

DATE : 11 JUN 2019

DAY : Tuesday

# **DENR**

## **IN THE NEWS**

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



## Conglomerate on track to plant 9 million trees by 2020

AFTER planting a total of 6.6 million trees, or 73 percent of the target, as of 2018, the Aboitiz Group announced that it is on track to reach its 9 million trees goal by 2020.

The target is part of the group's Simultaneous Tree Planting initiative. STP is under A-Park, its largest environmental program that supports the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Expanded National Greening Program.

The planting of nine million trees by the end of 2020 would mean the conversion of an estimated 189,000 tons of carbon dioxide (tCO<sub>2</sub>) into oxygen or the equivalent of about 9,000 hectares of lush reforested areas, or more than 37 times the size of Bonifacio Global City.

In time for the celebration of World Environment Day on June 5, Aboitiz and DENR signed a Memorandum of Agreement to renew their partnership to sustain

ecological balance.

"I express my heartfelt thanks to Aboitiz Equity Ventures and Aboitiz Foundation, Inc. for teaming up with the DENR once again for the attainment of nine million trees under the A-Park Project by 2020," said DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu.

"It is heartening to know that working towards your corporate objective would also mean addressing poverty alleviation by engaging the services of the local people in forest activities like seedling production, plantation establishment, and maintenance and protection, among others," he added.

Aboitiz Equity Ventures, Inc. executive vice president and chief operating officer Sabin M. Aboitiz reiterated the group's commitment to DENR's programs.

"We strongly believe and adhere to the DENR's mandate to protect the environment and we anchor our initiatives to the ENGP to sustain ecological balance. Our enduring partnership with the DENR for community-based forest management is a testament to our shared responsibility and highlights our contribution to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal on Climate Action," said Aboitiz.

Since 2010, Aboitiz team member volunteers have gathered in chosen planting sites in various parts of the country to plant indigenous trees.

In July, an estimated 95,000 seedlings will be planted by Aboitiz team members and stakeholders nationwide.



AEV president and chief executive Erramon I. Aboitiz led the 2018 Aboitiz groupwide simultaneous tree planting activity at the Makiling-Banahaw Geothermal Facility in Laguna.



Aboitiz team members and stakeholders plant indigenous trees in chosen planting sites in the country.



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Editor  
Robert Jaworski / Manila

CLAM NURSERY Rows of giant clams are protected in a nursery run by the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute near Silaki Island in Bolinao, Pangasinan province. The endangered giant clams (*Tridacna gigas*) are also propagated in marine research facilities in other parts of the country. —REM ZAMORA

MALAMPAYA FOUNDATION PROJECT

**SURGE IN GIANT CLAM POPULATION SEEN  
AS SPAWNING STARTS IN PALAWAN**

**PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—** The future is bright for the conservation of giant clams (*Tridacna gigas*) after a private foundation has successfully fertilized 9.5 million eggs of this marine species that poachers seek in Philippine waters.

The Malampaya Foundation Inc. (MFI) on Monday said it had embarked on an ambitious project to propagate in large numbers the endangered giant clams, starting in the hatchery of Western Philippines University (WPU) in Barangay Binduyan here.

**Hard to propagate**

The spawning was supervised by scientists from the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute (UPMSI), using methods it has developed in its decades of research on the clam species.

"*Tridacna gigas* are hard to propagate because the population is few. We need to really go to the brood stock [source] to collect eggs and sperms. [The situation is different] compared to other species of clams [because with their huge population, we] can still afford to [bring them to] laboratories," Dr. Lota Creencia of WPU College of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences said in a statement.

The native giant clams, upon maturity, will be sent to MFI's marine protected areas in northern Palawan.

"Giant clams are important because they have a lot of ecological significance, habitat and food for some of the marine animals. It also benefits people because it helps increase fish density," said Sherry Lyn Sayco,

UPMSI researcher.

The *T. gigas*, with a known .01 percent survival rate, is one of the most endangered clam species and was previously declared extinct in the Philippines in the 1980s. The UPMSI, led by national scientist, Ed Gomez, took specimens from neighboring Pacific Islands and began introducing it back to the country.

**Native species**

Gomez had later acknowledged that the Philippines' native species of *T. gigas* still exists in Palawan.

Creencia said they would undertake scientific studies to determine the exact characteristics of giant clams in Palawan.

"It is because the sizes of those found here in Honda Bay are really bigger [compared to the ones

spawned from Pacific Islands], but we have to conduct a molecular study to confirm it," she said.

The spawning activity was in line with MFI's "String of Pearls Project" that began last year, successfully multiplying two other species of giant clams, the *Tridacna squamosa* and *Hippopus hippopus*.

MFI has been partnering with communities, local governments and agencies in Palawan, Oriental Mindoro and Batangas provinces to establish, expand and set up proper management and protection mechanisms for marine protected areas since 2013.

The giant clams were reported to have been heavily poached by Chinese fishing fleets in Scarborough Shoal and around Pagasa Island in the West Philippine Sea. —REDEMPTO D. ANDA INQ



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**COLLECTION** A diver collects sperm and egg cells from giant clams during spawning in the waters off Puerto Princesa City in Palawan province on June 1. —CONTRIBUTED PHOTO





**7 CONTAINERS OF SHREDDED WASTE MATERIALS**

# LOGSIN ORDERS RETURN OF TRASH TO AUSTRALIA, REJECTS CEMENT MAKER'S CLAIM

**By Dona Z. Pazzibugan**  
@dpazzibuganINQ

Foreign Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. has ordered the return to Australia of the garbage shipped into the country last month for use by cement manufacturer Holcim Philippines Inc.

