months," it added.

The company, according to the EMB, also did not have the prescribed documents or manifest forms that allowed them to collect and dispose of waste from hospitals.

Chong Hua Hospital in Mandaue City, on the other hand, faces a fine of P110,000 as penalty for not having the prescribed manifest forms for waste disposal and conflicting data pertaining to the volume of trash that the hospital produced and transported.

Both DCECI and Chong Hua Hospital had been given 15 days to submit their replies to the EMB. INQ



The Problems of Manila Bay

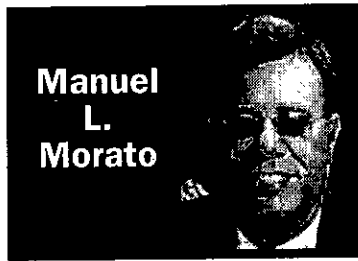
AS far back as in the 1960s, President Ferdinand E. Marcos had foreseen the pollution of our rivers and "esteros" that could someday "kill" the existence of the Laguna Lake in Laguna de Bay. He passed a law, Republic Act 4850, an act creating the Laguna Lake Development Authority for all buildings, restaurants, malls and other commercial establishments, etc... This law dictates that before construction of these establishments, they must first acquire a permit of approval before construction.

The pollution of Manila Bay emanates from what President Marcos foresaw would happen in the future. The reclamation was only a portion of what it is today, enough to put up the Cultural Center, Folk Arts Theater, the Coconut Palace and the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC). There was only one hotel at the time, The Westin Philippine Plaza, now Sofitel Philippine Plaza Manila.

But as it is today, the reclamation has spread out ten times or more than what it was before. I need not elaborate. It has become a city in itself!

Last November 12, 2018, I wrote a letter to the Hon. Jaime "Joey" C. Medina, General Manager of the Laguna Lake Development Authority, addressed to his office at LLDA Bldg., National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City requesting his office for an immediate inspection of an ongoing project that demolished the ancestral home of my parents at 99

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Scout Gandia Street, Barangay Sacred Heart, Quezon City, because as we have observed, the Barangay Captain then headed by Alberto Flores issued a permit to demolish way back in October of 2017.

The site is being excavated to this day since April of 2018. It is now very deep for they (I will not mention the group in the meantime) will put up a 21-storey condo/hotel building in a residential area without our permission as part owner, neither the consent of the neighborhood. It was done secretly.

For what I was told, before the construction of a commercial establishment, the permit from the LLDA must be acquired, above all permits. That is so important that President Marcos even specifically cited that cases against violators must be immediately elevated to the Court of Appeals which must decide on any case presented to it with dispatch, immediately, right away, fast...

President Marcos did so, for as he said, when he signed the Republic Act 4850, the RTC Judges are

influenced by local officials, most specifically by the mayor and vice mayor as presiding officer of the City Council.

How right he was, so much so, that at the time President Marcos signed the LLDA Law, RA 4850, all right-thinking people at the time referred to said Law as a "stroke of genius."

I constructed my 4-storey building way before President Marcos signed RA 4850. My building was designed and constructed by Manosa Brothers, now a National Artist. It was the first building along Sampaloc Avenue then. I am not renting any space to anyone. My condos are occupied by my sister, a brother, nephews and housing for my staff. I occupy the penthouse the entire floor.

To GM Jaime "Joey" C. Medina of LLDA: to this day, I have not received an answer from your office regarding my request for an immediate inspection of the above mentioned project. Time is running out.

I just hope that this most powerful office of the Laguna Lake Development Authority is as active and as powerful as it was before.

We can almost surmise that the problem our President is having on the pollution of Manila Bay and how to solve it might have emanated from the lack of strict supervision on all the structures in the reclamation area today. That's what those who were appointed to the LLDA before are saying.

For comments and suggestions email at mimorato@yahoo.com



Page 1 Story

World's oceans are heating up at a quickening pace - study

TAMPA (AFP) - The world's oceans are heating up at an accelerating pace as global warming threatens a diverse range of marine life and a major food supply for the planet, ►7

World's oceans are...

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researchers said Thursday.

The findings in the US journal Science, led by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, debunk previous reports that suggested a so-called pause in global warming in recent years.

The latest technology shows no such hiatus ever existed, raising new concerns about the pace of climate change and its effect on the planet's main buffer - the oceans.

"Ocean heating is a very important indicator of climate change, and we have robust evidence that it is warming more rapidly than we thought," said co-author Zeke Hausfather, a graduate student in the Energy and Resources Group at the University of California, Berkeley.

About 93 percent of excess heat - trapped around the Earth by greenhouse gases that come from the burning of fossil fuels - accumulates in the world's oceans.

The latest report relied on four studies, published between 2014 and 2017, that gave more precise estimates of past trends in ocean heat, allowing scientists to update past research and hone predictions for the future.

A key factor in the more accurate numbers is an ocean monitoring fleet called Argo, which includes nearly 4,000

floating robots that "drift throughout the world's oceans, every few days diving to a depth of 2,000 meters (yards) and measuring the ocean's temperature, pH, salinity and other bits of information as they rise back up," said the report.

Argo "has provided consistent and widespread data on ocean heat content since the mid-2000s," it said.

The new analysis shows warming in the oceans is on pace with measurements of rising air temperature.

And if nothing is done to reduce greenhouse gases, "models predict that the temperature of the top 2,000 meters of the world's oceans will rise 0.78 degrees Celsius by the end of the century," it said.

The thermal expansion - water swelling as it warms - would raise sea level 12 inches (30 centimeters), above any sea level rise from melting glaciers and ice sheets.

"While 2018 will be the fourth warmest year on record on the surface, it will most certainly be the warmest year on record in the oceans, as was 2017 and 2016 before that," Hausfather said.

"The global warming signal is a lot easier to detect if it is changing in the oceans than on the surface."



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
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12 JAN 2019

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Dolphin rescued in Morong cove

By JONAS REYES

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT – An injured Risso's Dolphin was rescued by residents of Morong, Bataan and personnel from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) after it sought shelter in Matikis Cove Thursday.

According to residents, a fishing line was caught on the six-foot dolphin fin that could have caused deep wounds and scratches in its body.

Playa La Caleta Beach Resort employees immediately informed the DENR office about the presence of the dolphin at

around 6 a.m.

The dolphin was transported to Ocean Adventure for rehabilitation, and will be released into open waters once it recovers from its injuries.

Resident veterinarian Dr. Leo Jonathan Suarez said that the dolphin was suffering from poor buoyancy and had incurred deep wounds, including bites from cookie cutter sharks.

Ocean Adventure officials said that the residents in Morong tried to release the dolphin three times when they discovered it hiding in the cove, but the dolphin always returned to the area.