

DATE : 13 JUL 2019

DAY : Thursday

DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



BAGONG DEBRIS SA BAYWALK. Itinuturo ni Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu ang bamboo debris na posibleng mula sa mga fishpen sa kalapit na lugar at napadpad sa dalampasigan patungo sa Manila Bay malapit sa US Embassy sa Roxas Blvd., Manila. Kasama ni Cimatu si DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny D. Antiporda sa pag-inspeksyon sa lugar para alamin ang estado ng ginagawa nilang paglilinis sa Manila Bay.



PAGDAMI NG INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES SA ASIA-PACIFIC SUMISIRA SA "NATURE'S ECOLOGICAL BALANCE" - CIMATU

NANAWAGAN si Secretary Roy A. Cimatu ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa lahat ng eksperto at mananaliksik sa Asia-Pacific region na magkaisa upang makabuo ng solusyon na makapigil sa negatibong epekto ng Invasive Alien Species (IAS) sa biodiversity at sa kapaligiran.

"I stand firm in promoting convergence of our research and development (R&D) efforts for a sustainable region-wide management of (IAS)," sabi ni Cimatu sa kanyang pagtanggap sa mga delegado ng international conference sa IAS management na ginanap sa Maynila noong Hulyo 9 hanggang 11.

"Let us continue with our pursuit for research-driven strategies and policies to effectively manage and conserve biodiversity for the good of human kind," dagdag pa nito.

Ang tatlong araw na pagtitipon na tinawag na "IAS Conference 2019" ay nagtipon ang mga eksperto, mananaliksik, dialogue partners, environmental managers at iba pang stakeholders mula sa Asia-Pacific region.

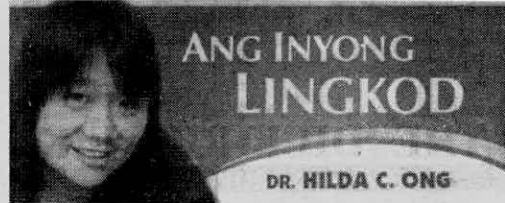
Sa kanyang pangunahing talumpati na binasa ni DENR

OIC Assistant Secretary for Staff Bureaus at Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) Director Ricardo Calderon, idiniin ni Cimatu ang pangangailangan ng sama-samang pagsisikap upang mabigyan ng solusyon ang IAS na sumasalakay at sumisira sa "nature's ecological balance."

"These IAS pose serious environmental concerns and are among the major threats to biodiversity," pagdidiin pa ni Cimatu. "They cover a wide gamut of ecosystems from the terrestrial to aquatic environments, irreversibly impacting on biodiversity, agriculture, as well as food and water security."

Ang IAS ay maaring halaman, hayop, pathogens at organismo na hindi nagmula sa isang ecosystem at maaaring magdulot ng pinsala sa ekonomiya, kapaligiran at kalusugan ng mga tao.

Ayon sa International Union for Conservation of Nature, ang Invasive Alien Species (IAS) ay species na mabilis na dumadami mula sa kanilang pinanggalingang lugar at nagbibigay ng panganiib sa biological diversity. Ito rin ang pangalawa sa mga dahilan ng biodiversity loss sa



DR. HILDA C. ONG

buong mundo kasunod lamang ng habitat destruction.

Maliban sa Antarctica at glaciated Greenland, 17 por-siyento ng kalupaan sa buong mundo ang sinasakop na ng IAS.

Ang mga IAS ay matatagpuan sa mga bansa sa Asia at Pacific kabilang na rito ang Pilipinas na nakaapekto sa pangunahing kalupaan, wetland, coastal, marine at estuarine ecosystems ng rehiyon.

Sa agrikultura, ang IAS ay ang mga tinatawag na non-indigenous weeds, pest, insects at iba pa na sumisira sa mga pananim at alagang hayop.

Para naman sa freshwater environment, ang kilalang "invasive species" ay ang carp na nagmula sa Europe na matatagpuan na ngayon sa halos lahat ng sulok ng mundo. Ang "alien invader" na ito ang tinaguriang pinaka "invasive in the world" na nakasisira sa marine life.

Sa Pilipinas, ang kinikilalang IAS naman ay ang American bullfrog at ang golden apple snail o mas kilala sa tawag na golden kuhol. Ang mga ito ay nagiging dahilan ng pagkaubos ng indigenous species sa kanilang natural

habitat.

Ang IAS conference ay inorganisa ng DENR Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB) at pinodohan ng Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

Ayon kay ERDB Director Sofio Quintana, ang naturang conference ang naging paraan ng mga technical experts upang makumpirma ang listahan ng mga IAS kabilang na ang posibleng banta at epekto nito.

Dagdag ni Quintana, ang pagpuksa sa IAS ay naaayon sa "Target 9 ng Aichi Biodiversity Targets sa ilalim ng Convention on Biological Diversity".

Bukod sa Pilipinas, kabilang din sa mga bansa sa Asia Pacific na nagbahagi ng kanilang research papers sa conference ay ang India, Malaysia, Pakistan, Trinidad and Tobago, United Arab Emirates, United States at Vietnam.

Kabilang sa mga kinatawan ng Pilipinas sa ginanap na IAS conference ang mga eksperto mula sa DENR-BMB, University of the Philippines-Los Baños, ASEAN Center for Biodiversity, at Food and Agriculture Organization-Philippines.



DAVAO: MONKAYO, COMPOSTELA VALLEY

Rehabilitation of mining-battered Naboc River officially starts

THE REHABILITATION of Naboc River in the mining-rich area of Mt. Diwata was officially launched Tuesday with the signing of a memorandum of agreement (MoA) between the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, other national government agencies, and the provincial government of Compostela Valley. "The rehabilitation of Naboc River is among my priority programs," DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said during the signing ceremony held at the DENR-Davao Region office in Davao City. Other agencies involved in the rehabilitation program are the Department of Public Works and Highways and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG). The MoA signing jump-starts the desilting, quarrying and overall restoration program for the river. "The signing of the MoA will continue our efforts to nourish the Naboc River and the Diwalwal Mineral Reservation Area. We hope that our actions will bring hope to the people of Diwalwal and throughout the province. For better mining in the province," Compostela Valley Gov. Jayvee Tyron L. Uy said in a statement in Visayan.



TASK FORCE

In 2018, Mr. Cimatu ordered the creation of the multi-sector Provincial Task Force Naboc River (PTFNR), the local counterpart of the National Task Force Diwalwal. One of the PTFNR's immediate tasks was the transfer of processing plants from Mt. Diwata to Sitio Mabatias while the provincial government has been in charge of road network construction and land preparation for the relocation site of the mining community. The Philippine Mining Development Corp. has also allocated funds for the infrastructure development projects. DILG Undersecretary Epimaco V. Densing III said during the MoA signing: "The only way for us to clean our environment is for us to realize that *tayo ang kalikasan* (we are nature)."

>> See related story on <https://bit.ly/2LXzhUq>



DENR grants ECC for Palawan coal plant

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources has recently issued an environmental compliance certificate (ECC) to DMCI Power Corp. for its planned coal power plant in Palawan.

In a statement on Wednesday, the company said the ECC is supported by the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development's Strategic Environmental Plan clearance, local endorsements and necessary permits needed for the project.

ECC is a certification issued by the DENR allowing an entity to proceed with the next stage of project planning such as securing approvals from other government agencies and local government units before implementing the project.

The company assured the public that it would follow all terms and conditions set forth by the ECC, and would comply with all environmental standards with its new technology.

DMCI Power, a wholly owned subsidiary of listed DMCI Holdings Inc., is developing a 15-megawatt circulating fluidized bed thermal power plant project in Barangay Bato-Bato in Narra municipality.

In May, the Energy Investment Coordinating Council, led by the Department of Energy (DoE), issued the certificate of energy project of national significance (CEPNS) for the coal facility capable of utilizing biomass, a renewable fuel.

The issuance of CEPNS is in line with Executive Order 30, signed by President Rodrigo Duterte in June 2017, which seeks to streamline the regulatory procedures and requirements relevant to the development of energy investments in the country.

DMCI Power said the facility likewise in compliance with the power supply agreement between the company and Palawan Electric Cooperative (Paleco), a deal sealed following a competitive selection process in July 2012.

Moreover, the coal plant is expected to benefit Palawan residents by providing round-the-clock, more stable and reliable electricity supply.

"Likewise, the operation of the said power plant will ultimately benefit all Paleco's member-consumers of a lower electricity rate once the provision on the removal of the Universal Charge for Missionary Electrification subsidy will be implemented as provided under DoE Circular 2019-01-0001," DMCI Power said.

DMCI Power was established in 2006 to energize the small and remote islands in the country that are not connected to the main power grid. It currently operates and maintains bunker-fired power plants and diesel generating sets in parts of Masbate, Oriental Mindoro, Palawan and Sultan Kudarat.

JORDEENE B. LAGARE



DENR binakbakan sa DMCI-Consunji coal plant

Ikinadismaya ng Center for Energy, Ecology and Development ang pagbibigay ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources ng Environmental Compliance Certificate sa pinaplanong 15-megawatt coal-fired power plant ng DMCI Power Corp. ng mga Consunji sa kabila ng pagtutol ng ilang apektadong komunidad.

Anila'y kinakailangan ng basbas ng pamayanan ang isang proyekto bago ito mabigyan ng ECC.

"This coal-fired power plant has long been contested as it will surely damage the ecosystem enjoyed by communities in the area, along with their health, livelihood, and surrounding biodiversity," saad ng CEED.

Dagdag pa ng gru-

po, hindi maganda ang track record ng DMCI sa larangan ng elektrisidad sa isla dahil hindi nito nasusunod ang 25-MW na guaranteed dependable capacity ng power supply agreement nito sa Palawan Electric Cooperative.

"This failure should be basis enough for the rejection of its proposed project. Moreover, various studies have shown that solar, wind, and mi-

cro-hydro dams would provide much cheaper sources of energy for Palawan," dagdag pa ni CEED executive director Gerry Arances.

Iginiit pa ng CEED na binigyan ng energy project of national significance status ang DMCI power kaya't nahahakbangan nito ang ilang proseso sa pagkuha ng mga permit base sa Executive Order No. 30. **(Eileen Mencias)**



MGB approved feasibility study for Mabilo project — RTG Mining

By Vincent Mariel P. Galang
Reporter

THE Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) has approved the feasibility study for the Mabilo project in Camarines Norte, according to mining and exploration company RTG Mining.

"Following a review by the Technical Committee on Mining Project Feasibility Studies, the evaluation confirmed the project is technically and economically feasible after consideration of the environmental, social and fiscal costs prescribed under the Philippine Mining Act of 1995 and its Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations as amended," RTG said in a disclosure to the Toronto Stock Exchange and Australian Securities Exchange dated July 17.

The feasibility study was conducted by Mt. Labo Exploration and Development Corp., one of the partners of RTG Mining for the project. RTG Mining has an indirect interest in the Mabilo project through Mr. Labo.

The mine site has a near-surface deposit and has the potential for directly shipping ore. This is a proposed open-pit mining and processing project based

in the joint venture. It has a mining life of 10 years as of Jan. 1, 2016.

MGB Director Wilfredo G. Moncano confirmed that the feasibility study was approved, but noted that Mt. Labo is still covered by an exploration permit, not a mineral production sharing agreement.

"Since there is still a moratorium in the processing of new MPSA (Mineral Production Sharing Agreement) under EO (Executive Order) 79, Mt. Labo cannot yet proceed to development and extraction. It has to wait for the lifting of the moratorium in EO 79 which could happen if package 2 of the Trabaho Bill will be approved by Congress," Mr. Moncano told *BusinessWorld* in a text message.

EO 79, issued in June 2012, imposed a moratorium on new mining permits.

While Republic Act No. 10963, which went into effect in January last year, doubled the excise tax on mineral products to four percent, the Finance department said this did not satisfy EO 79's requirement for the lifting of the moratorium on new permits. The Department of Finance has been pushing for an overhaul of the mining industry's fiscal regime, which should also cover royalty, windfall profit and other taxes and fees, as well as incentives.



