

DATE : 20 FEB 2019

DAY : Wednesday

# **DENR**

## **IN THE NEWS**

**Strategic Communication and Initiative Service**



# 20 more firms tagged as Manila Bay polluters

## LLDA issues notices to restaurants, hotels, gov't buildings in Pasay, Manila

By **Jhesset O. Enano**  
@JhessetEnanoINQ

Several food establishments, including a popular fast-food chain and a well-known Filipino restaurant, have been slapped with cease-and-desist orders (CDOs) by the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), adding to the growing number of companies found to be polluting Manila Bay.

On Tuesday, LLDA teams served the order to the Jollibee branch on Macapagal Boulevard in Pasay City, and Max's Restaurant on Maria Orosa Street in Ermita, Manila.

Wastewater samples collected from both establishments tested positive for a significantly high level of fecal coliform, reaching nearly 160,000 most probable number (mpn) per 100 ml. This was far above the standard of 200 mpn per 100 ml set by the Department of En-

vironment and Natural Resources.

The Jollibee branch, however, was already closed as its management had earlier informed the LLDA that it would temporarily stop operating to allow the repair of its broken-down sewerage treatment plant.

### Packed restaurant

On the other hand, the crew members and diners at the nearly-full Max's Restaurant were caught by surprise when the LLDA personnel arrived around noon to serve the cease-and-desist order. The establishment's faucets, kitchen sinks, toilets, sewer lines and other sources of wastewater were subsequently shut.

Other establishments that were also issued cease-and-desist orders were HengFeng Kitchenette on F.B. Harrison Street in Pasay City, and Lamer

Catering and Nihon Bashitei Japanese Food in Malate, Manila.

A total of 15 other firms were cited for environmental violations. Issued ex-parte or show cause orders requiring them to explain why they should not be closed were Aloha Hostel, Sarmiti Food Corp. (Shawarma Snack Center) and Orix Auto Leasing Philippines Corp.

On the other hand, two buildings of the Cultural Center of the Philippines and a building belonging to the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration—all located in Pasay City—were tagged as polluters. They were given notices of violation for water pollution cases.

Also cited in Pasay City were The New Blue Wave, Wellcross Freight Corp., Halina Lodge/Hotel, Harrison Lodge, First Marbella Condominium Association Inc. and The Biopolis, where the Jollibee branch was located.

In Manila, the Heritage Condominium Corp., Ma. Natividad Building and Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila were given similar notices.

### 63 firms cited so far

A total of 63 establishments have been issued various orders and notices in connection with the government's rehabilitation of Manila Bay, according to Emil Hernandez, LLDA environmental regulation department manager.

In a statement, Max's Group Inc., the operator of Max's Restaurant, said that since 2005, its Orosa branch had been discharging wastewater through the sewerage treatment plant of Maynilad.

It added that the restaurant had always been compliant with regulations on the proper discharge of wastewater. —WITH

A REPORT FROM DORIS DUMLAO-ABADILLA INQ



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

PHILIPPINE DAILY  
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**UNDERWATER INSPECTION** A frogman from the Philippine Navy prepares to dive into Manila Bay to check on illegal pipelines as part of the government's ongoing rehabilitation efforts. —EARVIN PERIAS



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# The Manila Times

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## LLDA sanctions

# 18 bay polluters

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BY EIREENE JAIREE GOMEZ

**T**HE Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) on Tuesday ordered the closure of five establishments found to have been polluting Manila Bay.

The agency also issued notices of violation and ex-parte orders to a dozen establishments in the cities of Manila and Pasay for violating environmental regulations.

The orders were issued by the LLDA along with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

The LLDA issued cease-and-desist orders to Max's Restaurant UN Orosa, HengFeng Kitchenette, Jollibee Foods Corp., Macapagal Biopolis, Lamer Catering and Nihon Bashitei Japanese Food.

"[We have] already served the [cease and desist orders] and ex-parte orders, while the [notices of

violation] will be served in series today," DENR Undersecretary Benny Antiporda told *The Manila Times* in a text message.

On the other hand, ex-parte orders were issued to Orix Auto Leasing Philippines Corp. in Pasay City and Aloha Hotel and Sarmiti Food Corp. in Manila for their refusal to allow inspectors inside their establishments.

The LLDA also issued notices of violation to Manila City's Heritage Condominium Corp., Ma. Natividad Building, and Marina Square Properties Inc.

Other notices of violation were issued to establishments in Pasay City, including the Cultural Center



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# The Manila Times

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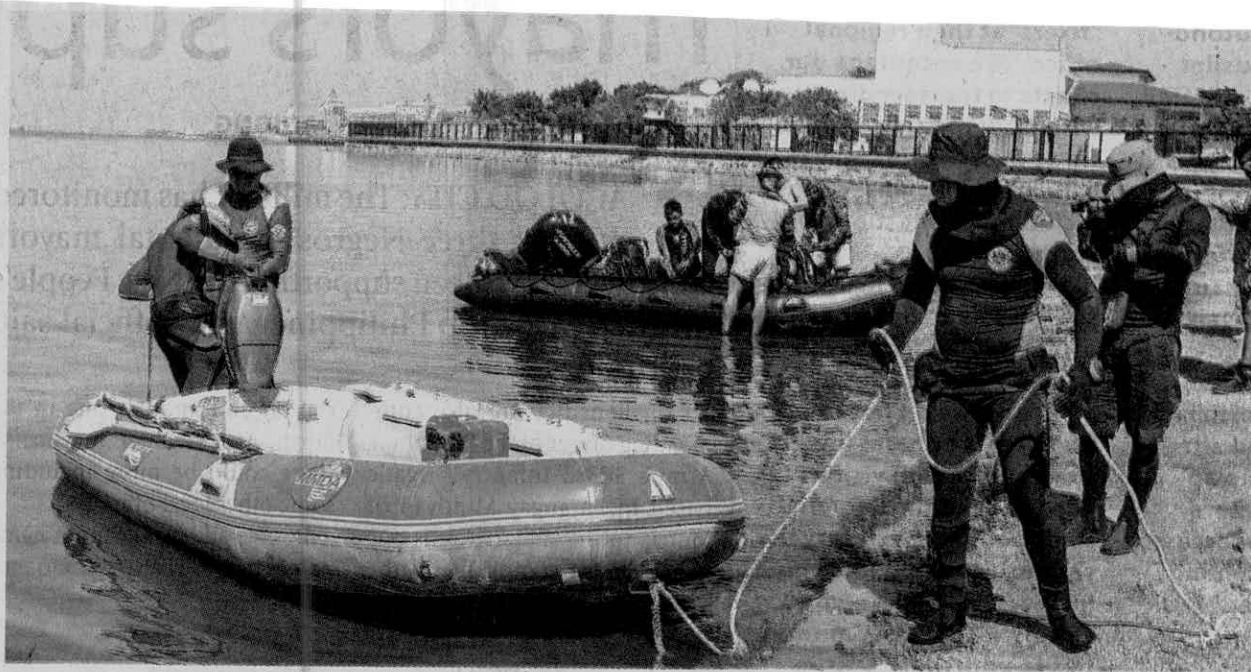
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LLDA sanctions 18 bay polluters



## PIPELINE CHECK

Personnel from the Philippine Navy and the Philippine Coast Guard embark to check an illegal pipeline as part of the Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program on Tuesday. PHOTO BY DJ DIOSINA

of the Philippines, Federal Land, Inc., First Marbella Condominium Association Inc., Gold Quest Premiere Resources Inc., Harrison Lodge, Libertad Tourist Development Inc., Overseas Workers Wel-

fare Administration Building and Wellcross Freight Corp.