Locsin rejected Holcim's explanation that the trash, which arrived in seven containers at

Mindanao International Container Terminal (MICT) in Misamis Oriental province on May 3, would be used as alternative fuel for its cement kilns.

### Trash dispute with Canada

The Philippines on May 31 ended a dispute over trash with Canada after Ottawa took back 69 containers of nonrecyclable waste that were illegally shipped

to Manila in 2013 and 2014.

"O, by the way, the garbage from Australia, that's going back, too," Locsin said in a tweet on Monday.

"No, I don't give a flying f--k that it is used in making cement. If that is so, cement makers should formally import the ingredient so it goes nowhere but to their plants," he added.

Customs authorities and

MICT port operators found the trash shipment from Australia on May 14 after the containers "gave off a characteristic smell inherent to municipal waste."

### Shipment 'offensive'

Reports said the shipment contained "pieces of assorted scrap plastic, cellophane, wrappers, chunks of hard plastic, textiles, fibers, wood chips, glass

cullet, stones, soil, paper and other shredded waste materials" that could not be easily recycled.

Malacañang called the trash from Australia "offensive" and vowed not to allow it to remain in the country.

Garbage from Hong Kong and Korea was also found at MICT in May and October last year.

South Korea took back part

of the shipment in January, but 5,176 metric tons of waste remained in Misamis Oriental.

A container of plastic waste from Hong Kong misdeclared as electronic accessories arrived in the province in January.

Customs officials said 70 containers were supposed to have been shipped into the country from Hong Kong had the first container not been found. INQ



# Locsin: Garbage to be shipped back to Australia

By PIA LEE-BRAGO

The garbage from Australia illegally dumped in the Philippines is going back to the country of origin, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin

Jr. said yesterday.

Malacañang said the government was "offended" by the reported dumping of garbage from Australia.

Holcim Philippines, the  
**Turn to Page 2**

## Locsin From Page 1

consignee of the shipment, reportedly said the containers were declared as processed engineered fuel (PEF), which is used as an alternative fuel for its cement production.

"No, I don't give a flying f••k that it is used in making cement. If that is so cement makers should formally import the ingredient so it goes nowhere but to their plants," Locsin tweeted.

Greenpeace Philippines called the dumping of garbage from Australia "unacceptable and deplor-

able," saying the country is not a dumping ground for foreign trash.

The garbage from Canada that arrived in 2013 and 2014 were shipped back to the North American country last month.

On May 28, Locsin said in a tweet garbage from Hong Kong, Australia and South Korea illegally dumped in the Philippines are the next to be shipped back.

The Bureau of Customs (BOC) discovered the shipment of mixed plastic scraps, shredded electronics and residual waste materials shipment from Hong Kong.

The shipment, initially declared

as electronic accessories, arrived at the Mindanao Container Terminal in Tagoloan town, Misamis Oriental in Mindanao last January and has since been abandoned.

Upon inspection, the BOC discovered 21 large bags that contain crushed electronic parts classified as mixed plastic waste.

The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) said the Philippines and other Southeast Asian nations have seen a drastic increase in the quantity of plastic being dumped on them "in the name of recycling" after China banned plastic waste imports last year.



# 'Aussie trash to be shipped back'

By **Rey E. Requejo**

**T**HE garbage from Australia will have to be shipped back even if the Environment department has categorized it as engineered fuel used by cement factories, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. said Monday.

"By the way, the garbage from Australia [is] going back, too. I don't give a flying f\*\*k that it is used in making cement," Locsin said in his Twitter account.

"If that is so, cement makers should formally import the ingredient so it goes nowhere but to their plants."

The Bureau of Customs last month intercepted seven container vans with shredded municipal waste from Australia at the Mindanao Container Terminal in Misamis Oriental.

The shipment was declared as processed engineered fuel or PEF and

municipal waste, and its consignee was Holcim Philippines Inc.

Holcim said the PEF was made from processed trash and was being used as an alternative fuel in producing cement.

"For us, this is really not garbage. This is low-grade fuel, this is processed engineered fuel," Alan Cuyno, technical manager of Holcim Philippines Inc., said.

Reports indicated that the intercepted shipment was formally imported by Holcim.

Information received by the House of Representatives in its recent hearings

showed that the trash was imported by Holcim. However, Customs contested the declaration it was Processed Engineered Fuel, saying it was domestic waste based on its smell. The Environment department said it could test to confirm.

Locsin said the Department of Foreign Affairs will not "sign off" on the matter.

"DFA won't sign off on it. Not our business," he said.

"It becomes our business when those whose business it is f\*ck up again; then we pick the sh\*t and send it back. But I certainly won't sign off on sh\*t."



## Aussie trash to be shipped back

**FOREIGN Secretary Teodoro "Teddyboy" Locsin Jr. won't accept any excuses -- the reported trash from Australia will be shipped back.**

"O, by the way, the garbage from Australia, that's going back too. No, I don't give a flying f••k that it is used in making cement. If that is so cement makers should formally import the ingredient so it goes nowhere but to their plants," Locsin tweeted yesterday.

The Environment Department previously explained the seven containers shipped from Australia and intercepted in Misamis Oriental were not filled with trash but processed engineered fuel, an alternative fuel source that could be used for manufacturing cement products.

Shipments of garbage from Australia, Hong Kong, and South Korea have cropped up amid the Philippines' earlier row with Canada over nearly 2,500 tons of garbage illegally sent to the country in batches from 2013 to 2014.

President Rodrigo Duterte last month threatened to go to war with Canada if it failed to pull out the waste soon. Manila also recalled its diplomats in the

North American country. The thorn in ties was finally removed when the garbage was shipped back to Canada on May 31, paving the way for the return of the Filipino diplomats to their posts.

Trash from Hong Kong was also shipped back last week.