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Workers collect trash washed up
by waves along Manila Bay after
heavy rains brought by Tropical
Storm Falcon yesterday.

EDD GUMBAN

THE PHILIPPINE STAR

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metro

EDITOR: **DULCE A. SANCHEZ**

THURSDAY | JULY 18, 2019





Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

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MANILA BAY TRASH – Members of the Manila Department of Public Services (DPS) remove the trash and garbage washed ashore of Manila Bay, due to strong waves brought by the heavy winds of Typhoon Falcon yesterday. (Alvin Kasiban)



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A SEA OF TRASH A man stand amid tons of garbage that washed up in Manila Bay on Wednesday as tropical storm 'Falcon' pelted Metro Manila with occasional rains. PHOTO BY J. GERARD SEGUIA



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Sea of trash A man scavenges plastics in Navotas after rains brought about by tropical storm "Falcon" wash ashore garbage from Manila Bay's tributaries.

ROMAN PROSPERO



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Here we go again Volunteers start to clean up the garbage washed up at Manila Bay which a few days ago was already on the way to being rehabilitated.

BOB DUNGO JR.



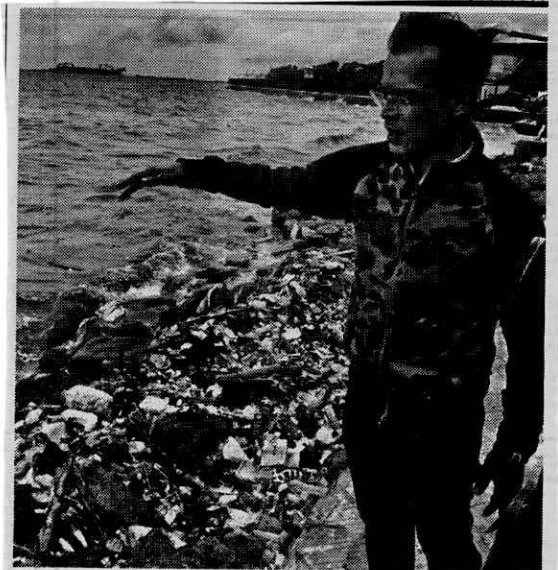
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MAYOR Isko Moreno inspects Manila Bay amid rains yesterday.
Photo by Jerry S. Tan

Bgy officials, Baseco residents told: Throw your garbage, waste properly

MANILA Mayor Isko Moreno yesterday appealed to barangay officials and residents of Baseco to help the government on proper waste and garbage disposal to avoid diseases and to keep the

Manila Bay clean.

Moreno inspected the Baywalk area at the Manila Bay and said he would install public toilets in the area.

Noting that residents of Baseco throw their gar-

bage and defecate in the waters, Moreno called on barangay officials to help in the proper waste and garbage disposal drive.

"There was a time may nakita na secret dumpsite sa Baseco, kesa managot

sila sa batas dala ng kapabayaan, tayo ay nananawagan sa barangay officials na panatilihin maglinis. Second, sa mga nakatira, kung pwede makisuyo na 'yung mga basura nila ay ilagay sa tamang sisidlan para naman pagdaan ng trak ng basura, ito ay mapayapa at

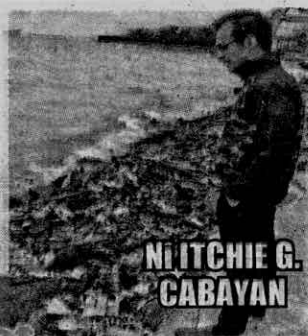
maayos na hinahakot. Kaysa naman iiwan nila, uulan, magkakaroon ng kaunting tubig, iaanod, babalik sa Pasig River tapos punta na naman sa dagat. Nagiging cycle. 'Yan 'yung tinatawag na basurang itinapon mo, bumabalik sa 'yo,' Moreno said. **Jerry S. Tan**



ISKO SA BASECO: BASURA ISAAYOS

MAHIGPIT na nanawagan si Manila Mayor Isko Moreno sa mga opisyal ng barangay at mga residente ng Baseco na isaayos ang kanilang mga basura upang hindi pagmulan ng sakit at makadumi sa dagat, kasabay ng pahayag na pag-aaralan ng kanyang pamahalaan ang paglalagay ng mga tamang palikuran sa nasabing lugar.

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NI ITCHIE G. CABAYAN

Binisita ni Manila Mayor Isko Moreno ang Baywalk area ng Manila Bay, kung saan ininspeksyon nito ang basura sa gitna ng ulan at malalakas na hampas ng alon at kinumusta ang planong paglalagay ng 50-meter beach sa isang bahagi ng Manila Bay area.

Kuha ni **JERRY TAN**

ISKO Mula Pahina 1

Inihayag din ni Moreno sa kanyang ginawang pagbisita sa Baywalk area ng Manila Bay, kung saan kanyang kinamusta nito ang kalagayan ng basura sa gitna ng ulan at malalakas na hampas na alon at ang planong paglalagay ng 50-meter beach sa isang bahagi ng Manila Bay area. Aniya, malaking pagbabago ang kakaunting basura na dinala ng alon sa dalampasigan kumpara sa dating sitwasyon doon at hindi umano ito maiwasan dahil sa geographical location ng

lungsod, kung saan ang mga basura na mula sa ibang lugar ay sa Maynila inaano. Ukol sa sitwasyon sa Baseco, na madalas naiulat na karamihan sa mga residente ay sa dagat nagtatapon ng basura o dumudumi, ani Moreno: "Nananawagan tayo sa barangay na dapat talaga ay non-stop 'yung effort. There was a time may nakita na secret dumpsite sa Baseco, kesa managot sila sa batas dala ng kapabayaan, tayo ay nananawagan sa barangay officials na panatilihin malinis. Second, sa mga nakatira, kung pwede makisuyo na 'yung mga basura nila ay ilagay sa tamang sisidlan para naman

pagdaan ng trak ng basura, ito ay mapayapa at maayos na hinahakot."

"Kaysa naman iiwan nila, uulan, magkakaroon ng kaunting tubig, iaanod, babalik sa Pasig River tapos punta na naman sa dagat. Nagiging cycle. Yan 'yung tinatawag na basurang itinapon mo, bumabalik sa 'yo,' dagdag pa nito.

Ayon pa kay Moreno, balak din niyang silipin ang umano ay nakagawian ng mga residente na ginagawang banyo ang dagat at pahanapan ng solusyon ang kawalan ng tamang palikuran doon.

"Ang nakita ko lang, 'yung malaking kubeta ng

Maynila sa likod ng City Hall (Bonifacio Shrine). But I will assign people to check if there is such thing in Baseco and if there is, then I think in the absence of individual household na banyo, baka we will come up with public toilet that's the least that the government can do," ani Moreno. Tiniyak din Moreno na tuloy-tuloy na makikiisa ang pamahalaang-lungsod ng Maynila sa pagsisikap ng administrasyon ni Pangulong Duterte at Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na malinis nang husto ang

Manila Bay.

Aniya, sa Maynila ay magkakaroon ng Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) kung saan ang tubig nagaling inland o 'waste water' ay ititreat bago dalhin sa dagat, nang sa gayon ay malinis na ang tubig 'from waste water,' kasabay ng pahayag na magkakaroon umano ng 50-meter beach sa nasabing lugar.

Ang Baseco ay may laking 56-hectares at karamihan ng bahay doon ay nakatayo lamang sa 'stilts' o mga kawayan na nasa ibabaw ng tubig. Noong 2015, ang bilang ng residenteng naitala doon ng Philippine Census ay mahigit sa 59,000.



Maayos na kubeta ilalagay para 'di sa dagat umeebak

**BRGY. OFFICIAL AT RESIDENTE NG BASECO
WINARNINGAN NI ISKO SA BASURA**

WINARNINGAN ni Manila Mayor Isko Moreno ang mga opisyal ng barangay at mga residente ng Baseco na isaayos ang kanilang mga basura upang hindi pagmulan ng sakit at makadumi sa dagat, kasabay ng pahayag na pag-aaralan ng kanyang pamahalaan ang paglalagay ng mga tamang palikuran sa nasabing lugar.

Inihayag din ni Moreno sa kanyang ginawang pagbisita sa Baywalk area ng Manila Bay, kung saan kinamusta nito ang kalagayan ng basura sa gitna ng ulan at malalakas na hampas ng alon, ang planong paglalagay ng 50-meter beach sa isang bahagi ng Manila Bay area.

Aniya, malaking pagbabago ang kakaunting basura na dinala ng alon sa dalampasigan kumpara sa dating sitwasyon doon at hindi umano ito maiiwasan dahil sa geographical location ng lungsod, kung saan ang mga basura na mula sa ibang lugar ay sa Maynila inaano.

Ukol sa sitwasyon sa Baseco, na madalas naiuulat na karamihan sa mga residente ay sa dagat nagtatapon ng basura o dumudumi, ani Moreno: "Nananawagan tayo sa barangay na dapat talaga ay non-stop 'yung effort. There was a time may nakita na secret dumpsite sa Baseco, kesa managot sila sa batas dala ng kapabayaan, tayo ay nananawagan sa barangay officials na panatilihin malinis. Second, sa mga nakatira, kung pwede makisuyo na 'yung mga basura nila ay ilagay sa tamang sisidlan para naman pagdaan ng trak ng basura, ito ay mapayapa at maayos na hinahakot."

"Kaysa naman iiwan nila, uulan, magkakaroon ng kaunting tubig, jaanod, babalik sa Pasig River tapos punta na naman sa dagat. Nagiging cycle. 'Yan 'yung tinatawag na basurang itinapon mo, bumabalik sa 'yo,' dagdag pa nito.

Ayon pa kay Moreno, balak din niyang silipin ang umano ay nakagawian ng mga residente na ginagawang banyo ang dagat at pahahapan ng solusyon ang kawalan ng tamang palikuran doon. (Andi Garcia)



Mga opisyal, residente sa Baseco binalaan

SECRET DUMPSITE, BUKING

UMAPELA sa mga barangay official at residente ng Baseco na isaayos ang kanilang mga basura kasabay ng pahayag na pag-aaralan ang paglalagay ng mga tamang palikuran sa lugar.

Una rito, bumisita si Manila Mayor Isko Moreno sa Baywalk area ng Manila Bay kung saan kanyang kinumusta ang kalagayan ng basura sa gitna ng ulan at malalakas na hampas ng alon, ang planong paglalagay ng 50-meter beach sa isang bahagi ng Manila Bay area.

Aniya, malaking pagbabago ang kakaunting basura na dinala ng alon sa dalampasigan kumpara sa dating sitwasyon.

Kaugnay sa sitwasyon sa Baseco, madalas naiuulat na karamihan sa mga residente ay sa dagat nagtatapon

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basura, ito ay mapayapa at maayos na hinahakot." ayon sa alkalde.

Tiniyak naman na maki-kiisa ang pamahalaang-Lungsod ng Maynila sa pagsisikap ng administrasyon ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte at Department of Environment and Natural Resources na malinis nang husto ang Manila Bay.