Antiporda said the LLDA gave these establishments 15 days to answer the notices.

These establishments failed

to secure a permit and clearance from LLDA and did not conform with the Effluent Standards for Class "SB" waters, which refers to waters that are fit for ecotourism or recreational activities, including

swimming, bathing and diving. The government has allotted P47 billion for the massive clean-up of Manila Bay. A huge chunk of the money will be used to relocate families living near the bay.



## More firms in hot water for Manila Bay pollution

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), on Tuesday said it will issue cease-and-desist orders (CDOs) against five establishments, as the government continues to crack down on businesses said to be polluting Manila Bay.

The five establishments were identified as: Max's Restaurant along U.N. Avenue; HengFeng Kitchenette at F.B. Harrison St.; Jollibee Macapagal Biopolis branch along Macapagal Blvd.; Lamer Catering at Remedios St.; and Nihonbashi Tei in Malate.

Aloha Hotel along Roxas Blvd, Sarmiti Food Corp. (Shawarma Snack Center) in Ermita, and Orix Auto Leasing Philippines Corp. along FB Harrison St. will be given ex-parte orders (EPOs).

Notice of violations (NOVs) will also be issued against 12 establishments, namely: Heritage Condominium Corp., Ma. Natividad Building, Marina Square Properties, Inc. (Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila), Cultural Center of the Philippines (Main Building), Cultural Center of the Philippines (Production Design Center), Federal Land, Inc. (The New Blue Wave) in Metropolitan Business Park, First Marbella Condominium Association, Inc., Gold Quest Premiere Resources, Inc. (The Biopolis), Harrison Lodge, Libertad Tourist Development, Inc. (Halina Lodge/Hotel), QWWA Building, and Wellcross Freight Corp. — **Reicelene Joy N. Ignacio**



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## Nagpaparumi sa Manila Bay 5 ESTABLISHMENTS IPINASARA NG DENR



**M**ULI na namang nagpalabas ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa pamamagitan ng Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) ng cease-and-desist order (CDO) laban sa limang establisimiyento bundod ng patuloy na kontribusyon nito sa polusyon sa Manila Bay.

Isinilbi ng LLDA ang CDO sa mga restaurant habang patuloy namang iniimbestigahan ang iba pang establisimiyento na nakatakdang padalhan ng notice para pagpaliwanagin kaugnay sa natuklasang mga paglabag sa loob ng 15 araw.

Bukod pa rito, nakatakda ring magpalabas ang LLDA ng notice of

violations sa mga nagdaragdag ng polusyon sa tubig gaya sa kaso ng Heritage Condominium Corp., Ma. Natividad Building, Marina Square Properties Inc. (Hyatt Hotel and Casino Manila), Cultural Center of the Philippines (main building and production design center), Federal Land Inc. (The New Blue Wave), First Marbella Condominium Association Inc., Gold Quest Premiere Resources Inc (The Biopolis), OWWA Building at maraming iba pa.

Nauna nang ipinasara ng LLDA ang limang establisimiyento matapos matuklasang nagtatapon ang mga ito ng maruming tubig na dumidirekta sa Manila Bay. **BENEDICT ABAYGAR, JR.**







## JOLLIBEE-TAN CAKTIONG NAMBALAHURA SA MANILA BAY

SABLAY sa mga pinasikat na slogan katulad ng 'langhap sarap' ang isa sa paboritong fastfood chain sa bansa nang matuklasan ng Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) ang isang sangay ng Jollibee na pag-aari ng bilyonaryong si Tony Tan Caktiong sa Pasay City na sablay sa kalinisan.

Ito ay matapos mabisto ng LLDA na ang sangay ng Jollibee sa Macapagal Boulevard, Pasay City ay kasama sa napakaraming establisimyentong nakapaligid sa Manila Bay na sumira at nagparumi sa nasabing baybayin.

Nabatid sa inisyung cease and desist order (CDO) ng LLDA sa Jollibee na ihinto ang kanilang operasyon. Ito ay matapos madiskubre na ang kanilang waste water ay nagdudulot ng polusyon sa Manila Bay na sumasailalim ngayon sa rehabilitasyon.

Kasama ring binigyan ng CDO ang operasyon ay ang HengFeng Kitchenette sa kahabaan ng Harrison St., Malate, Maynila.

Kagyat namang kinatigan ng nasabing mga establisimyento ang direktiba ng LLDA at nangkong ihihinto na nila pansamantala ang kanilang operasyon at isasailalim sa pagkumpuni ang nasira nilang sewage treatment plant.

Matatandaang ang Jollibee ay nakakaladkad din sa isyu ng contractualization dahil sa kabiguan nitong irregular ang kanilang mga empleyado.

Ayon sa datos ng Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), ang Jollibee ang may pinakaraming mga manggagawang naka-endo. Umaabot sa 14,960 ang mga naka-endo at walang nakakakuha ng mga benepisyong ibinibigay sa mga empleyadong regular.

Una nang sinabi ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Usec. Benny Antiporda na madadagdagan pa ang mga establisimyento na bibigyan ng CDO habang patuloy na nagsasagawa ng imbestigasyon ang DENR para sa ipatutupad na rehabilitation. **(Juliet de Loza-Cudia)**



## Max's ipinasara sa pambababoy sa Manila Bay

Damay rin ang paboritong kainan ng mga Pinoy, ang Max's Restaurant sa Roxas Boulevard, sa mga inisyuhan ng cease and desist order (CDO) ng Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA).

Una nang sinabi ni Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Undersecretary Benny Antiporda na madadagdagan pa ang mga establisimyento na bibigyan ng CDO

habang patuloy na nagsasagawa ng imbestigasyon ang ahensiya para sa ipatutupad na Manila Bay Rehabilitation project.