# BASURA NG AUSTRALIA IBABALIK

**MATAPOS** na maibalik sa Canada ang kanilang mga basura, nakatakda na ring ibalik sa Australia ang basurang di-

nala sa bansa.

Sa kanyang tweet, sinabi ni Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. na "O, by the way, the garbage from Australia, that's going back too." Ang 40-footer container na galing sa Australia na dinala sa Mindanao International Terminal sa Tagaloan, Misamis Oriental ay nadiskubre ng Bureau of Customs.

"No, I don't give a

flyin' f\*\*k that it is used in making cement. If that is so cement makers should formally import the ingredient so it goes nowhere but to their plants," pahayag ni Locsin.

Idinepensa ng Holcim Philippines Inc., na mga materyales ay 'cleared' ng Environment Management Bureau ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

"Acutely aware of the public outcry against the export of wastes to the Philippines and irresponsible and damaging waste disposal practices, Holcim Philippines' importation and use of PEF as alternative fuel for its cement kilns is pursuant to its objective of contributing to the ongoing efforts to address the global waste problem," pahayag ng Holcim Inc.

Nauna nang ipinaliwanag ng DENR na naglalaman ang pitong containers na galing Australia ng mga processed engineered fuel, isang alternatibong fuel source na maaring magamit sa paggawa ng semento.

Nitong nakaraang buwan ay nagbanta ang Pangulong Duterte ng giyera laban sa Canada kung mabibigo ang mga ito na alisin o iwi ang kanilang mga basura na ilang taon nang natengga sa bansa.

# Metro residents' water supply woes to continue

## Concessionaires implement supply management as dam levels drop

By **Ronnel W. Domingo**  
@RonWDomingoINQ

Water consumers in Metro Manila and nearby provinces will continue to feel the supply crunch as dam levels drop further due to the El Niño phenomenon, on top of the algal bloom affecting Laguna de Bay and needed repairs in the distribution system.

Maynilad Water Services Inc. and Manila Water Co. Inc. have both announced service interruptions as they implement supply management.

Maynilad customers will experience pockets of service interruptions while those covered by Manila Water should expect rotational supply disruptions ranging from low pressure to no water.

### Running low

In a statement, Manila Water said that its reservoir supplies were running low. As of 5 a.m. on Monday, the water level at Angat Dam was at 165.27 meters above



**GREEN CATCH** The algal bloom in Laguna de Bay may have affected water production but not the harvesting of "tilapia" from the lake. —GRIG C. MONTEGRANDE

sea level (masl) while it was 68.64 masl at the La Mesa Dam reservoir.

Angat's minimum operating level is 180 masl while La Mesa's critical level is 69 masl.

"Raw water availability remains variable day to day and this results in varying water service

outlook across the east zone daily," Manila Water said.

As of June 9, rotational service interruptions of four up to 21 hours were to be expected in areas under its coverage, including Quezon City, Makati, Mandaluyong, Manila, Marikina, Parañaque, Pasig, Pateros, San Juan, Taguig

and parts of Rizal province.

Maynilad also announced in a statement that emergency interruptions would be implemented in some of its concession areas "until we are able to stabilize supply in our system."

### High demand

This was being done "[to] manage the quick drawdown of water from our reservoirs due to high water demand."

Maintenance work will also be conducted on June 11-12 at its La Mesa Treatment Plant 1 in Quezon City to give way to the reinstallation of a component pulled out for repairs in April.

As a result, its customers in parts of Quezon City, Caloocan, Malabon, Pasay, Navotas, Makati, Manila, Las Piñas and Parañaque in Metro Manila; Bacoor, Cavite City, Imus, Noveleta and Rosario in Cavite province will experience temporary water service interruptions lasting from eight to 21 hours. INQ



## Muntinlupa City Health Office explains algae bloom in Laguna Lake

MUNTINLUPA City Health Office (CHO) releases an advisory assuring residents near Laguna de Bay that algae bloom do not pose life-threatening impact to public health.

Many residents near the Laguna de Bay are complaining over the abundance of algae and incessant emission of foul odor from the lake. The smell reportedly spread out to even farther areas including Northgate Business District in Brgy. Alabang.

The local CHO explains the abundance of algae as a natural phenomenon especially during warmer months. The advisory adds that the algae present in the lake is identified as Filamentous Fresh Water Algae or in common parlance called "liya." This form of algae is slippery and emits foul odor when dried up.

According to the health advisory, the presence of "liya" in Laguna de Bay is a natural part of the aquatic

ecosystem and is not a threat to public health unlike the impact of blue green algae.

Muntinlupa Public Information Officer Tez Navarro says the local government created an inter-department task force to spearhead cleaning operations of "liya" in Laguna de Bay. The taskforce include local Lake Management Office, Environmental Sanitation Center, City Health Office, Environment Protection and Natural Resources Office, Office of the City Mayor and other environmental cluster members.

Navarro adds that residents are encouraged to wear face masks, especially those with respiratory illnesses such as asthma. The public is advised to seek medical help in cases of difficulty in breathing.

For more information, contact Muntinlupa City Health Office at 541-4813.



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# Water supply

REPORTS of acute shortage of water for household, commercial, agricultural and industrial uses in some parts of the Philippines, particularly the Metropolitan Manila (MM) area, are nothing new.

This despite the fact that this country is surrounded by great bodies of water, like the Pacific Ocean, West Philippine Sea and Mindanao Sea, and teeming with rivers, lakes, creeks and streams.

But the supply and access to these water sources are threatened by a number of factors, including pollution caused by human activities and intense abstraction due to urbanization inefficient use.

Aware of this, the House of Representatives has adopted a resolution urging the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System to formulate a master plan to ensure the supply of water in MM.