(Mylene Alfonso)



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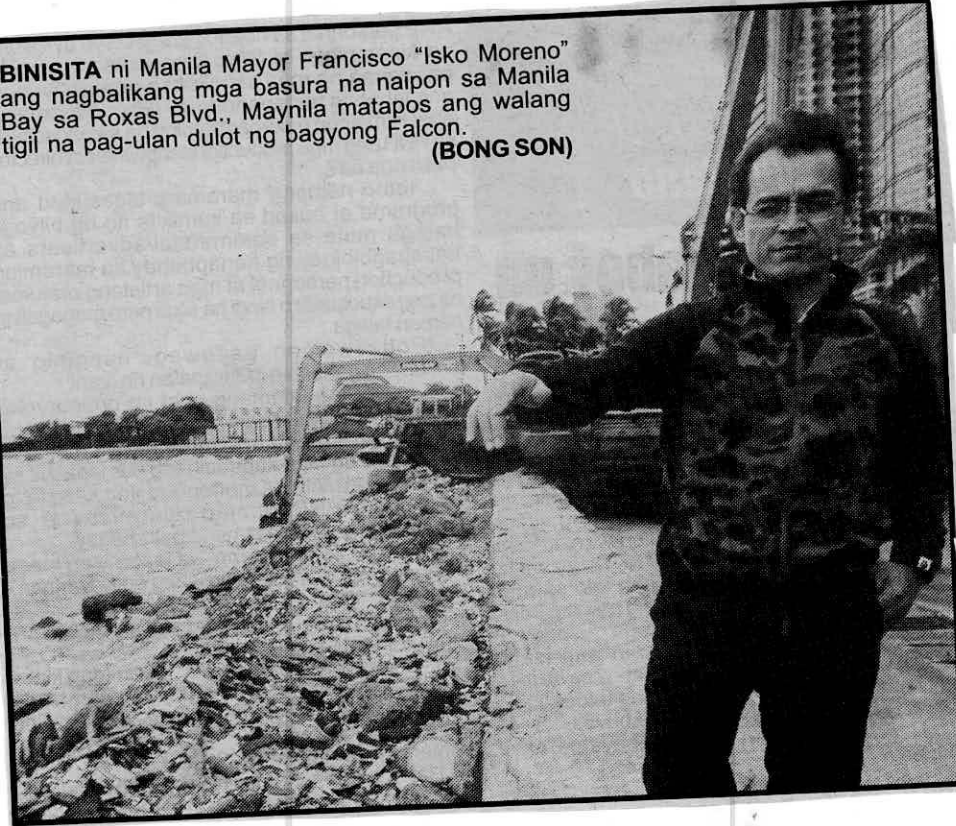
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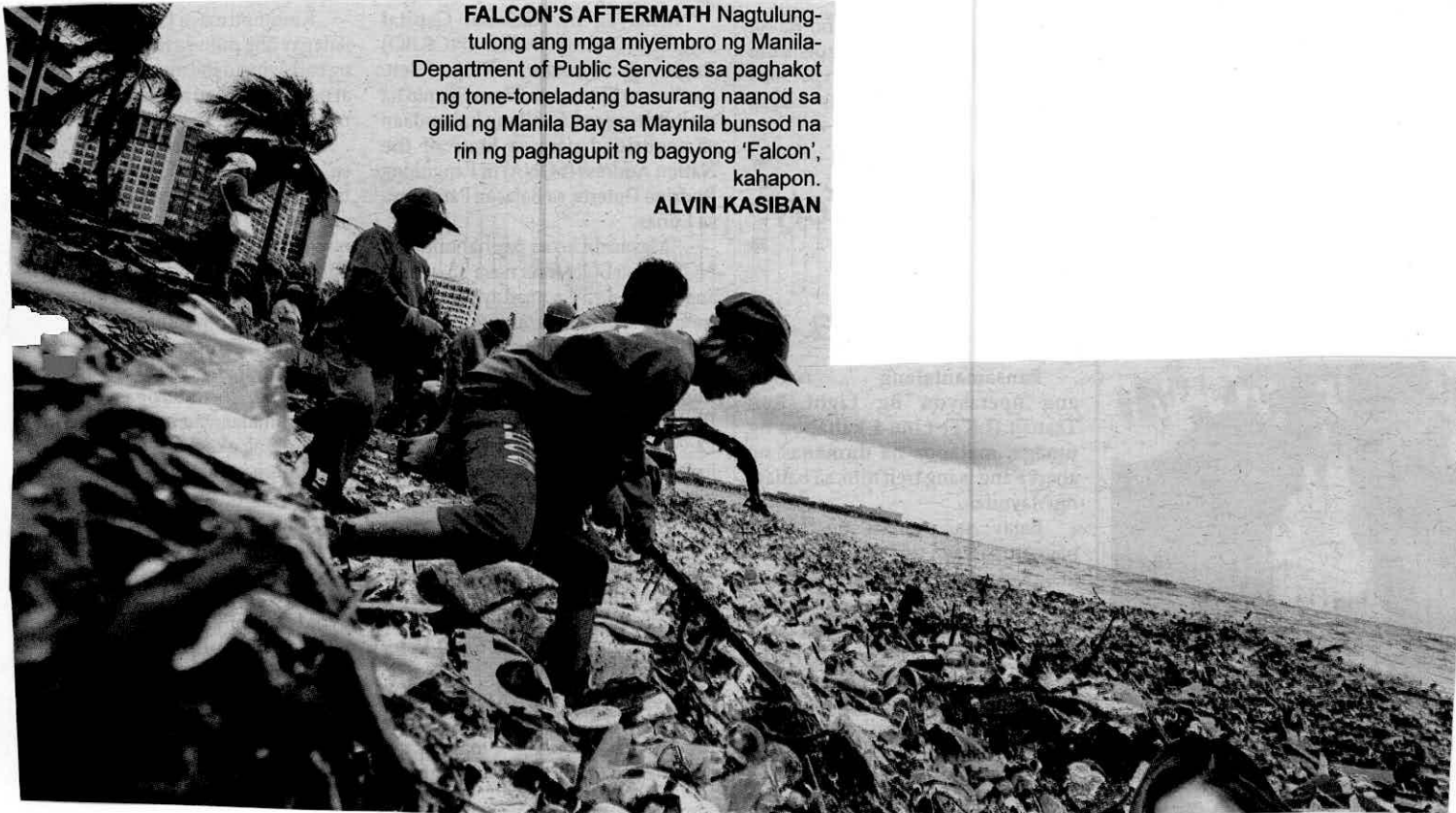
BINISITA ni Manila Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" ang nagbalikang mga basura na naipon sa Manila Bay sa Roxas Blvd., Maynila matapos ang walang tigil na pag-ulan dulo ng bagyong Falcon.
(BONG SON)






FALCON'S AFTERMATH Nagtulong-tulong ang mga miyembro ng Manila Department of Public Services sa paghakot ng tone-toneladang basurang naanod sa gilid ng Manila Bay sa Maynila bunsod na rin ng paghagupit ng bagyong 'Falcon', kahapon.

ALVIN KASIBAN



ISKOR

NI: ISKO MORENO

Mga fast food chain, kumpanya at tindahan na walang disiplina sa pagtatapon ng basura, lagot!

KAHAPON, nanawagan tayong tanggalin na ang pangalan at litrato ng ating mukha sa inilunsad na programang "Kusina ni Isko" kung saan ilan sa ating mga pribadong tagasuporta at kaibigan ang nais magbigay ng kaunting ayuda.

Alam nating malinis ang intensiyon ngunit, ito ay bumabangga sa kampanya natin laban sa mga 'epal' kaya minabuti nating makisuyo at makiusap. Kaunting paglilinaw lang, hindi ito ginamitan ng pondo ng gobyerno at kusang-loob lamang ng ilang nagmamalasakit nating mga kababayan.

Gayundin, nagpapasalamat tayo sa mga paaralan sa pagtupad sa iniutos nating pagtanggap ng mga pangalan at mukha ng mga pulitiko sa mga paaralan. Hindi exempted ang pangalan at litrato natin kaya mas mabuting unahin na muna 'yung sa atin. Dapat tayong maging halimbawa at maging pantay sa lahat.

□□□

Natutuwa tayo sa balitang ililipat na ang mga informal settler sa malapit lang na lugar. Hinihikayat natin ang ating mga kababayan na tanggapin ang panukalang relocation site. I-grab natin ang pagkakataong ito dahil hindi natin alam kung magkakaroon pa ulit ng ganitong klaseng programa ang pamahalaan.

Samantala, nais nating magpasalamat sa kalihim ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na si Sec. Roy Cimatu sa pagsama sa atin sa pagsaayos at paglilinis ng ilan sa mga estero sa Maynila. Isa ito sa sanhi ng pagbaha at pagdami ng basura kaya nararapat lamang na ito ay mabigyan ng solusyon.

Kaugnay nito, nananawagan tayo sa mga fastfood chain at iba pang kumpanya at tindahan na mahilig magtapon ng basura sa mga estero, lalo na 'yung nabigyan na ng "cease and desist" order ng DENR, bilang na ang mga oras ninyo!

Tayo ay nababahala sa pahayag ni Sec. Cimatu na aabot sa halos 1.3 bilyon ang coliform level sa naturang mga estero ngunit, napababa na nila ito sa 10 milyon. Nakababahala at hindi ito ligtas sa marami nating mga kababayan.

Isko
Partake



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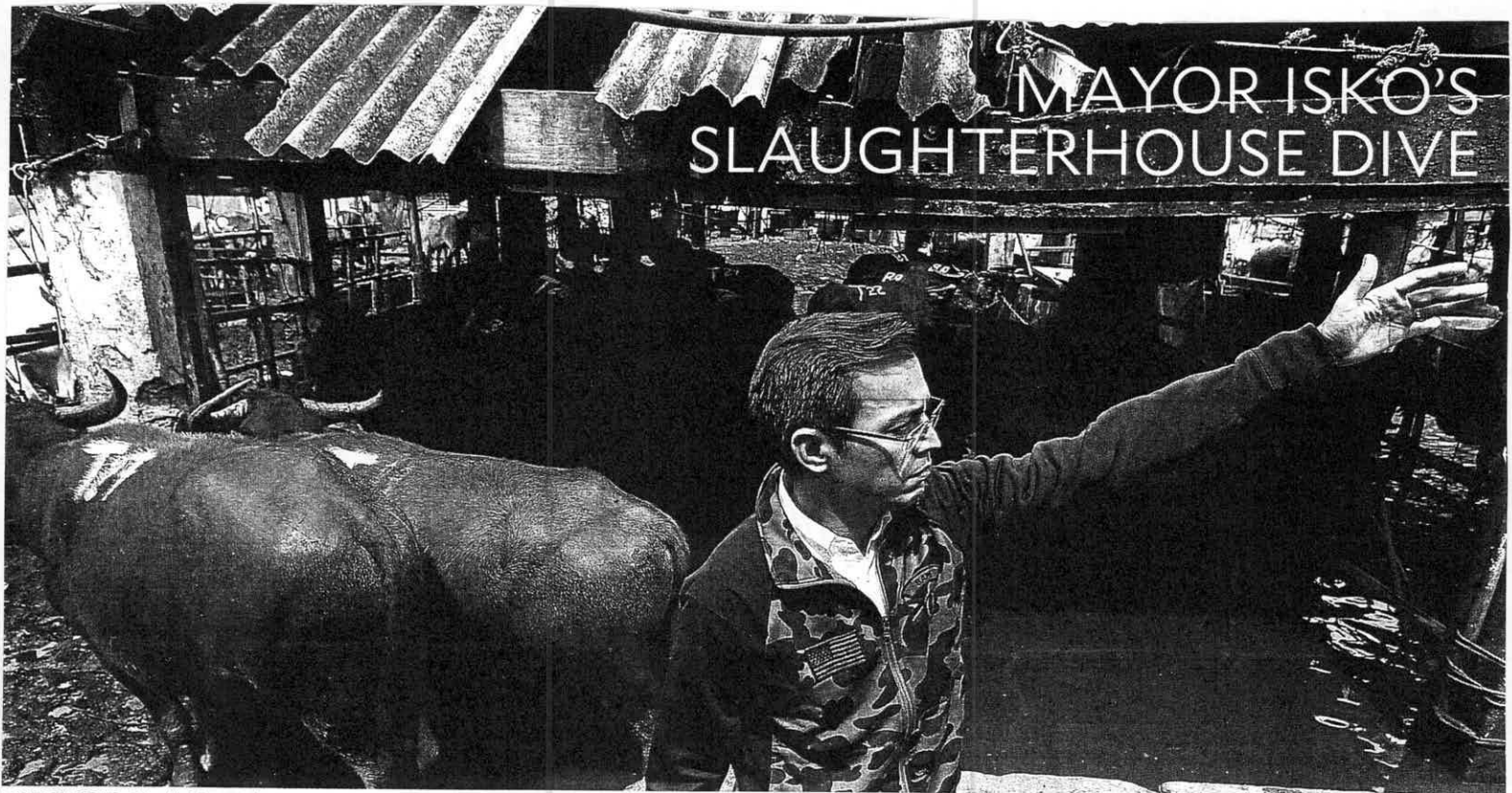
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**MAYOR ISKO'S
SLAUGHTERHOUSE DIVE**

NEXT TARGET Manila Mayor Isko Moreno, who has spent his first weeks in office initiating a cleanup of the city's filthy public spaces and merchant-occupied streets, inspects the decrepit Vitas Slaughterhouse in Tondo on Wednesday, with plans to renovate the abattoir. Noting how it had operated for years without its own sewage treatment plant, Moreno said the slaughterhouse would easily flunk the government's sanitation test. —RICHARD A. REYES



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Rehabilitasyon sa dugyot na katayan

SA kabila ng pag-ulan dulot ng bagyong Falcon, personal pa rin na binisita ni Manila Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" Moreno para magsagawa ng ocular inspection sa slaughterhouse na matatagpuan sa Vitas, Tondo para sa plano nitong rehabilitasyon at pagpapaganda sa nasabing lugar.