Pinatigil ng LLDA sa operasyon matapos ang Max's kasama ang Jollibee sa Macapagal at HengFeng Kitchennette sa Malate, Maynila matapos madiskubre na ang kanilang waste water ay nagdudulot ng polusyon sa Manila Bay na sumasailalim sa rehabilitasyon. **(Jdl-Cudia)**



**CTALK**  
**CITO BELTRAN**



**Unli-rice until gone**

While Secretary Cimatú and the DENR officials are all obsessed with the Battle for Manila Bay, could we ask a little bit of their time to please look into the dust bowls that companies such as DMCI may have unintentionally created in the course of digging up multi-level parking garages for their high-rise condominiums. On the back end of Barrio Kapitolyo in Pasig, DMCI is in the process of building a condominium project and spent several months digging and trucking out adobe and soil. Like clockwork they also pour concrete in some areas and all these has created a perpetual dust trail that spreads out far and wide due to vehicular and human traffic. On one occasion I've seen a bunch of men sweep the accumulated dirt and dust on the sidewalks around the project but never beyond their perimeter.

Yesterday a long "train" of cement mixers and concrete pumps surrounded the project site and I have no doubt that anyone who will follow the path of those mixers will surely find concrete slurry splashed or dumped along the road or sidewalk canals. This situation is not limited to DMCI but can be observed even in the nearby Rockwell Vantage project where construction workers often litter on the road surrounding their project. Unfortunately our barangay officials seem to be clueless or have simply gotten used to the dust in the air we breathe. There is no stopping progress and development, but developers and project managers must have a sense of responsibility before problems arise. DMCI, Rockwell Please clean up your mess, ask or pay the local fire department or some local company to wash down the sidewalks! They are public property and not an extension of your premises!

\* \* \*

Email: [utalk2ctalk@gmail.com](mailto:utalk2ctalk@gmail.com)

## The uncleaning of Manila Bay - historical background

Let us give long-term historical perspective to the pollution problem of Manila Bay.

The recent public outcry and demand for the cleanup of Manila Bay is the result of decades of continued deterioration of the environmental health of Metro Manila and its bay since after the Second World War.

**Prelude.** That was when the Filipino people and their own government became the wards for the nurturing of their own land and seas. For, after July 1946, we became an independent country as scheduled.

The independence law of 1934, known in our history books as the Tydings-McDuffie Law had provided for the process of granting independence from American colonial possession.

### CROSSROADS Toward Philippine Economic and Social Progress



**GERARDO P. SICAT**

Known officially in American annals as the Philippine Independence Act, or US Public Law 73-127, enacted on March 24, 1934, this law permitted a full trial period of complete self-government as the Commonwealth of the Philippines from 1936 to 1946 (except for defense and foreign policy). Complete independence by 1946 meant we would be totally in charge.

**World War II destruction of infrastructure.** But the Japanese occupation intervened as World War II led to the military occupation of the country at the close of 1941 until 1945.

The war occupation impoverished the nation badly. But it was the war of liberation from the enemy that caused the massive destruction of the city. Worse destruction happened south of the Pasig River, where the city drained its inner waters (including drainage) to Manila Bay.

According to American description of that damage after World War II, Manila was the most destroyed city, second only to Warsaw.

American forces abandoned the capital city in 1942 as an open city. The Japanese command, however, decided to dig in and defend Manila to the last man when American military forces closed on Manila from the north by early 1945.

The decision of the American military could have spared the mighty battle of Manila. A brilliant strategy of conquest of Japan concocted by the military planners in Washington favored the invasion of Formosa (the name of Taiwan, then a possession of Japan long before that war) and by-passing the Philippines.

General Douglas MacArthur, the field commander of the land forces in the Pacific, objected to this plan. He proposed the reconquest and liberation of the Philippines on military, strategic, and political grounds. He successfully argued and convinced President Franklin Delano Roosevelt during the final military strategy discussion held in Hawaii (July, 1944). The conquest of Formosa was discarded in favor of the retaking of the Philippines.

During the occupation period, General MacArthur's promise of "I shall return" was etched in the consciousness of many Filipinos. Clandestine US war supplies fed to Filipino guerillas carried that message. In addition to his military calculation, MacArthur's argument might have been partly induced by personal hubris.

"The Liberation" was a high point of the war's end as celebrated in our history books. Yet, less destruction and war Filipino civilian casualties would have happened had the Formosa invasion been carried out instead.

The major battles for the retaking of the country began in October 1944 (landing in Leyte). Eventually, the battle of Manila (Feb. 3-March 3, 1945) became the most destructive of the battles of the liberation.

The American military bombardment and destruction flattened major infrastructures and property especially south of the Pasig River. Fire consumed districts of housing and commercial blocks. Massacres by berserk Japanese soldiers losing the battle aggravated the large civilian losses.

The battle of Manila brought major destruction to the country's premier city, the political and economic capital of the nation. The economic and social dislocations at the moment of the birth of national political independence brought about a train of new problems related to the reconstruction and development of the economy.

**The foundations of pollution settle in.** The leaders (national and local) of the newly independent republic faced unprecedented problems of nation-building that were confusing and overpowering.

Rapid economic rehabilitation efforts were undertaken immediately after the war and following political independence. War damage payments and large military spending and the recovery of the economy helped to finance the rehabilitation.

This attracted the influx of people from the provinces to Manila and its environs starved by lack of opportunities during the war years. These developments further expanded the economy of the country.

The economic growth of Manila and its environs would dominate and lead the growth of the nation as a whole. After the reconstruction boom of the immediate postwar period came the development of industries replacing old services and installing new ones.

The public works and city managements neglected the regulation of effluents. Soon, the draining of those effluents would poison the natural waterways with toxic waste, darkening and suffocating life in them.

Public works standards and bureaucracies suffered badly and the regulation and upkeep of facilities deteriorated. An outcome of this was confused implementation of public works between roads, transport networks, and flood control management.

In fact, public works construction not only neglected the drainage system, but also filled up some existing some waterways thought to be a hindrance toward land improvement.

The failure of standards was obviously an outcome of the experience and trauma of war destruction. Loss of personnel and breakup of institutional rules and processes were further eroded by the new politics of accommodation that emerged after independence.

Constructing and improving roads became more attractive than digging waterways or allowing good drainage or rebuilding the city's sewerage system. In fact, politics would lead to the deterioration of the upkeep of the water service and sewerage systems.

In this confused setup, the roadways were developed much better than the drainage and sewerage system. As a result, over time, the city's waterways got narrower, clogged, or simply neglected.

Lack of housing facilities led to the growth of squatting wherever unattended private and common public lands were available and unprotected.

**(To be continued:** The causes of pollution and the disarray of early economic development).

My email is: [gpsicat@gmail.com](mailto:gpsicat@gmail.com). For archives of previous Crossroads essays, go to: <https://www.philstar.com/authors/1336383/gerardo-p-sicat>. Visit this site for more information, feedback and commentary: <http://econ.upd.edu.ph/gpsicat/>



## House leader wants total ban on further reclamations of Manila Bay

By **CHARISSA M. LUCI-ATIENZA**

Deputy Speaker and Pangasinan Rep. Rose Marie "Baby" Arenas wants to prohibit and declare a total ban on further reclamations of Manila Bay.