Under the resolution, principally authored by outgoing House Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo of Pampanga and Pangasinan, the master plan may be replicated in other parts of the country.

Ms. Arroyo said the scarcity of water supply is a global concern, with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs projecting in 2015 that 750 million people in the next 10 years will live without safe drinking water.

She said that this year's water shortage that hit the metropolis triggered the call for a water security plan to identify sustainable water sources to address the rising demand for water.

And we share the view of Arroyo and the other authors of the resolution that there's a need to safeguard and ensure the supply of water and other important resource basic to human life.

Aside from the Speaker, the other authors are Reps. Danilo Suarez, Rodante Marcoleta, Winston "Winnie" Castelo, Jesus Sacdalan, Bayani Fernando, Mark Go and Ma. Lourdes Aggabao.



COPROCESSING

# TURNING WASTE INTO CEMENT

By Roy Stephen C. Canivel  
@roycanivel\_INQ

Nestlé Philippines and Republic Cement and Building Materials Inc. have teamed up to turn postconsumer plastic waste into cement.

Republic Cement had signed an agreement with Nestlé to do what it called “coprocessing,” which essentially is an alternative waste management solution that can use waste as fuel.

“There’s still a lack of knowledge on the importance of coprocessing. We look forward to helping address the issue of postconsumer waste and look forward to the successful implementation of this project,” said Republic Cement president Renato Sunico.

Further details about this agreement have not been disclosed.

Republic Cement is a CRH-Aboitiz company that owns five cement plants and one grinding station in the Philippines. It has more than 60 years of cement manufacturing experience.

In the Philippines, while landfilling and physical treatments are more common, coprocessing is more advantageous given that energy and minerals coming from waste are almost completely utilized, the cement firm said.

Cement kiln coprocessing is the process used to create cement. It takes raw materials such as calcium carbonate and silica and feeds them into a kiln along with fuel.

The materials are burned to such a high temperature that



Nestlé Philippines and Republic Cement and Building Materials Inc. have signed a memorandum of agreement for the cement kiln coprocessing of postconsumer plastic waste, a major source of environmental pollution. The agreement was signed by CEO and president Kais Marzouki (second from left) and corporate affairs head Ernesto Mascenon (right) of Nestlé Philippines, and president Renato Sunico (left) and director Nabil Francis (third from left) of Republic Cement and Building Materials Inc. Mr. Francis is concurrently CEO of Republic Cement Services Inc.

any complex material is broken into simpler compounds. The company said that the end result of the process was cement.

It said emissions from the process were filtered and monitored to comply with the standards of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Nestlé Philippines chair and CEO Kais Marzouki said the company was aiming for “plastic neutrality,” or recovering plastics equal to what Nestlé produces.

“Aside from our current collection and recycling initiatives, we believe this effort will help us gather and coprocess bigger volumes of postconsumer waste. We target to divert more postconsumer waste from landfills and the ocean,” he said.

In April 2018, Nestlé announced a global commitment to use 100 percent of recyclable and reusable packaging by 2025. The company’s vision is that none of its waste ends up in landfill or as litter.

Achieving the vision entails three focus areas: developing the packaging of the future; helping shape a waste-free future through collection and recycling; and driving new behaviors and understanding on waste.

Nestlé has initiated and is driving waste collection efforts with various partners. A portion of the wastes collected goes to recycling and upcycling programs producing construction materials, such as eco-bricks and ecopavers, even school chairs. INQ



## Nestlé PHL launches 1st residual waste- recovery program in 'plastic city'

**N**ESTLÉ Philippines together with Valenzuela City, the Department of Education (DepEd) and Green Antz Builders Inc. launched on Monday a city-wide residual waste-recovery program in Valenzuela City, known as "plastic city" for hosting a number of plastic factories in Metro Manila.

Nestlé Philippines's first, the program called *May Balik! Sa Plastik!*, promotes proper waste segregation, recycling, and disposal—with a particular focus on the collection of its product—packaging materials that end up in sanitary engineered landfills or open dumps.

In Metro Manila, which produces around 9,000 metric tons of waste every day, waste-collection efficiency is highest at 80 percent. This means that 20 percent of the wastes remain uncollected and end up in vacant lots or clogging canals, which eventually drain to Manila Bay.

The program targets the recovery of waste laminates such as post-consumer sachets and used beverage cartons, considered residual wastes and comprise the bulk of ocean-plastic pollution. The Philippines is the third-largest source of ocean plastic pollution.

Under the program, using appropriate technologies, these so-called residual wastes may still be used for recycling, upcycling or coprocessing in cement kilns.

The program is the first city-specific residual waste-recovery program by Nestlé Philippines, which was identified by international environmental group Greenpeace as one of the top plastic-waste polluters in the Philippines, based on a brand audit it conducted in the past two years.

A first-class city, Valenzuela City is determined to challenge the perception that plastic is bad. Properly managed, plastic or even its so-called residual waste, have its positive impact to livelihood, and environment, Mayor Rexlon Gatchalian said during the launch at the city's Amphitheater.

Speaking mostly in Filipino, Gatchalian said through the program, they hope to encourage proper use and disposal of plastics as it also has positive effect to the environment and through the program, to help improve the living condition in Valenzuela City by converting these residual wastes either into cash or food items.

Valenzuela City is among the very few cities in the National Capital Region (NCR) with an ordinance that bans the use of single-use plastic or Styrofoam.

The launch of the program was attended by some 2,500 public-elementary pupils and the city's street sweepers and waste collectors who will play a crucial role under the program.