Nakitaan ng pagkadamay si Mayor Isko dahil sa napaka-dugyot na sitwasyon ng nasabing slaughterhouse kung saan kinatatay ang mga baka at kalabaw na itininitinda sa mga palengke sa Lungsod ng Maynila.

Napansin din ng alkalde ang sitwasyon ng mga hayop

na nakatakda katayin na nanlilimahid sa dumi, nakalubog sa nakadidiring tubig at umaalingasaw pa ang kanilang amoy.

"Tingnan mo ang mga baka natin oh, mura na marumi pa. Talagang kahabag-habag naman ang sitwasyon dito," ani Domagoso.

Ayon kay Moreno, target na matapos ang konstruksyon ng bagong Vitas slaughterhouse compound sa loob ng anim na buwan.

Ayon pa sa alkalde, hindi nito hahayaan na maging dugyot ang sitwasyon sa nasabing katayan kung saan gusto nitong maging katanggap-tanggap at makapasa sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources ang slaughterhouse.

Napag-alaman na may mahigit 300 matansero sa Vitas slaughterhouse.

Bukod sa slaughterhouse, isasailalim din sa rehabilitasyon ang residential area sa Vitas, partikular ang 27 lumang housing building na delikado na umanong tirhan matapos mag-extend ng shanty ang mga residente sa rooftop nito kung saan umabot na sa 4,000 hanggang 5,000 ang bilang ng mga residente sa nasabing lugar.

Samantala, sinabini Domagoso na bubusisiin nilang mabuti ang ligalidad ng isang "cockpit arena" na itinayo mismo sa nasabing compound ng nagdaang administrasyon.

JAY REYES



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NEWS

'Falcon' rains leave Boracay flooded

The rainy season has caught up with rehabilitation work on Boracay Island. Several projects, including upgrading of the drainage and sewerage systems, remain unfinished. When heavy rains generated by the southwest monsoon, intensified by Tropical Storm "Falcon," lashed Boracay on Tuesday, several villages on the world-famous resort island were flooded waist-deep. —STORY BY

NESTOR P. BURGOS JR. AND CARLA P. GOMEZ

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LANDFALL IN CAGAYAN; 1 DEAD

'FALCON' RAINS SINK BORACAY VILLAGES

2/3

**By Nestor P. Burgos Jr.
and Carla P. Gomez**
@inquirervisayas

ILOILO CITY—Heavy rains triggered flash floods in Boracay on Tuesday, amid efforts to rehabilitate the world-famous resort island.

Flooding, caused by heavy rains generated by the southwest monsoon that had been intensified by Tropical Storm "Falcon," also hit Iloilo City and other towns in Iloilo province, forcing the authorities to call off school in badly affected municipalities.

Classes were also suspended in schools in Bacolod City and 17 other areas in Negros Occidental province on Wednesday due to heavy rains brought by Falcon.

Falcon made landfall at Gattaran town in Cagayan province at 12:30 a.m. on Wednesday then moved out to sea.

Blowing out on Friday

It was centered at 265 kilometers east of Calayan, Cagayan, as of 4 p.m. on Wednesday and was expected to blow out of the Philippines by Friday, the weather service said.

Ana Clauren, a weather specialist at the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration, said Falcon was moving north-northwest at 20 kilometers per hour, with maximum winds of 65 kph and gusts of 80 kph.

Several provinces in northern Luzon remained under storm warning signals.

Signal No. 2 was up in Batanes and Signal No. 1 remained hoisted in Apayao, Cagayan, Ilocos Norte and the Babuyan Islands.

Clauren said residents in those provinces should remain

alert for floods and landslides as the weather would remain stormy on Thursday.

A 45-year-old man drowned while trying to cross a river, while eight families were evacuated to safer grounds in Cagayan as the storm hit the province on Wednesday.

Heavy rain triggered a landslide on Nagattutan Road in Gattaran.

Officials called off school because of bad weather in Ca-

gayan; Ilagan, Isabela province; Santa Rosa, Aliaga and Rizal towns and San Jose City in Nueva Ecija; Bataan and the coastal areas of Macabebe and Sasmuan towns and Angeles City in Pampanga.

Scattered rains in Metro

Clauren said residents of Metro Manila could expect scattered rain showers until Thursday evening, with Falcon intensifying the southwest monsoon.

Bad weather forced the cancellation of a dozen domestic flights at Ninoy Aquino International Airport on Wednesday.

Sailings by small vessels in waters off the eastern seaboard of Luzon and the Visayas remained suspended.

In Boracay, residents posted photographs on social media showing people wading in waist-deep floodwaters.

Flooded were Barangay Balabag and parts of Barangay Yapak, according to Catherine Fulgencio, municipal disaster officer of Malay town in Aklan province, where Boracay is located.

Floodwaters reached a meter deep in some areas, she said.

Residents in some parts of Sitio Bulabog in Balabag were being readied for evacuation in anticipation of continued rains, she added.

Closed for rehab

President Duterte ordered

Boracay closed for six months last year for cleanup and rehabilitation.

But rehabilitation work, including the upgrading of the main road, drainage and sewage systems, remain unfinished, with several projects set for completion either next year or in 2021.

Big waves generated by strong winds overturned a fishing boat off Sibalay City in Negros Occidental province on Tuesday.

Zeaphard Caelian, head of the provincial disaster office, said the four fishermen who had ventured to sea on the boat—Isagani Moises, Alan Aranez, Romel Tablatin and Arnold Aranez—were rescued.

In Kapatagan, Lanao del Norte, 1,640 families remained in shelters on Wednesday as bad weather prevailed in the province.

Kapatagan was the hardest hit among five towns in the province that went under water as heavy rains poured on Tuesday, forcing hundreds of families to flee their homes.

Sixteen of Kapatagan's 31 villages were flooded.

Damage assessment

Claudio Tuastumban Jr., officer in charge of the municipal disaster office, said a team was assessing the damage caused by the flood as of Wednesday.

Schools in the town remained closed, as well as those in Tubod and Lala towns.

Other towns hit by floods on Tuesday were Sapad, Salvador and Sultan Naga Dimaporo.

—WITH REPORTS FROM PATRICIA DENISE M. CHIU, JEROME ANING, VILLAMOR VISAYA JR., LEILANIE ADRIANO, ARMAND GALANG, GREG REFRACCION, TONETTE OREJAS AND RICHELUMEL INQ



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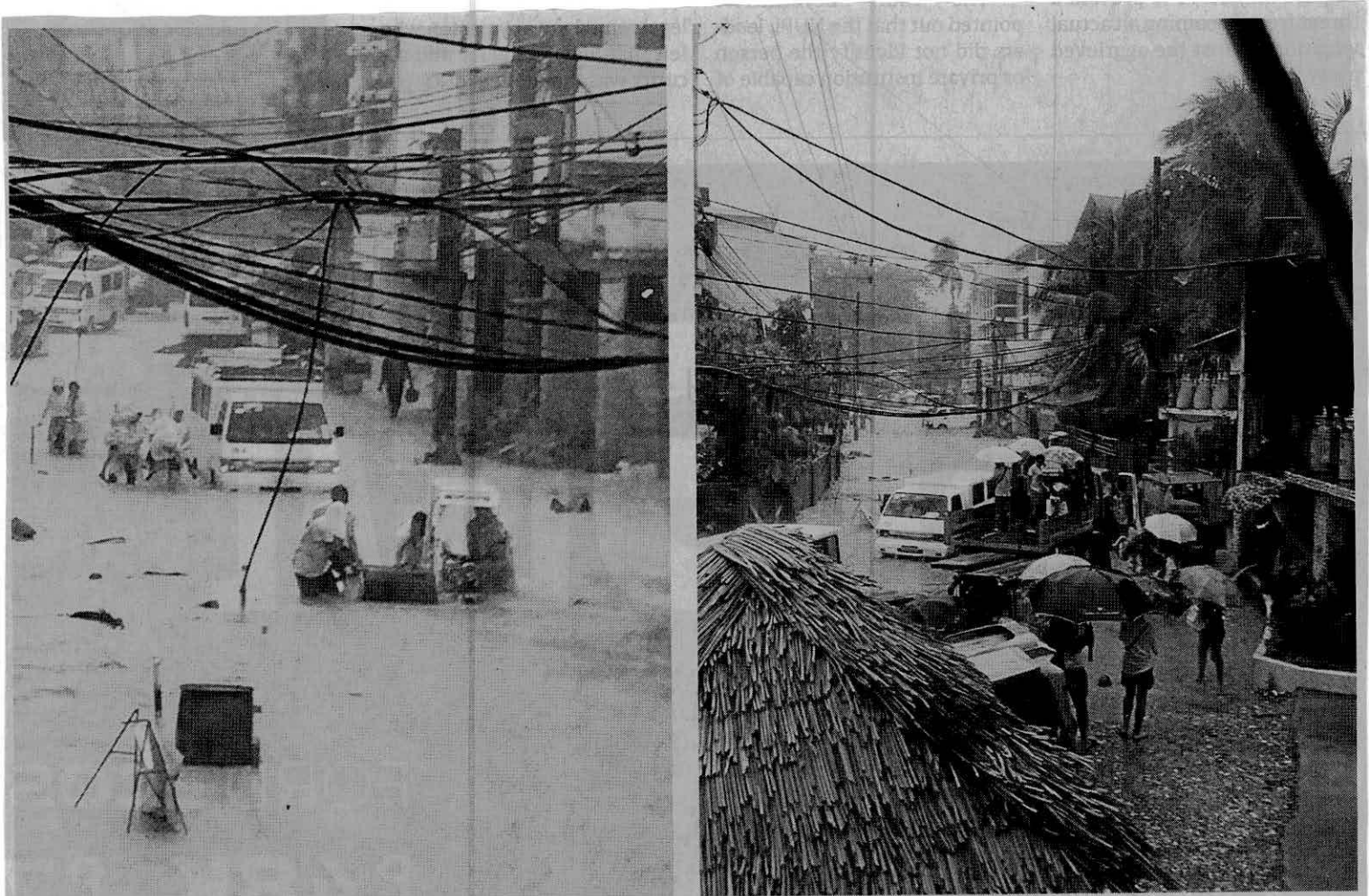
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FLOODED PARADISE Residents of Boracay posted these pictures on Facebook on Wednesday showing people wading in floodwaters as heavy rains generated by the southwest monsoon, intensified by Tropical Storm "Falcon," beat the world-famous resort island on Tuesday. Rehabilitation work on the island remain unfinished, with several projects set for completion either next year or 2021.



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'Falcon' rains flood Boracay

By TARA YAP

ILOILO CITY – Intermittent rain from tropical storm "Falcon" has flooded anew world-famous Boracay Island in Malay town, Aklan.

Boracay business owners and residents posted pictures and videos on social media sites to express frustration over the recurring problem.

Rhinna Palmer posted a 10-minute video of her traversing flooded waters Tuesday along the main road of the resort island. She said she left her motorcycle and decided to walk. She passed by a truck that was stuck along the road with three-feet of flooded water.

"I forgot to bring my jetski and kayak," Palmer said in jest.

Flooding is nothing new to Boracay. It occurs annually even when there is no rain. Authorities later attributed this problem to illegal connections of some resorts and hotels of its sewage waste to the drainage system, which is only supposed to hold rainwater.