She branded as "alarming" the ongoing rush to execute reclamation projects, citing that in 2011, the Philippine Reclamation Authority had identified 102 near-shore reclamation projects covering 38, 272 hectares in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

Of these, 38 projects with an aggregate area of 26,234 hectares are intended to reclaim virtually the entire near-shore zone of Manila Bay, she said. **▶ 10**

## House leader wants...

◀ 1

"The environmental costs far outweigh the projected economic benefits from these reclamation projects," Arenas said in filing House Resolution No. 2495.

Arenas also called on the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), National Economic Development Authority (NEDA), Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services (PAGASA), PRA, Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Philvocs), and Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) to convene inclusive multi-sectoral consultations on the proposed reclamation projects in Manila Bay.

Citing a 2017 news report quoting geologist Kevin Rodolfo, she expressed serious concern that the land in the National Capital Region (NCR) is sinking, mainly from over pumping of ground water caused by population pressure.

"This, combined with the effects of global warming, the rising sea level, and the fact that the NCR is barely one meter above sea level near the coastline, makes the NCR a recipe for disaster. Reclamation will speed up the sinking of the land, either from the withdrawal of groundwater, or from the added weight of buildings, or both," Arenas said.

The Makabayan bloc of the House of Representatives had earlier filed a bill seeking to declare Manila Bay as a reclamation-free zone.

Under House Bill 9067, the group of progressive lawmakers seeks to prohibit all forms of reclamation activities that will affect a part of or the entire Manila Bay area.

Anakpawis Rep. Ariel Casilao, who led the filing of the bill, said there should be "genuine" rehabilitation of the Manila Bay and it should not be used to disguise the reclamation of the coastal area.

Under House Bill 9067, the sea waters of the Manila Bay Area are declared a reclamation-free zone.

The acts prohibited under the bill are all activities that seek to fill, cover, or overlay the sea waters of the Manila

Bay Area with soil, gravel, stones or other similar materials to create artificial land space beginning from the coast; or any activity that will construct artificial islands or floating structures, build overhang infrastructure above the sea waters or will result in the receding of the sea waters and the surfacing of the soil beneath the sea waters.

"All plans for reclamation projects pending with the office of the Philippine Reclamation Authority or any government agency or local government unit are hereby disapproved," the bill said.

HB 9067 seeks to revoke all Environmental Clearance Certificates (ECCs) issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and all permits issued by any government agency or LGU (local government unit) for the purpose of reclaiming a part of or the entire Manila Bay Area.

The measure also disapproves all applications for ECCs pending with the DENR and all applications for permits pending with any government agency or LGU for the purpose of reclaiming a part of or the entire Manila Bay Area.

The bill provides that the violators of the proposed Act shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of six years to 12 years imprisonment and a fine ranging from P5 million to P15 million.

Any public officer who violates the proposed Act shall also be dismissed from public service and perpetually disqualified from holding public office.

"If the offender is a juridical entity, the highest ranking official and the members of its board of directors or trustees who authorized the violation shall suffer the penalty imposed under this Act. The operator or owner thereof shall not be allowed to operate similar establishment or enterprise in a different name or style or in a different location," according to the bill.

The measure tasks the DENR to promulgate the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of the proposed Act.

**Cease and desist order**

Meanwhile, the Laguna Lake Devel-

opment Authority (LLDA) on Tuesday ordered a new batch of establishments found dumping untreated wastewater into the Manila Bay to stop operations.

LLDA issued cease and desist orders (CDOs) against Max's Restaurant-United Nations Orosa Branch in Manila; HengFeng Kitchenette in Pasay City; and Jollibee Foods Corporation-Macapagal Biopolis Branch in Pasay City.

The establishments were found discharging pollutive water into Manila Bay and have no proper wastewater facility.

"Based on the saturation and inspection activities in the Manila Bay area, as well as the results of laboratory analysis of the wastewater samples taken, the establishments were found not be conforming with the effluent standards for Class SB waters," the LLDA order said.

Class SB water quality refers to waters that is safe for recreational activities such as swimming.

It is also suitable for commercial propagation of shellfish and as spawning areas for milkfish and other similar species.

LLDA is expected to serve additional two CDOs, three ex-parte orders, and 12 notices of violation (NOVs) against erring establishments in Manila and Pasay cities.

Improper wastewater disposal is a violation under Republic Act 9275 or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 and could be a ground for closure of the establishment and its wastewater facilities.

Earlier, Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu said the DENR will go for an across the board crackdown on erring establishments as part of the massive effort to rehabilitate the heavily polluted Manila Bay.

He pointed out that no establishment that is polluting Manila Bay will be spared from the crackdown.

Cimatu warned that more establishments may face possible closure for polluting Manila Bay. (With a report from Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz)



## IMBESTIGADaVe

Dave M. Veridiano, E.E.

### Pinsala ang dala ng 'reclamation' sa Manila Bay! (Huling bahagi)

**N**AGDULOT ang mga reclamation sa Manila Bay noong dekada '70 ng mga 'di inaasahang matataas na daluyong (storm surges) sa makasaysayang look, na humampas at sumira sa mga naglalakihang bato sa gilid ng Roxas Boulevard, gumiba sa ilang bahagi ng sea wall, nagpabagsak sa mga nagtatayugang puno sa lugar, at nagdala ng baha sa iba't ibang bahagi ng Metro Manila.

Ang mga pag-angil na ito ng kalikasan ay

matamang pinag-aralan ng ating mga pantas sa siyensiya, na gaya ni Dr. Kelvin S. Rodolfo, na nangunguna sa mga tumututol sa anumang naka-plano pang "reclamation projects" sa Manila Bay.

Ayon sa pagsasaliksik ng mga eksperto, ang patuloy na pagbabago ng klima (climate change) sa buong mundo ay may malaking epekto sa dati-rati'y maliliit na alon, at pagsagitsit papaitaas ng tubig-alat sa Manila Bay kapag umuulan, lalo pa't may paparating na malakas na bagyo.

Ang mga naunang "reclaimed areas" sa Manila Bay, na dapat sana'y kabahagi ng proyekto ni dating First Lady Imelda R. Marcos na binansagan nilang "Boulevard 2000" bago pa man bumagsak ang diktaturang rehimen noong 1986, ay sinasabing nagdadala sa lugar ng mga pagkilos ng kalikasan na unti-unting pumipinsala sa lugar habang dumaraan ang panahon.

Batay sa mga sinuring ulat at video footages ng Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), ang mga lugar na nakatakdang "tambakan" sa Manila Bay, ay madalas na nakararanas ng mga daluyong (storm surges) na umabot sa taas na apat na metro. Ang itinatagal ng galaw nito ay idinidikta naman ng lakas ng hangin na dala ng bagyo, at

ng pabagu-bagong oras ng pagkati ng tubig-dagat (high at low tide) sa lugar.