"Tackling the problem of plastic waste in the environment and arriving at sustainable solutions are of paramount importance to Nestlé," the company's Chairman and CEO Kais Mazouki said. **Jonathan L. Mayuga**



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## Mass housing groups want 1-stop shop for permits

MASS HOUSING groups urged the government to prioritize the establishment of one-stop processing centers in each region to facilitate the hasten the process of securing permits for housing projects.

In a joint statement, the Organization of Socialized and Economic Housing Developers of the Philippines (OSHDP) and Socialized Housing Alliance Roundtable Endeavor (SHARE) said that these centers must be prioritized by the newly created Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD).

The creation of one-stop centers is included in Section 23 of the Republic Act No. 11201,

the same law that created the DHSUD.

The Center for Housing and Independent Research Synergies in a research study reported that housing developers currently have to go through 27 offices to secure 78 permits and 146 signatures, for a total of 373 documents.

The permits are issued by different authorities, including the local government unit, the Department of Agriculture, Department of Agrarian Reform, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Bureau of Internal Revenue, and Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB), among others.

“The precipitous decline of License to Sell issued across all types of housing projects is due to numerous permits and licenses, and new rules and regulations increasingly being required by government agencies, threatening the sustainability and momentum of housing starts in the country,” OSHDP President Jefferson Bongat was quoted as saying in a statement.

An accomplishment report by the HLURB also revealed a 25.57% decline in housing projects in 2018 to 579 project offering 204,344 units, against 2017’s 742 projects with 274,545 units.

“Non-Government Organizations and small housing devel-

opers are most affected in their delivery of housing production as they operate with very thin margins and cannot afford these soft costs associated with long project cycles and resulting cost overruns,” SHARE President Marcelino Mendoza said in a statement.

The groups also called on the Department of Budget and Management to set aside funds for the one-stop processing centers, since they are currently excluded from the National Appropriations Budget.

These calls are part of housing developers’ efforts to meet the six-million housing backlog in the country. — **Arra B. Francia**





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**PUERTO GALERA PROTECTION.** Shore It Up, Metro Pacific Investments Foundation Inc.'s flagship program, is celebrating another year of elevating environmental awareness and conserving aquatic life in coastal municipalities through this year's Shore It Up Weekend. Shore It Up has chosen to revisit and deepen its commitment to Puerto Galera, the center of marine biodiversity. MPIFI president Melody del Rosario (second from left) and Puerto Galera Mayor Rocky Ilagan shake hands after signing an agreement that memorializes the beginning of the Marine Protection, Inspection and Conservation Guardians Program in the area. MPIFI committed P1.5 million over three years to provide local Bantay Dagats with the technical knowhow and equipment to better protect and conserve the aquatic natural resources of Puerto Galera.





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**MASSIVE LANDSLIDE.** Townsfolk began clearing landslide debris along the Kiangnan Tinoc Highway, a main road artery connecting Ifugao and Benguet while appealing to DPWH crew to clear the road to make the blocked portion passable to motorists. **Tinoc LGU**



# Climate confab travel ban applies only to DFA — Locsin

By PIA LEE-BRAGO

The ban on air travel for Philippine delegates to climate change conferences abroad applies only to the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

DFA Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. made the clarification on Twitter, saying his department has chosen "to follow the President's displeasure with more climate talk instead of climate action finally."

He stressed the DFA will still accredit representatives of Congress and other departments in climate change meetings overseas.

"My ban on air travel to climate change forums is strictly limited to DFA," Locsin said. "Of course Congress & all other Depts are free to go; We will accredit them."

The secretary announced last week on Twitter that the Philippines would no longer send official representatives to climate change conferences requiring air travel.

The DFA, he said, will depend on Philippine foreign posts for gathering information and advice on the issue.

In calling for an air travel ban, Locsin cited President Duterte's remarks at a recent business conference in Tokyo that climate change conferences are a "waste of time and money" as they achieve little to address the issue. Duterte made the statement at the Nikkei International Conference on the Future of Asia.

Locsin said Manila would continue to make and propose strong climate change arguments and proposals through the internet and with "no traveling faces" involved.

Meanwhile, the chief of the Climate Change Commission (CCC) is urging businessmen to invest in clean and green infrastructure and practices, including energy efficiency and renewable energy.

CCC secretary Emmanuel de Guzman noted that the energy sector has consistently accounted for a significant percentage of the country's greenhouse gas emissions.

"Energy efficiency is the easiest and often cheapest way to reduce the need for expansion of power generation. And with the country's energy demand projected to

increase by 80 percent between 2017 and 2040, improving energy efficiency in the building sector would be our best course to reduce emissions," De Guzman said.

He added that renewable energy could provide a major share of the Philippine electricity mix in a stable and reliable manner and at the same time increase energy self-sufficiency and reduce supply-related risks.

"There is no debate that coal is the most carbon-intensive of all fossil fuels. It brings serious public health, ecological and economic risks to the country," he said.

"Renewable energy now presents the biggest opportunity for local investment," he added.

Citing a report released by the International Renewable Energy Agency, De Guzman said that the decade-long trend of strong growth in renewable energy capacity continued in 2018.

"As total global renewable energy generation capacity reached 2,351 gigawatts at the end of last year, renewable energy now accounts for a third of global power capacity," he noted.

The CCC earlier said it is fast-tracking the development of standards and certification system for providing incentives to enterprises that generate and sustain green jobs.

Republic Act 10771 or the Philippine Green Jobs Act of 2016 defines green jobs as "employment that contributes to preserving or restoring the quality of the environment, be it in the agriculture, industry or services sector."

The CCC aims to start next year the implementation of a system for certifying business enterprises that comply with RA 10771.

The law provides for "special deduction from the taxable income equivalent to 50 percent of the total expenses for skills training and research development expenses which is over and above the allowable ordinary and necessary business deductions for said expenses under the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997, as amended."