DPWH-Villar sablay sa rehab, Boracay lubog sa baha

PINAGPAPALIWANAG ni Senador Francis 'Kiko' Pangilinan si Department of Public Works and Highways Secretary Mark Villar kaugnay ng nangyaring pagbaha sa Boracay bunsod ng bagyong Falcon.

Dismayado ang senador dahil sa nangyaring pagbaha sa isla sa kabila ng ilang buwang rehabilitasyon sa pangunguna ng DPWH sa nasabing isla.

Dapat aniyang maglatag agad ng solusyon dito ang DPWH dahil tila sablay ang ginawang drainage system sa Boracay.

"Mas mainam na magpaliwanag kung ano ang dahilan ng pagbabaha at ano ang solusyon ngayon at dahil ang sabi nila kaya nga sinara ang Boracay ng anim na buwan para ayusin ito," reaksiyon ni Pangilinan kahapon.

Kahapon, nagkalat sa social media ang mga litrato ng pagbaha sa isla kung saan umabot sa hanggang baywang ang tubig sa kalsada dahil sa pagbuhos ng malakas na ulan bunsod ng bagyong Falcon.

Naiulat na pansamantalang hindi nadaanan ang bahagi ng main road ng Barangay Balabag dahil sa baha.

Sabi ni Catherine Fulgencio, municipal disaster risk reduction officer ng Malay, Aklan, binaha rin ang bahagi ng Barangay Yapak. Samantala umabot hanggang 3 feet ang baha sa ibang lugar sa isla.

Nagmistula ring dagat ang parking area ng Caticlan Jetty Port reclamation area nitong Miyerkoles nang umaga. Tumaas umano ang tubig dahil sa malakas na alon at pag-ulan doon.

Wala pang pahayag si Sec. Villar kung bakit binaha pa rin ang Boracay sa kabila ng ginawang rehabilitasyon ng DPWH. **(Dindo Matining)**



Despite rains, Angat's water still low

By Joshua Lao

The amount of rainfall remains insufficient to replenish water reserves at the Angat Dam, the main supply source of water utilities serving Metro Manila and parts of Luzon.

National Water Resources Board (NWRB) executive director Seville David Jr. told the *Daily Tribune* that Angat is still operating below critical level, thus the still low water allocations for Maynilad and Manila Water.

"Angat Dam's level is at 158.69 meters as of 6 a.m. on Tuesday, down from 158.75 meters same time last Monday. Such level is still below the critical level for water supply of 160 meters," David said in a text message.

"Based on PAGASA (Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and

Astronomical Services Administration) projections, prevailing weakened habagat (southwest monsoon) resulted in the absence of significant rainfall in the Angat Dam," he added.

Despite tropical storm "Falcon" and the monsoon rains, these are not enough to bring Angat above its minimum operating level of 180 meters, David said.

He expressed hopes that the expected tropical cyclones for the month "could come sooner and pour some rainwater on Angat Dam to help in its early recovery."

Manila Water, Maynilad supply interruptions to persist.

Moreover, the NWRB chief urged the public to take part in conservation

efforts to help prolong the water supply.

"The public can support our efforts in preserving the water in Angat Dam by enhancing our water conservation efforts through responsible use of water, including the harvesting and recycling of water," David said.

"For Metro Manila, the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System is in charge in the development of alternative water sources. They have lined up some projects such as the Kaliwa Dam," he added.

Rotational water service interruptions have been implemented both by Maynilad and Manila Water in order to distribute equitably the limited supply allocated to them by the NWRB.

Currently, households in Metro Manila are experiencing water service interruption at an average of 12 to 19 hours per day.

Sought for comment, Maynilad Corporate Communications head Jennifer Rufo pointed out the reduced water allocation from the NWRB has caused service interruptions.

"Maynilad will only be able to lift the implementation of the rotational service interruptions once the NWRB is finally able to increase our raw water allocation from Angat Dam," Rufo said in a text message.

"Currently, the NWRB is allocating only 36 cubic meters per second (CMS) for Metro Manila and nearby provinces, down from the normal 48 CMS," she added.

NWRB was tasked to manage all water resources in the Philippines.



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'Falcon', habagat, LPA to bring more rains; Angat water level dips further

By **ELLALYN DE VERA-RUIZ**

The combined effects of tropical storm "Falcon" (international name "Danas"), southwest monsoon (habagat), and a new low-pressure area (LPA) west of Ilocos Sur, will continue to bring rains of varying intensities over

some parts of Luzon until Thursday, July 18, 2019.

Unfortunately for Metro Manila and neighboring cities and towns, Falcon and the habagat seem to have failed to contribute to the recovery of the Angat Dam as the significant rains have not reached the Angat Watershed in Norza-

garay, Bulacan.

On Wednesday, the water level at Angat Dam was recorded at 158.38 meters, down by 31 centimeters from Tuesday's 158.69 meters.

Its current level is just 82 centimeters short of its 157.56-meter record-low registered on July **4**

'Falcon', habagat, LPA... ◀1

18, 2010.

The Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) had earlier said that Angat Dam needs at least 350-millimeter of one-time rainfall occurrence to recover to its minimum operating level of 180 meters.

To reach its 210-meter normal high water level, about 1,160 mm of rainfall, equivalent to four to five cyclones, will be needed

Meanwhile, PAGASA said that at around Wednesday noon, Falcon's estimated location was 195 kilometers (km) east of Aparri, Cagayan.

It has maintained its maximum winds of 65 kilometers per hour (kph) and gustiness of up to 80 kph, after making landfall over Gattaran, Cagayan, at around 12:30 a.m. on Wednesday.

PAGASA weather specialist Loredin dela Cruz said tropical cyclone warning Signal No. 1 has been lifted over Abra, Kalinga, Isabela, Mountain Province, and Ifugao, but Signal No. 2 remains hoisted over Batanes. Signal No. 1 is still hoisted over Apayao, Cagayan, Ilocos Norte, and Babuyan group of islands.

Dela Cruz said rains of varying in-

tensities will still be felt due to Falcon, southwest monsoon, or "habagat," and LPA 125 km west of Sinait, Ilocos Sur.

On Wednesday, moderate to at times heavy rains continued over Isabela, La Union, Zambales, Bataan, Cavite, Batangas, Occidental Mindoro, northern Palawan including Calamian and Cuyo Islands, Aklan, and Antique.

In addition, light to moderate with at times heavy rains were felt in Metro Manila, and the rest of Luzon and Visayas.

On Thursday, moderate to occasionally heavy rains may prevail over Ilocos Region, Zambales, Bataan, Occidental Mindoro, while light to moderate with at times heavy rains may prevail over the rest of Luzon.

Dela Cruz said that while fewer areas will experience rains on Thursday, the public should still remain vigilant for possible flash floods or landslides, especially in low-lying or mountainous areas.

She added that sea travel remains risky over the seaboard of areas with tropical cyclone warnings, eastern coast of Luzon, western and southern coastlines of Southern Luzon, and western seaboard of Visayas.

Should it maintain its north-northwest movement at 20 kph, Dela Cruz said Falcon will be outside the Philippine area of responsibility (PAR) by Friday.

The LPA will likely maintain its strength, as it moves outside the country's vicinity in the next few hours.

Meanwhile, at least two road sections in Ifugao and Upper Kalinga provinces in the Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) were closed to public after heavy rains brought about Falcon and enhanced by the habagat caused soil erosion, the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (NDRRMC) reported Wednesday.

NDRRMC Executive Director Ricardo Jalad said a portion of the Matteded Road at Barangay Dupligan, Tanudan, Ifugao; and Lakilak Road at Barangay Bugnay, Tinglayan, Kalinga were closed due to soil erosion.

The Matteded road was closed around 8:30 a.m. Tuesday and clearing operations at the road section were put on hold due to continuous rains, Jalad said.

Only one lane of Lakilak Road was passable at the after the soil erosion. Clearing operations at the road section were ongoing but only a portion of the road was open to the public due to an unstable backslope. (With a report from Martin A. Sadongdong)



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REGIONS

Burnham Park next on DOT rehab list

BAGUIO CITY—Department of Tourism (DOT) and city officials discussed the rehabilitation of Burnham Park in response to concerns about its deterioration. The Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority has allotted P20 million for the 34-hectare park's initial renovation. A 1905 plan drawn up by American architect Daniel Burnham, after whom the park was named, will serve as guide. —STORY BY VINCENT CABREZA

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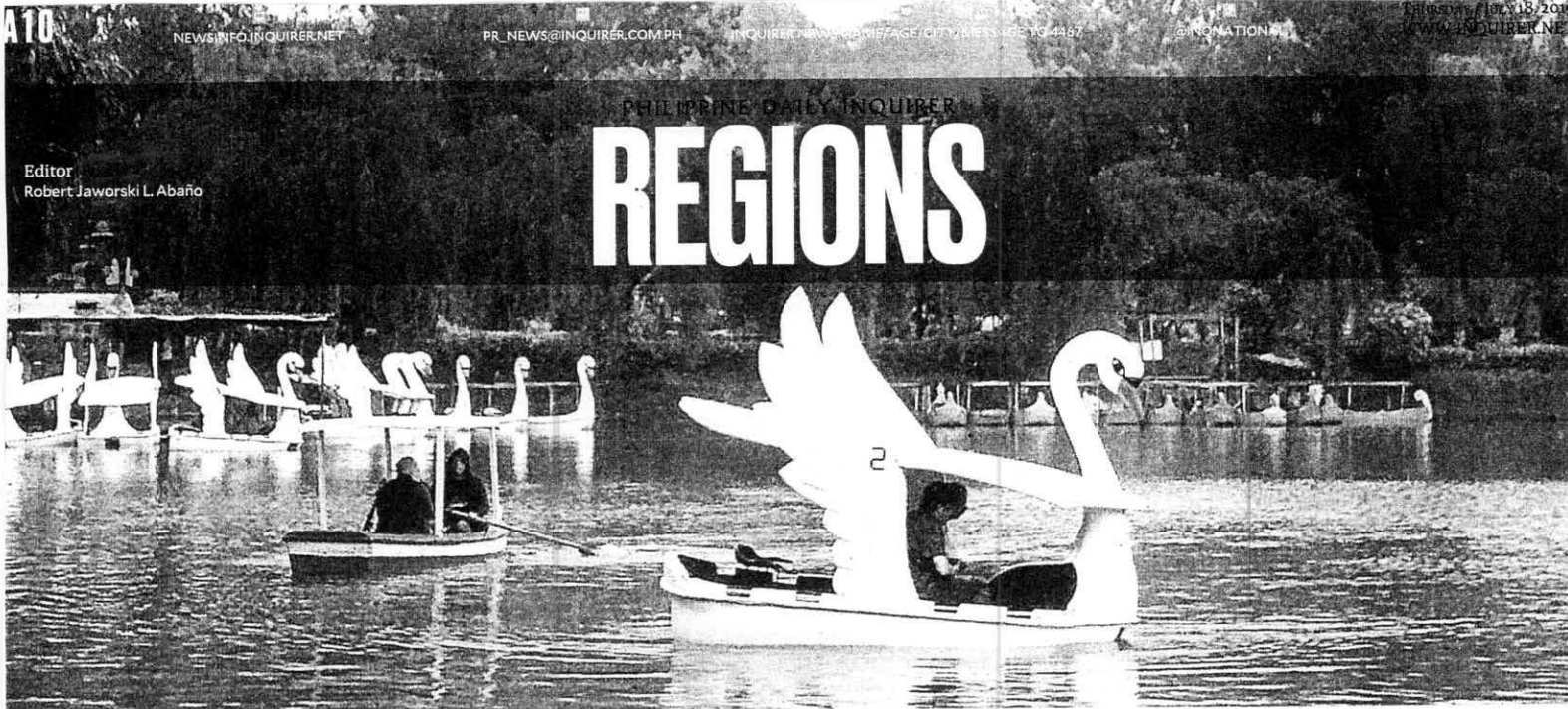
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Editor
Robert Jaworski L. Abaño

TOURIST ACTIVITY The Burnham Lake is the centerpiece of the more than 100-year-old Burnham Park in Baguio City. A boat ride at the man-made lake is among the activities that many tourists look forward to in their visit to the summer capital. —ALLAN MACATUNO



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TOP ATTRACTION IN SUMMER CAPITAL

BAGUIO'S BURNHAM PARK NEXT ON DOT REHAB LIST

BAGUIO CITY—The century-old park, named after Chicago architect Daniel Burnham who designed the summer capital, will be “rescued and repaired” by tourism experts in response to social media concerns that it has deteriorated and been commercialized.