Ang pinsalang magagawa ng mga daluyong (storm surges) ay pinalalaki naman ng mga higanteng alon - na nabubuo habang papasok ito sa aplaya ng "reclaimed areas" - sa paghampas nito sa lahat ng istruktura sa daranan. Idagdag pa rito ang mga malalaki at matitigas na bagay na nakasakay rito, na animo bomba na sumasabog kapag ipinupukol ng nagngangalit na hanging dala ng bagyo.

Ani Doc Kelvin: "It is shocking that major reclamation is even being considered, because we do not even have sufficient wave data with which to design shoreline structures."

Ang labis na pinangangambahan ng grupo nina Doc Kelvin ay ang tinatawag nilang "liquefaction" - ang pagiging likido ng matigas at solidong bahagi sa ilalim ng lupa na kinatatayuan ng mga pundasyon ng istruktura sa ibabaw ng "reclaimed areas" sa Manila Bay - na siguradong magaganap kapag nagkaroon ng malakas na lindol sa Metro Manila.

Sa paliwanag ng mga eksperto, 'di malayong maganap ang phenomenon na ito sa "reclaimed areas" sa Manila Bay, na magiging dahilan ng paglubog ng lupa

at pagguho ng mga gusali, lalo pa nga't lumalabas na kulang sa malalim na pagsasaliksik at pag-aaral hinggil sa proyektong ito ang mga ahensiya ng pamahalaan na may hawak dito.

Kapag nangyari ito, tiyak ang kapahamakan at siguradong maraming kababayan natin ang magbubuwis ng buhay. Sa mga maitatayong matataas na gusali at mga higanteng mall sa "reclaimed areas", ang "Pearl Harbor City" ng mga negosyanteng Tsino ang mapapaboran sa multi-billion na proyektong ito.

Ang nakapagdududa kasi rito ay ang motibo ng inilabas na Executive Order 74, na inililipat sa Office of the President (OP) ang Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA), at ang pagtanggap sa National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) sa proyektong ito, sa gitna ng protesta labans sa mga "reclamation project" na hawak ng dalawang tanggapan.

Uulitin ko ang pangambang ito ni Doc Kelvin: "Today, it seems that science is again being blithely ignored by the financial interests and government authorities promoting the various reclamation projects. Will we never learn?"

Mag-text at tumawag sa Globe: 09369953459 o mag-email sa: [daveridiano@yahoo.com](mailto:daveridiano@yahoo.com)



## Saku-sakong basura at toxic wastes, nakolekta ng BJMP sa Manila Bay

Saku-sakong mga basura at toxic wastes ang nakolekta sa Manila Bay ng pamunuan ng Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) National Capital Region (NCR) sa ilalim ng pangangasiwa ni Jail Chief Supt. Ignacio S. Panti.

Ito ay matapos na mas paigtingin pa ng BJMP-NCR ang layunin ng kagawaran upang maipaabot sa komunidad ang kanilang serbisyo publiko.

"The region is deemed to both serve the Persons



Nasa larawan si BJMP-NCR Jail Chief Supt. Ignacio S. Panti kasama ang kaniyang mga division heads, chief offices at wardens ang 'massive clearing operation' sa Manila Bay.

Deprived of Liberty and to be of service to the community, as well," ayon kay CSupt. Panti.

Sa patuloy na pagnanais ng kagawaran na maabot ang kanilang obligasyon, pinangunahan ng BJMP official ang pagsasagawa ng 'Clean-Up Drive activity' sa Manila Bay, Roxas Boulevard, Manila City nitong February 16, 2019. Ito ay upang makatulong umano sila sa isinasagawang rehabilitasyon ng pamahalaan sa Manila Bay.

Katuwang ni CSupt. Panti ang kaniyang mga division heads, chiefs of offices, wardens at iba pang unit personnel, sa isinagawang 'massive clearing operation' sa baybayin ng Manila Bay.

Sa kalahating araw na paglilinis ay nakakolekta ang kagawaran ng maraming sako ng basura at iba pang toxic wastes mula sa pampang ng karagatan.

Magugunitang nakiisa ang pamunuan ng BJMP NCR sa 'Kick-off ceremony' ng Manila Bay Rehabilitation Program na may tinaguriang "Battle for Manila Bay" nitong January 27, 2019.

Ang makasaysayang event ay nakiisa ang 12 government agencies na inatasan ng Supreme Court na ibalik ang sigla at ganda ng 'world's renowned and historic place.' (Dolly Cabreza)



## ORA MISMO

Ni BUTCH M. QUEJADA



### Massive rehab, dapat lang!

HANGGAT hindi pa tag-ulan at tag-baha dapat linisin ng mga pa-bright, bright sa gobierno ang mga estero, imburnal at kanal. Hukayin, tanggalan ng mga burak at mga basura ang mga patay na ilog na namamaho kaya naman ang dumi at itim ng tubig.

Naghahanda na raw ang DPWH para kalaykayin ang Manila Bay at ang Navotas River para laliman at linisin ito?

Naku ha!

Dapat madaliin dahil baka abutan ng tag-ulan!

Alam naman ng madlang Pinoy ang dumi at baho ng Navotas River, Estero de Vitas d'yan sa Tondo at ang baybayin ng Manila Bay.

Sabi nga, sanay na sila kaya hindi na bago sa madlang Pinoy ang mga ito.

Hindi na kailangan pang ipaliwanag sa madlang people ang mga nabanggit dahil kulay pa lang ng tubig at amoy nito alam na nila ang ibig sabihin. Hehehe!

Kung hindi pa si Boss Digong ang nag-utos na linisin at hakutin ang mga basura sa Manila Bay, tiyak hanggang ngayon wala pa ring pagbabago ito.





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THE PHILIPPINE  
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**Members of the Navy and Coast Guard prepare diving gear for an underwater inspection yesterday as part of the Manila Bay rehabilitation effort.**  
KRIZJOHN ROSALES





Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS  
SINCE 1900

# MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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**DIVING FOR HIDDEN PIPES** - Divers from the Philippine Coast Guard get ready to dive into Manila Bay Tuesday to search for illegal sewage pipes that discharge waste from establishments. (Alvin Kasiban)



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**DIVERS** from the Philippine Coast Guard get ready to plunge in the Manila Bay to search for illegal pipe lines contributing to the bay's pollution from establishments around the area yesterday. (Alvin Kasiban)



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

**PILIPINO**  
FILIPINO MARCH MEDIA GROUP CORPORATION  
**MIRROR**  
- SALAMIN NG KATOTOHANAN -

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**ANG** mga miyembro ng Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) na naghahanda ng kanilang kagamitan sa diving para sa underwater inspection ng illegal pipeline sa Manila Bay. **Kuha ni NORMAN ARAGA**



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

# Balita

ANG NANGUNGUNANG PAHAYAGANG TAGAL OG SA BANGSA

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## CEASE AND DESIST!