—With Helen Flores



## NEGO SA CLIMATE CHANGE Huwag kalasan, dapat tutukan-solon

**HINIMOK** ni Albay Rep. **Joey Sarte Salceda** ang pamahalaan na **lalong tutukan at hindi iwanan ang mga negosasyon sa 'climate change' para sa kaligtasan ng mga Filipino at iba pang "matinding praktikal na konsiderasyon," kasama na ang pagkakaroon ng poder sa pondo, teknolohiya at proseso sa pagtatatag ng kakayahan.**

Sinabi ni Salceda, 'chairman ng House Committee on Climate Change ang pakiusap sa Pangulong Duterte matapos ideklara ni Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) Secretary **Teddy Locsin** na hindi na padadaluhin ng pamahalaan ang mga opisyal nito sa mga komprensiya kaugnay ng climate kung sasakay pa sila ng eroplano, at sasagot na lamang ng Yes sa pamamagitan ng internet sa mahahalagang panukala tinalakay nito.

Nauna nang lumihang si Salceda kay Pangulong Duterte na pag-aralang mabuti ang napipintong

panuntunan ng pamahalaan na huwag nang sumali sa mga usaping climate change dahil wala naman diumanong silbi ang mga ito. Iginiit ng mambabatas ang paniwala niyang napakahalaga ng naturang usapin at dapat tutukan ito, lalo na ngayong "nasa kritikal na yugto na ang usapin kaugnay sa implementasyon ng Paris Agreement dahil napakahalaga nito sa bansa kahit mabagal ang progreso ng inaasahang mga pagbabago.

Sa kasalukuyan, nakatuon na ang talakayan sa pinakamataas na alokasyon ng mga bansa sa ibinubuga nilang polusyon at itinutulak ng mayayamang bansa na kasing laki rin ng dapat balikatin ng mahihirap na bansa. Ayon kay Salceda lubhang maselan ito sa 'exports,' turismo pati na mga OFW na tiyak na maaapi.

Sa Sec. 9 (k) ng RA 9729, iniaatas na ang Climate Change Commission, sa pakikipag-ugnayan sa DFA, ay dapat katawa-

nin ang Filipinas sa mga negosasyon kaugnay ng climate change. "Kung hindi na tayo sasali sa 'Conference of the Parties (COP), mawawalan na tayo ng boses at karapatan sa pondo, teknolohiya at 'capacity building concessions,' dagdag ng mambabatas.

"Darating ang panahon na kawawa ang ating OFWs, dahil tiyak puwede silang magtalaga ng 'policy' na aapi sa mga Pinoy. Kagalingan ng 'future generations ng Pinoy ang nakasalalay rito. Dapat din nating maunawaan na desperado na ang mayayamang bansa na panatilihin mahirap na parokyanon nila tayong mahihirap na bansa, kaya sisikapin nilang mabago ang mga napagkasunduan na sa Agenda 21 sa lahat ng mga talakayan, lalo na sa UN General Assembly," ayon kay Salceda.

Kilala bilang 'pioneer' sa adbokasiya ng 'global climate change adaptation and mitigation,' at 'disaster

risk reduction campaigns,' inihalal ng 156 mahihirap na bansa si Salceda, ilang taon na ang nakararaan bilang kauna-unahang Asyanong chairman ng Green Climate Fund (GCF) ng United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), na itinatag ng UN para tugunan ang matinding mga hamon ng climate change. Matagumpay niyang nagampanan ang mga tungkulin nito.

Ang Paris Agreement ang pinakamalaking kombensiyong pangkapaligiran. Sa ngayon 190 bansa ang kasali rito, at kahit ang USA na kumalas na rito ay muling bumalik. Ang Filipinas ang nagsulong sa pinsipyo ng "common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR)" na pinagtibay ng Agreement na naging gulugod at lakas naman ng mahihirap na bansa.



## Chinese warship, 4 other vessels spotted in Scarborough Shoal

By **BETHEENA UNITE**

Amid reports that Chinese vessels have started to leave Philippine waters near Pag-asa island in the West Philip-

pine Sea, the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) said a Chinese warship was spotted in Scarborough Shoal during a recent maritime patrol.

Multi-role response vessel ▶9

## Chinese warship, 4...

◀1

4402 (BRP Malabrigo) returned Monday from Bajo de Masinloc (Scarborough Shoal) after a four-day maritime patrol in the area.

“Dalawang China Coast Guard, dalawang militia boats at isang naval ship ang namataan ng mga tauhan ng Coast Guard na umiikot sa gilid ng Scarborough Shoal (Two China Coast Guard, two militia boats and a naval ship were spotted roaming around Scarborough Shoal),” Captain Armand Balilo, Coast Guard spokesperson bared.

Three local vessels were also seen in the area while Chinese vessels roamed the sea.

However, even with the intimidating presence of the foreign vessels, the local fishermen denied they were being harassed.

Balilo shared that during the four-day patrol, the China Coast Guard repeatedly asked the local Coast Guard about their presence in the disputed waters.

“Maliban sa regular na pagtatanong sa PCG ng China Coast Guard sa kanilang presensya sa area, wala namang untoward incident na nangyari sa loob ng apat na araw (Aside from regularly asking the PCG about their presence in the area, no untoward incident took place during the four-day patrol),” Balilo said.





## Chinese warship circling disputed shoal

By **CHAD DE  
GUZMAN, CNN  
Philippines**

**THE Philippine Coast Guard yesterday said it has spotted a Chinese warship among vessels recently circling the disputed Scarborough Shoal.**

PCG personnel on board the BRP Malabrigo patrolled the rock feature in the South China Sea from Thursday to Sunday, according to PCG Spokesperson Cmd. Armand Balilo.