The rehabilitation of the 34-hectare Burnham Park will be guided by the Baguio plan drawn by the architect in 1905, Pocholo Paragas, chief operating officer of the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (Tieza), said during a meeting with city officials on Wednesday.

“[Department of Tourism (DOT) officials] informed me that many parks have been poorly managed by local governments after these were turned over to them,” said Mayor Benjamin Magalong.

Burnham Park was no different, Magalong said as he led a spot inspection on July 14 which revealed overcrowded bicycle lanes, untended gardens and polluted waters at the man-made Burnham Lake.

‘Breathing space’

Paragas said Tieza has allocated P20 million for the park’s initial renovation work, after it completes a master development plan with local experts that highlights its historical relevance.

Because of social media criticisms, the DOT wants to bring back Burnham’s original concept that the park must continue to serve as the city’s “breathing space,” Paragas said.

He said he had been communicating with Baguio Rep. Marquez Go, who refiled a bill declaring Burnham Park as a heritage site.

Once it is granted that status, any development work at Burnham Park will follow strict rules protecting all historical and cultural structures, Go said.

Retaking the park

Tieza and Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat have entertained proposals to retake control over Burnham Park, being one of the country’s well-known parks and a tourist destination which the DOT wants to revitalize.

Paragas said Burnham Park remains a local government asset because of two executive orders which tasked the city government with the park’s administration, maintenance, management and operation.

The park, which includes a patch of forest, was first turned over to Baguio by former President Fidel Ramos through Executive Order No. 224 in 1995.

In 2008, former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo issued Executive Order No. 695 releasing “all facilities and improvements” still under the Philippine Tourism Authority (the former name of Tieza) to the city government in time for Baguio’s centennial celebration in 2009.

“We have no interest in keeping the park. We just want it fixed, then we will turn it over again to you so we can reintroduce it to the world,” Paragas assured Magalong. —VINCENT CABREZA INQ



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DOT lauds lifting of ban on Boracay charter flights

The lifting of the moratorium on all new and additional charter flights bound for Boracay by the Civil Aeronautic Board (CAB) is seen to further spur tourism growth, the Department of Tourism (DOT) said.

"We share our stakeholders' goal of ensuring a thriving and vibrant tourism industry in Boracay and the lifting of the moratorium on all new and additional charter flights to Kalibo and Caticlan will facilitate this," Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat said.

Earlier this week, CAB released the new guidelines on

the conduct of commercial air transportation serving Boracay Island.

Under the guidelines, CAB said carriers with scheduled flights for the rest of the summer season may continue to operate, however, they will not be allowed to mount additional flights.

CAB said carriers that want to mount new flights need to follow a 30-day application notice prior to the actual date of charter operations.

Other guidelines include the barring of the entry of aircraft exceeding the 200-seat

capacity.

"And with these guidelines in place, we are assured that the carrying capacity is strictly enforced by the authorities," Romulo-Puyat said.

The CAB earlier implemented a moratorium on charter flights to Caticlan and Kalibo in a bid to ensure the sustainability of the Boracay island.

At present, Boracay has a carrying capacity of 55,757 people per day, including its residents. Only 19,215 tourists are allowed to be on the island at a certain time, with 6,405 tourists allowed to enter the island per day.

- Catherine Talavera



OCEANAGOLD REPORTS AROUND PHP40B CONTRIBUTION TO LOCAL ECONOMY

Didipio, Nueva Vizcaya-- OceanaGold Philippines, Inc. (OGPI) recently released data on its local economy contributions from its years of commercial production.

The company has given a total of P39.5-billion in the form of taxes, employment, agricultural and social development support to the region. For Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino, it has remitted close to 780-million pesos from a combination of 580-million in local business and 210-million in real property taxes.

Didipio-- a barangay of about 4,000 people, which has hosted OGPI's mining operation --is the primary recipient of the company's tax remittances.

"The various programs that we have implemented in the region are geared towards building the capability of our people and empowering them so that even after we operate in the area, the host and neighboring communities will continue to thrive economically. Our main focus is sustainable and inclusive development, aimed to leave a long-lasting positive legacy for our communities," David Way, OGPI's General Manager, says.

In human development alone, OGPI has trained and hired a number of community members, employing 1,500 staff and contractors, and spending PhP 2.5 billion for employee wages.

Apart from the employment spend, OGPI has invested approximately P170 million on employees, community and pre-employment training; provided 2,000 additional livelihood opportunities through partnerships with cooperatives and social development organizations; and allowed for On-the-Job-Training (OJT) placements at the Didipio Mine. OGPI



also has partnerships with the Nueva Vizcaya State University (NVSU), Quirino State University (QSU), Isabela State University (ISU), Saint Mary's University (SMU), Saint Louis University (SLU), Ifugao State University (IFSU) and University of the Philippines (UP) to provide 246 scholarships in the provinces of Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino.

In the agriculture sector, OGPI's collaboration with the Department of Agriculture (DA) and local government units, helped fund 13 cooperatives and micro and small enterprises to support vegetable production and coffee production in Kasibu; taught 92 local farmers about how coffee production increases their market opportunities; and engaged 34 local farmers to promote organic farming.

For social and community development, OGPI invested PhP 1.2 billion in the community, the amount being allocated to: Social Development Management Program (SDMP) projects; Development of Mining Technology and Geosciences (DMTG), and CSR projects focused on training, livelihood programs and community empowerment programs.

In a consultation session with the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources-Mines and Geosciences

Bureau on July 3, 2019, Didipio residents and community leaders, attest that beyond the job opportunities, scholarships, and infrastructures, OGPI brought in overall growth and self-reliance to the area. A testament to this is OGPI-initiated DiCorp, the community-owned corporation which has generated P1.5 billion gross revenue for the local community from long term contracts with the Didipio Mine Project.

"Today, DiCorp is plugged into our value-chain--providing three meals a day, seven days a week to more than a thousand workers. What DiCorp achieved is a great case study on how OGPI helped members of the Didipio community achieve economic empowerment and self-reliance," concludes Way.

Latest publicly available data from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau reveal that mining industry contributed roughly 26 billion in a quarter alone. The mining industry's production value is computed at PhP 109.5 billion with a growth of about 5.3 percent, proving there is more that can be gained in the industry, for operators and host communities alike.

OGPI commits to the highest principles in mining as it grows with its partner community.



OceanaGold reports around PHP40B contribution to local economy

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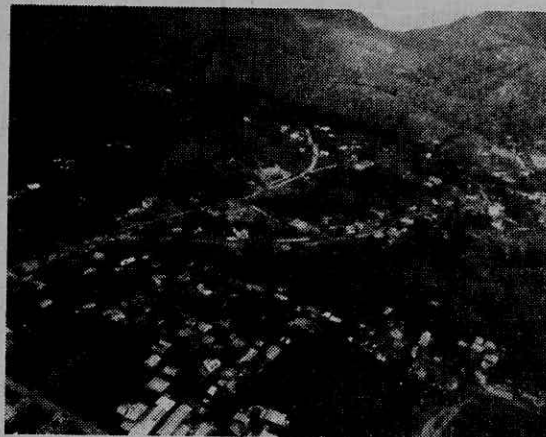
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In the agriculture sector, OGPI's collaboration with the Department of Agriculture (DA) and local government units, helped fund 13 cooperatives and micro and small enterprises to support vegetable production and coffee production in Kasibu; taught 92 local farmers about how coffee production increases their market opportunities; and engaged 34 local farmers to promote organic farming.



For social and community development, OGPI invested PhP 1.2 billion in the community, the amount being allocated to: Social Development Management Program (SDMP) projects; Development of Mining Technology and Geosciences (DMTG), and CSR projects focused on training, livelihood programs and community empowerment programs.

In a consultation session with the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources-Mines and Geosciences Bureau on July 3, 2019, Didipio residents and community leaders, attest that beyond the job opportunities, scholarships, and infrastructures, OGPI brought in overall growth and self-reliance to the area. A testament to this is OGPI-initiated DiCorp, the community-owned corporation which has generated P1.5 billion gross revenue for the local community from long term contracts with the Didipio Mine Project.

"Today, DiCorp is plugged into our value-chain—providing three meals a day, seven days a week to more than a thousand workers. What DiCorp achieved is a great case study on how OGPI helped members of the Didipio community achieve economic empowerment and self-reliance," concludes Way.

Latest publicly available data from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau reveal that mining industry contributed roughly 26 billion in a quarter alone. The mining industry's production value is computed at PhP 109.5 billion with a growth of about 5.3 percent, proving there is more that can be gained in the industry, for operators and host communities alike.

OGPI commits to the highest principles in mining as it grows with its partner community.



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Monitoring system vital for reef conservation, management

PALAWAN – Sulu Sea, the richest reef region in the world, is home to 505 coral species and yet little is known about these reefs.

A tourism boom in the Palawan islands and fishermen immigrating from nearby regions amid warming seas have raised concern about how the corals are coping.

No coral reef monitoring system is in place to help answer questions on anthropogenic threats that most affect the reefs and if corals in the Sulu Sea can survive the warming waters.

Wilfredo Licuanan, with his team of research assistants from the De la Salle University (DLSU) Br. Alfred Shields FSC Ocean Research Center and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) recently embarked on consecutive reef research trips to Tubbataha, Cagayancillo islands, Honda Bay and Taytay, Palawan.

This collaboration between DLSU-SHORE and WWF-Philippines, under a grant from WWF-Singapore, is called Designing of Monitoring and Evaluation System for Coral Reef Resilience and Fisheries Sustainability in Northeast Palawan through Marine Protected Areas or Network of MPAs.

The project kicked off with a weeklong navigation in Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park where 10 previously established coral monitoring stations were surveyed, including the ship grounding sites of *Ming Ping Yu* and *USS Guardian*.

In 2013, the grounding sites of the two vessels left fields of rubble, an environment where little to no coral could exist. Upon consistent monitoring, Licuanan found that some plots, specifically where the *USS Guardian* ran aground, are recovering.

"Our projections on recovery rates at the *USS Guardian* site appear accurate. The impact plots should look like how it was before the grounding in four years. One *Ming Ping Yu* plot is also doing well," Licuanan said.

In June, the research team established monitoring stations in Arena atoll, and Cawili, Calusa and Dondonay islands, all part of the Cagayancillo group 178 nautical miles off Puerto Princesa and approximately four hours away from Tubbataha.

"The Cagayancillo reefs are interesting as most sites we visited have coral cover levels of oceanic reefs and atolls yet also have the diversity of inshore fringing reefs," Licuanan said.

During his surveys, he also observed that the corals in the Arena atoll are most prone to temperature fluctuation because of the surge of warm water from the lagoon as the tide changes.

His hypothesis was that Arena might have climate-resilient corals.

"I suspect it will be tested in the next few weeks as the seas are expected to get warmer in the region... I wish we can revisit those reefs sooner," he said.

For Licuanan, monitoring reefs is a necessary step after the three-year nationwide coral reef assessment project.

"Monitoring allows us to generate information that we can act on and potentially save corals. Assessments are useful only for writing obituaries for nature," he said.



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Reefs in Cagayancillo exhibit hard coral cover index of atolls and diversity of inshore fringing reefs. Inset shows researchers from academe and non-profit during the joint cruise in Cagayancillo, Palawan on May 3-10, 2019.





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Science academy urges war vs plastic

The National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) has rallied the country's scientific and innovation community to wage a war against plastic.

In a resolution issued at the end of the two-day 41st Annual Scientific Meeting (ASM) at the EDSA Shangri-La Manila in Mandaluyong City last week, the country's highest recognition and scientific advisory body pushed for more efforts in the pursuit of zero waste initiatives as well as support of legislation on the phaseout of non-biodegradable single-use plastic materials.