Naghahanda kahapon ang mga diver ng Philippine Coast Guard sa pagsisid sa Manila Bay upang tukuyin ang mga ilegal na tubo na dinadaluyan ng dumi at nagdudulot ng polusyon sa lawa. Ipinasara kahapon ng Laguna Lake Development Authority ang tatlong malalaking restaurant dahil sa kawalan ng wastewater facility. **ALVIN KASIBAN**



## #nationataglance

WESTERN VISAYAS: AKLAN

### SC: Boracay closure constitutional

The Supreme Court (SC), in its en banc session on Feb. 12, ruled that the six-month closure of Boracay Island last year is constitutional. New SC Public Information Office Chief Brian Keith F. Hosaka said the court, voting, 11-2, dismissed the petition against Proclamation No. 475, which declared a state of calamity in Boracay Island and ordered its temporary closure from April 26 to Oct. 25, 2018, ruling that it "did not pose an actual impairment to the right to travel." "The impact of the said proclamation on the right to travel was temporary and merely incidental to the intended rehabilitation of the island," Mr. Hosaka said. "The Court also ruled that Proclamation No. 475 was a valid police power measure." In April 2018, Boracay workers and residents, through the National Union of Peoples' Lawyers (NUPL), asked the SC to issue a temporary restraining order against the tourist island's closure. Those who voted to dismiss the petition are: Chief Justice Lucas P. Bersamin and associate justices Antonio T. Carpio, Diosdado M. Peralta, Mariano C. Del Castillo, Estelas M. Perla-Bernabe, Francis H. Jardaleza Andres B. Reyes, Jr., Alexander G. Gesmundo, Jose C. Reyes, Jr., Ramon Paul L. Hernando and Rosmari D. Carandang. The justices who voted to grant the petition are Associate Justices Marvic Mario Victor F. Leonen and Alfredo Benjamin S. Caguioa. — **Vann Marlo M. Villegas**



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

THE EXPONENT OF PHILIPPINE PROGRESS  
SINCE 1800

# MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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## Thematic approach to Boracay rehab pushed

BY TARA YAP

ILOILO CITY - The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is pushing for thematic approach to the continuing rehabilitation of Boracay Island in Malay town, Aklan.

DENR Western Visayas Director Francisco Milla Jr. disclosed a shift in the approach for rehabilitating the country's most popular beach destination, which was closed to tourists for six months last year.

The Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation Management Group (BIARMG), which was previously a task force, will be guided by the newly-crafted Boracay Action Plan (BAP).

DENR Assistant Regional

Director Livino Duran, who is also concurrent BIARMG chief, said the group wants to focus on four key thematic areas to ensure efficient and effective implementation.

These are in the areas of enforcement of laws and regulations; pollution control and prevention; and ecosystem rehabilitation and recovery.

The fourth theme is a combination of reliable infrastructure; responsive social services along health, education and housing; and sustainable economic activities through livelihood.

DENR still urged for the full cooperation of Boracay's business sector and community to back the government-led rehabilitation program.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

# Balita

ANG NANGUNGUNANG PAHAYAGANG TAGAL OG SA BANSA



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## 6 LGU workers, huli sa illegal logging

GUMACA, Quezon - Arestado ang anim na local government unit (LGU) employees na pawang nahuli sa aktong isinasakay sa government truck ang ilang hindi dokumentado at ilegal na troso sa Barangay Camohaguin, dito, iniulat ng Quezon Provincial Police Office.

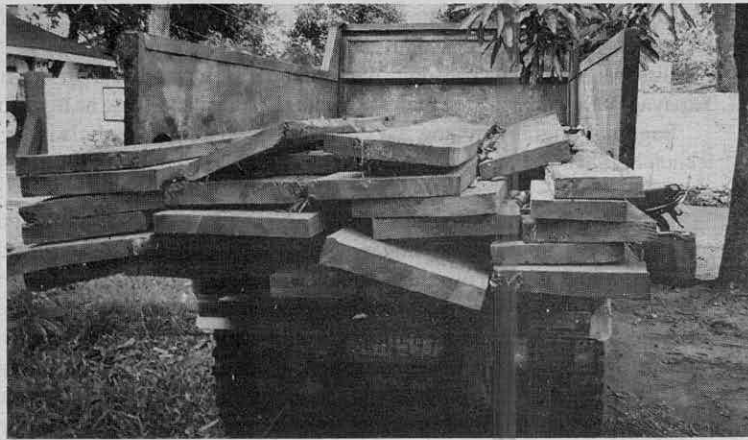
Natanggap ni Senior Supt. Osmundo de Gusman, Quezon PPO director, ang ulat mula sa local police station at kinilala ang mga inaresto na sina Nichol Lakiar, Jerry Rosaldo, Jun Torres, Dennis Lucero, Romnick Burce at Eduardo de Asis, pawang street cleaner ng Gumaca LGU.

Sa ulat, dinampot ang anim habang isinasakay ang "malatubig" sa mini-dump truck (SKM 597), na pag-aari ng LGU, at napag-utusan lang umano ang mga ito ng isang Randolph na kawani ng munisipyo.

Idiniretso ang mga nasamsam na troso sa QPPO, habang pinayagang

magpiyansa ang mga inaresto.

**Danny Estacio**



**HULI SA AKTO** Makikita sa larawan ang mga nasamsam na ilegal na troso na tinangkang ibiyahe ng anim na kawani ng local government unit sa Barangay Camohaguin, sa Gumaca, Quezon.

**DANNY ESTACIO**





## Kayong mga pulitikong taga-Baguio, pukaw na mo!

PATULOY ang paglobo ng populasyon sa Baguio City, abot na sa puntong nasisira na ang siyudad. Di magtatalaga, matutulad na rin ang Baguio sa Maynila.

Malayo na ang siyudad sa dati nitong ganda na dinarayong mga tao. Bulubundukin na lugar, tapos puro Pine Trees at malalaking punongkahoy. Anong nangyari? Pinagpuputol ng mga gahamang negosyante dahil tatanga-tanga, bulag, pipi at bingi ang mga nasa lokal na pamahalaan. Posibleng kasapakat pa sila ng sindikatong nasa likod ng pagpuputol ng mga puno.

Naalagaan ang mga linta sa Baguio kaya imbes na mga puno, puro bahay ang tumubo. Sila-sila rin ang nasa likod ng pagdami ng informal settlers at mga agaw-lupa.

Ginagawa nilang tauhan na taga-okupa ng mga lupain sa Baguio. Marcos Highway pa lang, kitang-kita mo na ang nakabubwisit na tanawin. Masakit na sa mata, mauubusan ka pa ng pasensya dahil sa trapik.