During its rounds, the

PCG spotted two China Coast Guard vessels, two militia boats, and a naval ship near the rock feature. Balilo said the vessels were found within 7 to 12 nautical miles off the shoal.

Scarborough Shoal, locally known as Panatag Shoal or Bajo de Masinloc, is located around 120 nautical miles west of Luzon -- well within the Philippines' 200-nautical mile exclusive economic zone. It is claimed by both Manila and Beijing.

Beijing seized control of the shoal in 2012 after a

standoff between Philippines and China, prompting Manila to seek international arbitration. The Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague in July 2016 invalidated China's sweeping claims over the South China Sea. The tribunal ruled the shoal is a common fishing ground, adding that China has violated Filipino fishermen's rights to fish there.

While Chinese fishing and militia boats are usually seen near Scarborough Shoal, the presence of the

Chinese warship could raise tensions in the area.

The coast guard's report comes on the heels of what President Duterte's special envoy to China Ramon Tulfo says is the Chinese government's pullout of about a hundred vessels in the vicinity of Philippine-occupied Pag-asa Island.

The military's Western Command also confirmed the downscaling of Chinese presence near Pag-asa, with only 18 vessels spotted near the island as of last week.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

# Balita

ANG NANGUNDIRANG PAMAYAGANG TAGALOG SA BAYSA

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**PAGTANAW  
AT  
PANANAW**  
Bert de Guzman

## Kailan babangon ang Marawi City?

**W**ASAK ang Marawi City nang bombahin ng mga eroplano ng Philippine Air Force (PAF) ang siyudad sa utos ni Pres. Rodrigo Roa Duterte na kinaroroonan ng mga kuta ng teroristang Maute Group at ng tulisang Abu Sayyaf sa pamumuno ni Isnilon Hapilon.

Nalipol ang Maute brothers, napatay si Hapilon at mga kasama. Tagumpay ang pambobomba. Kailan kaya tuluyang makababangon ang siyudad?

Gayunman, nawasak ang magandang Marawi City na

itinuturing na hiyas sa Mindanao. Ito ay nagmistulang Ground Zero, gaya ng pagkawasak ng Twin Towers sa New York City, na kagagawan ng mga teroristang kampon ni Bin Laden.

Sa pagkalugmok ng lungsod ng Marawi, naalaala ko tuloy ang naririnig ko noon hinggil sa paglutas ng problema sa salot ng daga sa isang bahay. Ang solusyon daw ay sunugin ang bahay, tiyak na lipol at sunog din ang mga daga.

Isa pang problema ng komunidad o ng barangay ay ang pagkakaroon ng maraming istambay na lalaki sa isang kanto. Masyado raw maingay at banta pa sa kaligtasan ng mga tao o nagdaraan, ang kanto na iniistambayan ng mga pasaway. Ang solusyon daw, tanggalin ang kanto para mawala ang mga istambay.

Humigit-kumulang, parang ganito ang nangyari sa Marawi City nang bombahin at durugin ng PAF planes ang pinagkukutaan ng mga terorista at tulisan. Napatay o nalipol nga ang

mga ito, pero ang naging bunga naman ay ang kalunus-lunos na pagkawasak ng siyudad, pagkasira ng ekonomiya, paaralan at mga gusali.

oOo

Sa selebrasyon ng Eid'l Fitr noong Miyerkules, hinimok ni Mano Digong ang Muslim Filipinos na manatiling kaagapay at kasama ng gobyerno sa pagsusulong ng kapayapaan at pagkakaunawaan sa buong bansa.

Sa kanyang mensahe, hinikayat niya ang mga Pilipinong Muslim na lalo pang palalimin at paigtingin ang kanilang role o gampanin bilang instrumento ng pagmamahalan, sakripisyo, respeto at self-service. Ang ating Pangulo, kung natatandaan ninyo ay malimit magsabing siya ay may lahing Muslim dahil ang kanyang lola ay isang Maranao.

oOo

Sa isyu ng sigalot sa West Philippine Sea (WPS), nanindigan si Supreme Court Senior Associate Justice Antonio Carpio na hindi siya

mag-i-inhibit sa deliberasyon ng SC hinggil sa Writ of Kalikasan petition ng mga mangingisda sa Zambales at Palawan.

Naghain ng petisyon ang mga mangingisda noong Abril 6 upang pilitin ang gobyerno na protektahan, ipreserba at i-rehabilitate ang Panatag (Scarborough) Shoal, Ayungin Shoal at Panganiban Reef na labis na nasisira o nawawasak dahil sa malawakang land reclamation ng China roon.

Mabuti pa si Justice Carpio at may tunay na "bayag" kaugnay ng usapin sa WPS at sa pag-okupa ng China sa mga teritoryo natin doon. Hindi siya katulad ng ibang lider na natatakot sa dambuhalang bansa ni Xi Jinping. Hindi namin natin intensiyong makipaggyera sa dambuhala, manapa nais lang nating paalalahan ang dragon na ang mga shoal at reef na kanilang dinadapurak ay saklaw ng Pilipinas.



TITLE:

ANO sa palagay ninyo ang mangyayari kung magkaroon ng matinding krisis sa ekonomiya ng mundo o global recession na maaaring magbunga ng digmaan?

Sinasabing may recession kung sa loob ng anim na buwan o mahigit pa ay makaranas ang isa o maraming bansa ng paghina ng ekonomiya.

Nauugat ang paghina ng ekonomiya sa sobrasobrang paggawa ng mga produkto na nagbunga ng pagtigil ng mga pabrika at iba pang gamit sa produksyon, hirap ng pagbebenta sa tingi, malawakang pagkawala ng empleyo, sobrang pagliit ng kita ng mga kompanya at tao, kasama ang mga empleyado at grabeng pagliit na rin ng bolyum ng mga produkto at serbisyo sa loob ng mga bansa.