The NAST also called for the acceleration of research and development on single-use biodegradable packag-

ing materials.

The management of plastic waste was one of the priority concerns addressed by the NAST as it held the 41st ASM with the theme, "Caring for the Country's Carrying Capacity."

NAST said the global effort at managing the world's plastic wastes was one of the concerns sought to be addressed by the sustainable development goals, out of 17 SDGs set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015 for the year 2030. These are part of Resolution 70/1 of the UN General Assembly, the 2030 Agenda.

The NAST said the Philippine scientific community should exert more effort at funding and pursuing R&D to redesign plastic and chemical addi-

tives to make plastic more recyclable and safer.

Local and national governments should craft more systematic collection, reuse and disposal of recyclable materials in cities and municipalities, it said.

Business establishments, meanwhile, could implement strategies to reduce the use of plastic materials in products and services such as plastic straws and utensils in food establishments.

NAST also said it was time to fund comparative analysis on the use of incineration, waste-to-energy and other alternative approaches as a possible solution to plastic wastes.

- Rainier Allan Ronda

People make it so hard to ditch plastic straws

By Scott Duke Kominers

RARELY has a minor consumer product received more vilification than the plastic straw. As a symbol of human wastefulness and our careless disregard for the environment, straws are the near-perfect villain. You use a plastic straw once and toss it, but it stays with us forever, sitting in a landfill, floating in the sea, or harming wildlife.

That's why some local governments like that of New York City have stopped allowing them, along with other single-use plastics. This seems like a perfectly reasonable thing to do, even though plastic straws comprise only a small part of the total volume of plastic disposed of each year.

But eliminating plastic straws offers a case study in how simple solutions can be devilishly tricky to implement — and sometimes even worse than the problems they were meant to solve. For that, we can largely thank ourselves and our behavioral quirks.

Let's look at just one example: Some restaurants and bars have replaced their plastic straws with reusable metal variants. But there's a hitch, as the *New York Post* recently reported: customers keep taking the metal straws home with them.

This leaves restaurants holding the short straw, so to speak. Metal straws are expensive — perhaps a dollar apiece (or more) versus a penny or two for the plastic version — and so replacement costs add up quickly.*

This might not be so problematic if the metal straws that customers walk off with get reused frequently. But most probably go on display as novelties or sit forgotten in a utensil drawer. And this means the metal straws — which presumably required mining, plus large amounts of energy to convert into sheet metal and then fashion it into a cylindrical tube — don't provide the intended environmental benefit.

I'm not aware of any research on the relative environmental costs of producing different types of straws. But the evidence on reusable grocery bags is not heartening.

Reusable bags take much more energy than single-use paper or plastic bags to make. As a result they become an environmental plus only after a large number of uses — estimates suggest you need to use a reusable bag almost 40 times to break even in terms of environmental costs. Most reusable bags get lost, discarded or neglected in a closet before

that milestone, undermining the case for them.

It would be surprising if the calculus for metal straws were any better. If metal straws get pilfered before they've been used enough, they may well be worse for the environment than their plastic peers.**

So what's to be done? Economics offers a straightforward answer: instead of banning single-use plastics, the right strategy is to tax them.

Taxes force people to pay — or in econ-speak, internalize — their own environmental costs. This tends to lead people to change their behavior: with plastic taxes, everyone reduces usage on the margin, with those who get relatively lower value from single-use plastics reducing their usage more. Even small taxes can change behavior

substantially: a seven cent tax on all grocery bags in Chicago, for example, was associated with a 42% drop in usage.

We can calibrate taxes to match actual estimates of environmental harm. This helps make environmental concerns tangible, and in particular makes people aware of which types of plastic are most harmful. Moreover, we can use the plastic tax revenue to support environmental causes, as Chicago and other cities have.

Of course, with these sorts of user and consumption taxes we have to be careful about inequality: the effective tax burden tends to fall more on those with lower incomes and/or those who need to use more plastic products. But tax-

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Eliminating plastic straws offers a case study in how simple solutions can be devilishly tricky to implement — and sometimes even worse than the problems they were meant to solve

based policy can be designed to account for individual circumstances. For example, the high-end plastic bags in upscale grocery stores are often taxed more highly than bags at lower-cost stores. Meanwhile, some people have disabilities that mean they need to use straws; they could be exempted from the straw tax.***

So while it's true that reducing plastic straw usage might be an easy way to limit the harm we do to the environment, we need to make sure the limitations we place really are providing solutions. And that means taxes may be better than bans.

BLOOMBERG OPINION ■

*For one restaurateur, losing up to 50 metal straws a month was too many. As he told the *New York Post*, he now declares: "If your glass comes back, and [the metal straw] is not in it, you're gonna see it on the bill."

**The reusable grocery bag assessment looks even worse once we account for the possibility that some single-use bags get reused for household storage or as bag liners. But in the case of plastic straws, at least, reuse is unlikely.

***Exempting these individuals from plastic straw bans would not help nearly as much, since under bans many restaurants will stop stocking plastic straws entirely.



THURSDAY / JULY 18, 2019
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OPINION

'Fishy' legal turnaround of fisherfolk

I begin by quoting the late human rights lawyer and senator Joker Arroyo: "Like a mackerel lying in the moonlight, it shines and it stinks" (a variation of John Randolph of Roanoke's quote).

On April 16, fisherfolk from Palawan and Zambales filed a petition for a writ of kalikasan and a writ of continuing mandamus asking the Supreme Court to compel the government to perform acts mandated upon it and enforce environmental laws in the Philippines' territory. The fisherfolk were represented by the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) and collaborating counsel Jose Manuel "Chel" Diokno.

Something strange surprised the counsels. During the oral arguments this month of July, Solicitor General Jose Calida asked for the dismissal of the petition by saying that the fishermen-petitioners were withdrawing and have executed affidavits denying that they authorized the filing of the petition. Huh?!

Counsel Diokno replied and stressed then that the petition was filed with "full knowledge and consent" of the fisherfolk. The petition was filed so that the government would protect the fisherfolk who only want to be able to fish in their country's own territory and to earn enough for their families.

Over the weekend, I sought out Diokno because I learned that officials from the Philippine Navy visited the fisherfolk, after which the latter changed their minds. What happened was highly suspicious ("kahi-nahinala"), and was against legal ethics.

I was able to watch Pinky Webb's interview with lawyer Theodore Te ("The Source" on CNN Philippines) who expressed the same thing. A video clip showed the fisherfolk approaching some lawyer to withdraw their petition. Te said that lawyer should have dismissed the



HUMAN FACE

MA. CERES P. DOYO

fisherfolk (the legally ethical thing to do) and advised them instead to tell their lawyers that they were being fired.

Something suspicious about that video... Did the fishermen know their action was being recorded?

In a statement, IBP national president Domingo Cayosa vouched for the integrity of the lawyers (Diokno et al.) involved in filing the petition on behalf of the fisherfolk: "The IBP advocates for the enforcement of environmental laws, protection of the rights and welfare of fisherfolk, and securing the territory and patrimony of our country in the West Philippine Sea... the IBP stands firmly with the fishermen, IBP chapters and the lawyers involved in the petition for a writ of kalikasan filed before the Supreme Court."

To Diokno's accusation that the government was using underhanded tactics, the spokesperson of President Duterte, Salvador Panelo, responded by saying that Diokno manipulated the fisherfolk into signing the petition.

Diokno hit back by saying it was the government's lawyer that committed a "breach of legal ethics" when he secretly

talked to their clients, the fishermen.

I am getting curiouser and curiouser. The petition for a writ was to protect the environment and the country's territory. Why is the government averse to that? And why seek out the petitioners in the dead of night, so to speak? *Ano meron?*

"There was a breach of legal ethics in this case," someone told me, "... the Navy lawyer bypassed the fisherfolk's lawyers. The IBP team, and Diokno as collaborating counsel, acted in good faith. They only wanted to help our countrymen, the fishermen, because they have the right to fish in our own territory, free from fear and harassment from certain forces. That was what the petition for a writ of kalikasan was all about."

By the way, this is not the first time that Diokno represented fisherfolk. In October 2018, he filed a petition before the Supreme Court for continuing mandamus, on behalf of three fishermen from Navotas and Oceana Philippines International, to compel the Department of Agriculture-Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources to formulate rules on legal, sustainable and proper fishing methods, for the delineation of all municipal waters in the Philippines and many other things besides that would benefit and protect our fishermen. Enforcement of our Fisheries Code, Diokno says, is weak.

This recent petition for a writ of kalikasan and Diokno's involvement as collaborating counsel is a logical extension of his support for our fisherfolk and the preservation of our marine ecosystem and for our people's food security.

The petitioners' turnaround is a big blow to their own selves. Whoever instigated that "midnight visit" that made the petitioners change their mind....

Send feedback to cerespd@gmail.com.



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'Climate apartheid' to push millions into poverty – UN expert

By PIA LEE-BRAGO

Citing the risk of "climate apartheid" the world faces, a United Nations expert has underscored that climate change could push over 120 million more people into poverty by 2030.

Philip Alston, UN special rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, said climate change "threatens to undo the last 50 years" of development, global health and poverty reduction and that this may lead to the risk of a new era of "climate apartheid" where the rich buy their way out of rising heat and hunger.

"Even if current targets are met, tens of millions will be impoverished, leading to widespread displacement and hunger," he added.

He pointed out that climate change will have the greatest impact on the most vulnerable and will have the "most severe impact in poor countries, regions, and the places poor people live and work."

Even in the best-case scenario

of a 1.5°C temperature increase by 2100, extreme temperatures in many regions will leave disadvantaged populations food insecure, with less incomes and worsening health.

The expert said many would have to choose between starvation and migration.

"Perversely, while people in poverty are responsible for just a fraction of global emissions, they will bear the brunt of climate change, and have the least capacity to protect themselves. We risk a 'climate apartheid' scenario where the wealthy pay to escape overheating, hunger and conflict while the rest of the world is left to suffer," he stressed.

Climate change carries immense implications for human rights, including to life, food, housing and water.

"It will also impact democracy as governments struggle to cope with climate consequences and persuade constituents to accept the major social and economic transformations required – rendering civil and political

rights vulnerable," Alston said.

He added that "most human rights bodies have barely begun to grapple with what climate change portends for human rights, and it remains one on a long laundry list of 'issues', despite the extraordinarily short time to avoid catastrophic consequences."

As a full-blown crisis that threatens the human rights of vast numbers of people bears down, Alston noted that the usual piecemeal, issue-by-issue human rights methodology is woefully insufficient.

"States have marched past every scientific warning and threshold, and what was once considered catastrophic warming now seems like a best-case scenario," Alston said. "Even today, too many countries are taking short-sighted steps in the wrong direction."

States are even failing to meet their current carbon emissions reduction and climate financing commitments and continue to subsidize the fossil fuel industry with \$5.2 trillion per year.



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RESEARCH OFFERS 'MOST REALISTIC' SOLUTION TO GLOBAL WARMING

HERE'S THE BEEF (OR LESS OF IT) IF YOU WANT TO SAVE PLANET

ROME—Meat sizzling on the barbecue might be synonymous with summer, but consumers should rethink their menus to save the planet, a US-based research group said on Wednesday.

If the biggest beef and lamb consumers reduced their weekly intake to 1.5 burgers by 2050, it could cut greenhouse gas emissions and save forests from becoming farmland, World Resources Institute (WRI) said.

Currently, Americans and Europeans eat double this

amount and Brazilians three times, Timothy Searchinger, lead author of the WRI report and a researcher at Princeton University, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

"This is the most promising and most realistic solution," he said, adding that it would be harder to reduce the world's overall meat consumption.

Diners in the United States, Canada, Europe, Latin America and the former Soviet Union make up a quarter of the world's

population, but ate more than half of the world's meat from ruminants—such as cattle, sheep and goats—in 2010, WRI said.

Gas-emitting livestock

Agriculture accounts for 11 percent of planet-heating global emissions, according to the United Nations, most of which comes from gases emitted by livestock during digestion and in manure.

The expansion of agricultural land also creates emissions through the draining of peat-

land, releasing carbon dioxide—one of the main greenhouse gases—into the air and through the felling of trees, which absorb carbon dioxide.