Hindi pa kasama rito 'yung polusyon. Ako mismo, pumupunta ako sa Baguio. Kung dati ay presko at malamig ang hangin sa Baguio. Ngayon, basura na ang malalanghap mo. Sinabi na natin ito. Makikita sa kapaligiran at lansangan ang paraan ng pamumuno sa isang lugar. Ito ay malinaw na repleksyon maging siyudad, probinsya, o rehiyon man 'yan. Nalalaman ang uri ng pangangasiwa sa mga siyudad ng Baguio at Maynila... mga pabaya! Parehong-pareho. Kung paano sinalaula ang Manila Bay, ganun din ang ginawa sa Baguio. Walang nagawa para protektahan ang kalikasan.

Mabuti na lang at mayroong silent worker na si DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu. Napukaw na ang atensyon ng national government dahil sa nilabas na pag-aaral ng National Economic Development Authority (NEDA). Ito kasing mga nasa lokal, mga inutil! Unfiltered.

Matindi ang paglobo ng populasyon ng Baguio, lalo na tuwing Christmas Break. Sumusunod sa yapak ng Boracay. Kayong mga lokal diyan sa Baguio, ano bang ginagawa?  
**(Sundan sa pahina 5)**

### BAHALA SI BITAG... Mula pahina 4

gawa niyo? Di niyo man laging tulog sa pansimagustuhan itong sasatan, ako na ang gigibihin ko, I don't care. sing sa inyo. Pukaw na mo!



# Duterte signs EO mandating second phase of land distribution to farmers

By JONATHAN L. MAYUGA  
@jonmayuga  
& BERNADETTE D. NICOLAS  
@BNicolasBM

**P**RESIDENT Duterte has signed Executive Order 75, which mandates the distribution of government-owned lands under the second phase of the agrarian reform program.

A source privy to the signing of the new order confirmed to the BUSINESSMIRROR that the order will soon be uploaded in the Official Gazette.

The Office of the Executive Secretary and the Malacañang Records Office confirmed to the BUSINESSMIRROR that President Duterte has indeed signed the new EO but no copy is available for release as of press time.

Agrarian Reform Secretary John R. Castricones earlier said the order will pave the way for the distribution of government-owned agricultural lands that were supposed to have been distributed under the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP).

No less than Castricones expressed excitement on the prospect of the signing of the EO even as he affirmed President Duterte's commitment to distributing land to landless farmers.

In earlier interviews, the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Undersecretary for Legal Affairs Luis Meinrado C. Pangulayan said the distribution of government-owned lands under the Duterte administration will entail a cost of at least P10 billion on top of the annual budget

of the agency under the General Appropriations Act (GAA).

Pangulayan said the proposed budget will ensure the distribution of vast tracts of government-owned lands to qualified farmer-beneficiaries under what CARP Phase 2 or second phase of CARP.

Pangulayan said then that a preliminary list of government-owned lands being eyed for distribution includes the 9,000-hectare Yulo King Ranch in Busuanga, Palawan; a 5,000-hectare land of the University of Southern Mindanao; the 5,200-hectare Davao Penal Colony; and a 100-hectare land of the Aurora State College of Technology.

Once signed by the President, officials of the DAR can now place the said lands, including all other government lands that qualify as agricultural land, under CARP.

The policy aims to accelerate and ensure the immediate identification and segregation of all unclassified lands of public domain and all lands owned by the government or by any of its agencies and instrumentalities by the government or any government agencies suitable for agriculture.

The EO mandates all concerned government agencies, particularly the DENR, to relinquish authority over these lands for immediate distribution.

The Duterte administration's agrarian reform program or CARP 2 is anchored on the state policy to implement agrarian reform, citing Article XIII Section 4 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

Article XII Section 6, provides that

the State shall apply the principles of agrarian reform for stewardship, whenever applicable in accordance with law, in the disposition or utilization of other natural resources, including lands of the public domain under lease or concession suitable to agriculture.

There are lands of the public domain that remain unclassified and are currently used for agricultural, or food production, or are suitable for agriculture.

Some of these lands remain idle and can be made productive to alleviate poverty in rural areas.

In explaining the process involved in distributing government-owned agricultural lands, Pangulayan cited EO 407 Series of 1990 and EO 448 Series of 1991, which were issued to accelerate the acquisition of lands of the public domain suitable to agriculture and their distribution under CARP.

However, EO 407 requires the prior issuance of a deed of transfer, which impedes the process if the agency or instrumentality fails or delays the execution of the required legal instrument.

Moreover, EO 448 Series of 1991 requires the DAR to determine the absence of public use of the said lands subject in coordination with the government agency or instrumentality, which delay the process if the agency or instrumentality is uncooperative.

He noted then that sometimes, the heads of government agencies or institutions find a way to avoid CARP coverage, thus, the failure of the DAR to execute its distribution.

In a related development, the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP)

called on the DAR to scrap DAR Administrative Order (AO) 1 to stop the massive land conversion of prime agricultural lands in the country.

DARAO 1 streamlines the process of land-use conversion, which advocates of agrarian reform said, is the primary reason why vast tracts of agricultural land escaped CARP coverage.

At a news conference last week, Castricones announced the move to fast-track the approval or rejection of a land-use conversion application.

Aside from the creation of the interagency special task force, the Duterte administration has also initially agreed to adopt "a whole-of-government approach" in the processing of applications.

While DAR officials said that the DARAO 1 is still "a work in progress, the DARAO 1 work both ways—for the landowner and farmer-beneficiaries.

Under the policy, even farmers who have not fully paid in full the amortization for their CARP-awarded land can apply for land-conversion, DAR Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and Research David D. Erro said.

Republic Act 9700, or the CARP Extension with Reform provides for the use of CARP-awarded lands as loan collateral.

"DARAO 1 must go to the trash bin where it belongs. The DAR cannot simply act based on President Duterte's whims and tantrums. It must give primal weight to the interest and welfare of farmers, our agriculture sector and the country's food security," Antonio Flores, secretary-general of KMP said in a news statement.



**EDITORIAL**

## Land conversion over land reform?

**P**resident Duterte was reported to have walked out of a Cabinet meeting on Feb. 6 after a 30-minute tirade. The cause of his exasperation? The slow pace of land conversion under the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR).

DAR's chief mandate is to push for land reform, a pillar of the social justice agenda of the government over successive administrations now, and the full implementation of which was also a key campaign promise of Mr. Duterte. But why is the department now being goaded to fast-track the processing of applications to convert already shrinking agricultural land into other uses such as housing developments, tourism enclaves and commercial estates?

Still, what Mr. Duterte wants, Mr. Duterte gets. Stung by the presidential outburst, Agrarian Reform Secretary John Castriciones had to form a task force posthaste to implement DAR's Administrative Order No. 1 series of 2019, which puts in place the more laissez-faire regulatory process the President wants for land conversions.