### WORLD WAR 2

Sinasabing nagkaroon ng World War 2 noon dahil sa recession at nahati ang mga bansa sa dala-wa, ang Axis at Allied Powers na nag-agawan ng mga teritoryo na maaari nilang pagbentahan ng kanilang mga sobrang produkto upang manatiling buhay ang kanilang mga ekonomiya.

Binuo ang Axis Powers ng Japan, Germany at Italy samantalang binuo ang Allied Powers ng Amerika, Britain, France at China.

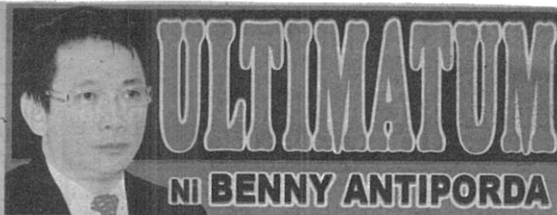
Ang Allied Powers ang may maraming teritoryo sa mundo, sa Asya, Africa at Latin Amerika na pinagbebentahan nila ng kanilang mga produkto gaya ng mga stateside at tinangka ng Axis Powers na sumawsaw sa mga teritoryo ngunit pinalagan ng Allied Powers.

### AMERIKA VS CHINA

Kung magkasama ang Amerika at China noon laban sa Japan, ngayon naman sila ang magkaway.

Ang Amerika at China ang dalawang pinakamalaking producer ng halos lahat ng bagay sa mundo mula sa teknolohiya hanggang sa pagkain at gamit-militar.

Partikular sa teknolohiya, talo ang Amerika sa telekomunikasyon sa rami ng produksyon ng smartphone at paggana ng fifth generation na smartphone at wifi na sobrang bilis at ganda.



## MAGHANDA SA GLOBAL RECESSION, DIGMAAN

ang China sa smartphone at wifi sa paggamit ng 5G na teknolohiya, naiwanan sa 3G at 4G ang Amerika at kinakagat na ng maraming nasyon ang sa China.

Sa partikular, pantay na kundi man mas mahusay pa, halimbawa, ang Huawei na smartphone at wi-fi kaysa sa anomang gawang Kano na smartphone at wi-fi.

### PINAPARALISA

Pinaparalisa ng Amerika ang Huawei, pinakamalaki ngayong maker at seller ng smartphone at may pinakaabanteng sistema sa internet sa bisa ng 5G, sa pagsasabing spy agency ito ng China at delikado sa seguridad ng Amerika.

Hindi pinakikinggan ng Amerika ang pagpapasinungaling dito ng Huawei.

Idinamay na rin ng Amerika ang iba pang mga produkto ng China sa bisa ng pagtataas ng taripa o buwis sa mga ito pagpasok sa Amerika.

Isinunod nito ang pagtawag sa mga alyado nitong bansa sa Europa na itigil na ang pakikipag-ugnayan sa Huawei, kasama ang pagbebenta ng Huawei smartphone at paglalatag ng 5G na wifi at internet.

### GANTI NG CHINA

Gumaganti na rin ang China sa pagtataas din ng taripa ng ilang produktong Amerika at pagkwestiyon sa mga kompanyang Amerikano sa loob ng China.

Kasama na sa posibleng ganti ng China ang pagtigil ng suplay nito ng "rare earth" na gamit sa paggawa ng mga eroplano, cellphone, laptop, computer at marami pang iba.

Idinadamay na rin ng China ang isa sa pinakamalaking cargo plane company ng Amerika na FedEx sa suspetsang inililigaw ang ilang kargamento ng China patungo sa ibang mga bansa.

### PINAS MADADAMAY

Hindi imposibleng madamay ang mahal kong Pinas sa giyera sa ekonomiya ng Amerika at Tsina.

Una, merkado ang Pilipinas ng Huawei at konektado ang kompanyang ito sa

munikasyon sa Pinas gaya ng Globe, Smart at PLDT.

Kita naman ninyo, Huawei ang mga telepono na kasama sa mga itinatatayong linya ng internet o wi-fi.

Ngayon nga, eh, itinigil na mga kompanyang Kano ang pagsuplay ng mga program o operating system gaya ng Android na gawa nila bilang palaman ng Huawei.

Ginagawa ito bilang pagtalima sa utos ng kanilang gobyerno na paralisahin ang Huawei at ekonomiya ng China sa kabuuan.

Isang tanong: kailan darating sa Pinas ang epekto ng giyera ng dalawang higanteng bansa?

### GIYERA SA WPS

Ang isang nakatatakot, mga Bro, ay ang pagkadamay ng Pinas sa aktuwal na giyera sa pagitan ng dalawa.

Maaaring madamay ang Pinas kung sasarhan ng China ang ruta ng mga barko at eroplano sa West Philippine Sea at South China Sea na daluyan ng \$5 trilyong negosyo na karaniwang may malaking parte ang mga Kano.

May mga Kano na nga na nagsasabing maaari nilang gawin muling military base ang pier ng nagsarang Hanjin sa Subic Freeport.

Bilang maagap na hakbang, ipinagbabawal na mismo ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang sinomang sundalong Kano na pupunta sa Pagasa Island natin para makaiwas tayo sa posibleng giyera na ikapeperwisyo nating lahat.

Dapat na tumulong tayo lahat sa ating pamahalaan na gumagawa ng paraan na hindi tayo madamay sa giyera ng mga bansang sarili nilang interes ang isinusulong at hindi ang iba gaya ng Pilipinas.

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Anomang reaksyon o reklamo ay maaaring iparating sa 0922840-3333 o i-email sa hanti-