Naturally, the move has earned the ire of peasant groups, the one sector that will bear the brunt of a contracting agricultural environment. AO 1, they contend, puts into serious doubt the sincerity of the President to fulfill his campaign promise to complete the agrarian reform program, which has been hampered in recent years by lack of funds for the acquisition of land for distribution to landless farmers, and stiff resistance from large private landowners.

Former agrarian reform secretary Rafael Mariano branded the order as "antifarmer," as land conversion applicants will no longer be required to secure documents from the Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board and the Department of Agriculture as stipulated in the Comprehensive Rules on Land Use Conversion issued in 2002. Further, conversion applications will now be concluded in just 30 days from submission of the required paperwork, instead of the 120 days minimum period provided in the comprehensive rules.

The much-relaxed rules "will greatly imperil the state of farmers and our national food security," warned Mariano, who added that during his short stint at the DAR, he even pushed for an executive order mandating a two-year moratorium on the acceptance and processing of land conversion applications, to allow the government to prioritize food security and prevent the further shrinkage of agricultural lands.

But this time, Mr. Duterte and Castriciones appear to be "itching to accelerate the conversion of agricultural lands," said Mariano, even as the DAR is mandated to protect farmers and their rights, and the viability of the agrarian reform program itself.

The DAR reported last week that it had a backlog of 73 cases involving land conversion.

Teresita Tarlac, president of the Panay-Negros chapter of the national peasant federation Task Force Mapalad, lamented that land reform accomplishment under the Duterte administration is already "the lowest in history," but the President's recent flare-up only sends the signal that the priority is now land conversion rather than land acquisition and distribution.

Mr. Duterte's anger could be directed more toward the continuing failure of the land reform program, said Tarlac. In Negros Occidental, for instance, the President's vaunted political will can accelerate the distribution of 30 landholdings spanning 900 hectares of land to the tillers. "In many landholdings, including in Negros Occidental, all the DAR [and] the Registry of Deeds need to do is generate and issue the certificates of landownership award to the farmers to pull the administration's Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program accomplishment up. All it needs is to lift a finger, not move heaven and earth, to end the plight of landless farmers. But it isn't doing an already easy task. Isn't this equally exasperating and worthy of President Duterte's anger and frustration?"

With the President's express command to accelerate conversion of agricultural lands to residential, industrial and commercial use, the public better be prepared "to eat concrete," said the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas. It needn't come to that, if only Mr. Duterte would remember his promise to work for "a rebirth of agrarian reform," as he put it then, and put the brakes on, or at least more thought to, his current fixation for unbridled land conversions.



# SGMA ends 15-year land dispute in Cebu City

By Ryan Ponce Pacpaco

A MORE than 15-year-old land dispute ended for more than 3,200 families in Cebu City after the Oversight Committee on Housing convened by Speaker Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was able to gather all stakeholders to waive their claims over the property.

Arroyo had convened the Oversight Committee on Housing chaired by Negros Occidental Rep. Alfredo Benitez to resolve the land dispute in Bgy. Apas, Cebu City to enable the urban poor housing beneficiaries, mostly composed of families of soldiers, to get their titles to their property.

During a hearing held at the Central Command in Bgy. Apas on Monday, Arroyo personally invited Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana to sign the compromise agreement in favor of the informal settlers.

It was the last act required to make the compromise agreement effective. It was earlier signed by the provincial government of Cebu, as owner of the land, and the city government of Cebu, which has jurisdiction over the residents.

The signing was witnessed by Arroyo to the



**APAS RESIDENTS THANK SGMA - Members of the Alliance of Barangay Apas Community Association (ABACA) thanked former president and now Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, as the granting of socialized housing properties for the more than 3,200 families moves forward during a meeting by the Oversight Committee on Housing chaired by Rep. Alfredo Benitez held last Monday in Bgy. Apas, Cebu City. The granting of socialized housing was through Proclamation 409, Series of 2003 issued by then President Arroyo. Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana signed the compromise agreement, which shall end the dispute that has been hindering the implementation of the Proclamation. Also present were Rep. Joseph Stephen Paduano and Rep. Raul del Mar.**

jubilation of the hundreds of residents who attended the hearing.

The land in Apas has been owned by the Cebu provincial government since 1918.

In 1959, the province of Cebu donated a portion of the land to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), consisting of 47 parcels of land.

The donation land had a condition that, in case of abandonment, non-use, or use other than military purposes, the ownership of the land shall automatically be reverted to the

provincial government.

It was later discovered that only 14 of the 47 lots were being utilized by the military. The remaining lots were occupied by informal settlers.

In 2003, then President Arroyo issued Presidential Proclamation 409 which declared 18 of the 47 lots in Bgy. Apas as socialized housing site and for disposition to its legally qualified occupants that consisted of retired military officers and personnel.

Despite the presence of the Proclamation, the

DND and the Cebu provincial government, with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) transferring the 18 lots back to the province of Cebu.

In addition, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was also carried out to supplement the MOU and to provide a framework for the turnover.

However, Cebu City

government and the Alliance of Barangay Apas Community Associations (ABACA) filed a court case seeking to declare the MOU and the MOA null and void for being unconstitutional in the presence of Proclamation 409.

Late last year, the provincial government and the city government of Cebu agreed to end the dispute and signed a compromise agreement over the socialized housing property in favor of the informal settlers in Apas.



## Nagpasikat sa 'global warming', pumanaw na

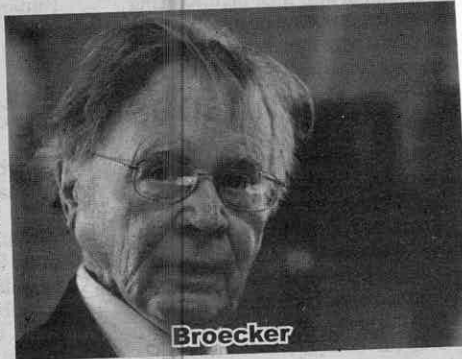
NEW YORK (AP) – Pumanaw na ang scientist na nagtaas ng alarma tungkol sa climate change at pinasikat ang terminong "global warming". Si Wallace Smith Broecker ay 87 anyos.

Ang longtime Columbia University professor at researcher ay namatay sa isang ospital sa New York City, ayon sa spokesman ng Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory ng unibersidad. Sinabi ni Kevin Krajick na ilang buwan nang may sakit si Broecker.

Dinala ni Broecker ang "global warming" sa pagkaraniwang gamit 1975 article nito na tumpak na

nahulaan na ang tumataas na carbon dioxide levels sa atmosphere ay magresulta sa pronounced warming. Siya rin ang unang kumilala sa tinawag niyang Ocean Conveyor Belt, ang global network ng currents na nakaaapekto sa lahat ng bagay mula sa temperature ng hangin hanggang sa pattern ng ulan.

"We're playing with an angry beast – a climate system that has been shown to be very sensitive," sinabi niya noong 1997.



Broecker

Kilala siya sa science circles bilang "Grandfather of Climate Science" at "Dean of Climate Scientists."