Global food demand is projected to grow by more than 50 percent by 2050 due to population and income growth, but meeting this target using today's farming systems would have dire results for humans and the planet, the WRI said.

It would "entail clearing most of the world's remaining

forests, wiping out thousands more species," the report said.

Paris Agreement target

It would also release enough greenhouse gas emissions to exceed the 2015 Paris Agreement's target of keeping the global average temperature rise "well below" 2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial times to avoid catastrophic climate change.

Producing a ton of protein from sheep, goats or cows emits at least four times more green-

house gases than pigs and eight times more than chickens, while ruminants also require much more land for grazing or growing feed, WRI said.

Scientists have been working to reduce emissions from ruminants through measures including selecting breeds that burp less, but providing higher-quality feed would also help by allowing each animal to produce more meat and milk, WRI said. —THOMSON REUTERS FOUNDATION



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
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THE EXPONENT OF THE PHILIPPINE PROGRESS
SINCE 1898

MANILA BULLETIN

THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER

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IRR on Anti-Red Tape Law issued, erring gov't officials face penalties

By **BERNIE CAHILES-MAGKILAT**

The Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 was signed yesterday setting clear 3-7-20-day deadlines, depending on the complexity of the transaction, to approve and act an application for permits or face penalties in a heightened effort to eliminate redtape and corruption in government.

The IRR was signed by Trade and Industry Secretary Ramon M. Lopez, Jeremiah B. Belgica, and Civil Service Commission Chairman Alicia Dela Rosa-Bala witnessed by principal authors of the law Senator Miguel Zubiri and Rep. Bernadette Herrera-Dy.

Belgica said the IRR will be published today, and full implementation will take effect 15 days after its publication. The law was signed in May last year and took effect in June, but the IRR took longer because of the delay in the appointment of the Director-General.

One of the main provisions of the law, which created the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) Council to implement the law, is the standardization of processing time for applications and transactions with the government. For simple transaction, government agencies are given three working days; seven working days for complex transactions; and 20 working days for those requiring highly technical assessment.

The law imposes hefty penalties against violators and those not complying with the law. On the first offense, a six-month suspension will be meted out to those proven violating the law. On the other hand, one to six years of imprisonment; a fine of no less than ₱500,000 but no more than ₱2 million; and termination of retirement benefits await those who will commit a second count.

Rule VIII of the IRR provides for the automatic approval or automatic extension, renewal of license, clearance, permit, certification or authorization upon verification that the applicant has needed fully submitted all necessary documents and paid all the required fees.

To ensure faster implementation, ARTA has required all government agencies to submit their Citizens Charter, primarily a set of requirements needed by a particular agency on its applicants. As of April this year, there have been 793 citizen charters submitted out of the 19,301 government services.

Newly-appointed ARTA Chief Belgica said, "There is a chance to change things if you stand by what is right. That is the reason we are here."

Belgica stressed that ARTA is a campaign promise of President Duterte, who openly decried government red tape as he bewailed the long queues of people trans-

acting with government offices for simple permits and licenses.

He blamed government red tape as the culprit why "business is not open, books are not open, inventions are not patented, and Filipino ingenuity in general was hampered."

The ARTA office, which is open 20x7 will receive complaints on social media and electronic means. But the process would still include complaint evaluation, verification and identification of complainants, acts being complained about, and evidence of the complainant.

If there is a strong evidence of violation, ARTA will submit its recommendation to the disciplining bodies of the government such as the Ombudsman and the Civil Service Commission. It can also recommend preventive suspension of the erring employees.

On the effectivity of the law, Belgica said this cannot be measured by the number of cases filed or government officials being penalized but, the law's impact should translate into "ease and speed of doing business and standing in the global competitiveness" because that is a result that emanates from the private sector not just big business but small business.

Private sector representative Guillermo Luz stressed that the key performance indicator of the law's success should be in terms of where the Philippines stands in the global competitiveness survey, where the country still lags behind among countries, especially in the ease of doing business survey.

But Luz said that he would rather go for automation and have all transactions times-tamped to see how many transactions been tackled within a day or two or three. "A report card is the best measure and easy to understand," he said.

The last key performance indicator, he said, is the economy if more businesses have been opened and more jobs created and eventually growth. He noted that cities with ease of doing business attract more businesses than those that are slow to act.

While the law covers all government agencies including quasi-judicial bodies, Belgica said they will come up with a circular to clarify the treatment of their charters.

Atty Ernesto V. Perez, ARTA deputy director-general, stressed that the IRR gives the teeth that "reforms are not just on paper but concrete action beneficial to business and ordinary people transacting with government."



MAGAGALING talaga ang mga sindikato ng droga sa pag-ismagel ng kanilang produkto.

Sa Bungere, South-wales, Australia, hindi inakala ng mga awtoridad na ang imported na excavator o backhoe ang gamit sa pagpapasok ng droga sa nasabing bansa.

Isiniksik ang mga bag ng 384 cocaine na nagkakahalaga ng 184 milyong dolyar o mahigit sa P9.2 bilyon sa mga frame o kamay na bakal ng backhoe.

Ayon sa Storyful, nagsama-sama ang New South Wale's Police, the Australian Federal Police's National Anti-Gangs Squad, Australian Border Force at Customs nila para mahuli ang dalawang Australyanong sangkot sa drug trafficking.

Pinalalabas ng dalawang suspek na gamit nila ang backhoe para sa gardening o landscaping business nila.

Dumaan sa x-ray machine ang nasabing backhoe at nakita ang mga cocaine na nakasiksik o nakasalansan sa loob ng mga frame.

Ito umano ang pinakamalaking halaga ng droga na nasabat ng Australia.

FRAME RIN SA PINAS

Nitong malaking huli ng Bureau of Customs at Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, anak ng tokwa, aluminum frame o paleta ang pinaglagyan ng droga na shabu.

P1 bilyon ang halaga ng shabu na natagpuan sa loob ng 30 paleta.

May kasamang tapioca ang shabu at pinalabas na tapioca talaga ang natagpuan sa mga paleta.

Pero sa huli, kinumpirmang shabu nga ang laman ng mga paleta ngunit pina-auction o pinasubasta raw ang mga iyon para mamagnet nila ang mga druglord na sangkot dito.

Isang may-ari ng warehouse ang nanalo sa pasubasta at sa warehouse na iyon kinumpiska ang mga shabu.

MAGNETIC LIFTERS

Magkasunod naman ang mga magnetic lifter na dumating sa pier ng Maynila na may lamang shabu na nagkakahalaga ng nasa P6 bilyon bawat isa.

Ang isang tumpok



WAIS ANG DRUGLORDS AT PAKNER NILANG PINOY

ng magnetic lifter ay dinala sa Valenzuela samantalang sa Cavite ang isang tumpok.

Hanggang ngayon pinag-aawayan pa kung paano nakapasok ang mga shabu sa magnetic lifter, maging ang nakapaloob sa mga aluminum pallet.

Pero ang sigurado, umaaksyon si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte at pinagpapalitan nito ang mga pinuno ng BOC.

Mula nong unang pagdating ng magnetic lifter na dinala sa Valenzuela, nakatatlong palit na ang Pangulo ng mga bosing sa BOC.

At hanggang sa huli, may aksyon ang Pangulo laban sa mga korap sa BOC.

IBANG PAMAMARAAN

Malikhain talaga ang mga druglord.

Halimbawa rin sa cocaine.

Basta na lang binibitiwan ang mga ito sa silangang bahagi ng baybayin ng ating mga karagatan mula Mindanao hanggang sa Kabisayan, Kabisulan at Timog Katagalugan.

'Yun pala, may mga gamit ang mga ibinabagsak na cocaine na electronics para masubaybayan ng mga nagbabagsak kung saan matatagpuan ang mga ito.

PACKAGE SA EROPLANO

Isang mapangahas na paraan ang pagpapadala ng package sa mga eroplano.

Shabu, cocaine, party drugs ang ipinadadala sa pamamagitan ng mga package.

May nakalulusot.

Ang mga galing sa Europ at Amerika na party drugs ay nakakalat sa Mega Manila at unti-unting nadidiskubre ang mga ito ng mga awtoridad.

Ilang beses na nga bang nagkaroon ng kamatayan sa paggamit ng party drugs?

Apat ang namatay noong may concert sa Mall of Asia at isa namang estudyante ang namatay sa araw

ng Sinulog Festival sa Cebu.

Na-overdose sa party drugs ang mga namatay.

LABORATORY SHIPS

Maraming shabu ang nadidiskubre noong panahon ni Noynoy Aquino na lumulutang sa mga karagatan gaya ng sa Ilocos at Cavite.

Tig-isang kilong naka-cellophane ang mga ito.

May mga nadiskubre ring P2 bilyong shabu sa Claveria, Cagayan.

Paniniwala ng iba, galing sa dagat, mula sa mga barkong naglalayag sa karagatan ang mga shabu.

May hinala pa nga na ang mga ginagamit sa blacksand mining ay gamit din sa pagpapasok ng droga sa bansa.

Ito ang isa sa dapat na tingnan ng mga awtoridad.

Kasi, simula noong nagkaroon ng mga barkong nagba-blacksand mining, dumami umano ang suplay ng shabu sa paligid ng mga ito.

MGA LGU

Parang gusto pang palabasin ng mga Uzi natin na sangkot ang mga makapangyarihang lokal na opisyal na kapakner ng mga nagba-blacksand mining sa pagpapasok ng shabu sa mahal kong Pinas.

Ano kaya ang masasabi ng PDEA at mga pulis ditto?

May problema ang ating Uzi sa mga pulis.

Dahil kasama umano ang mga ito sa mga namamantikaan ng nguso ng blacksand mining.

Kung may nagrerek-lamo laban sa mga blacksand miner na karaniwang mga dayuhan sa mga pulis, anak ng pitong putakte, dedma ang mga ito.

Ingununguso lagi nila sina Mayor o Governor.

Sey ninyo, mga Bro?

Ancmang reaksiyon o reklamo ay maaaring iparating sa 0922840-3333 o i-email sa bantiporda@yahoo.com.

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT BUREAU
DENR Compound, Visayas Avenue, Diliman Quezon City 1118
Telephone Nos.: (632)927-15-17, 928-37-25; Fax No.: (632) 920-22-58
Website: <http://www.emb.gov.ph> / Email: mail@emb.gov.ph

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

On the **ENVIRONMENTAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AND MANAGEMENT PLAN (EPRMP)** of the proposed **PAPER MILL PRODUCTION LINE EXPANSION (Paper Mill No.3) AND ADDITIONAL 25 MW COAL FIRED POWER PROJECT** of **UNITED PULP AND PAPER COMPANY** to be located in **BARANGAY IBA-ESTE, CALUMPIT, BULACAN**.

Notice is hereby given to all parties who wish to give their opinion regarding the proposed **PAPER MILL PRODUCTION LINE EXPANSION (Paper Mill No.3) AND ADDITIONAL 25 MW COAL FIRED POWER PROJECT** to attend a Public Hearing on **25 July 2019 (Thursday)** at **9:00 AM (registration starts at 8:00 am)** to be held at the **Covered Court-Calumpit Municipal Hall, Calumpit, Bulacan**.

The Public Hearing is being conducted in connection with the review of the EPRMP of the aforementioned project by the Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

All interested parties who wish to attend or participate in this Public Hearing should preferably confirm their attendance/participation and may give their opinion(s) in a concise position paper to the **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EIAMD)** of this Office through mail or through email at eiamd.emb.co@gmail.com, three (3) days before the Public Hearing schedule. Those who will not be able to register or submit written positions may be given the opportunity to share their issues on the day of the hearing itself.

The project's EPRMP and Executive Summary for the Public are downloadable at our website: www.eia.emb.gov.ph (kindly access the *Notice of Public Hearing/ Consultation link found in our website*) while copies will be available in this Office and in the following offices:

- 1.) **EMB Region III**
Turquoise St., Zone 2, Ramar Village, San Agustin,
City of San Fernando, Pampanga
- 2.) **Municipal Planning and Development Office (MPDO)**
Municipality Hall, Calumpit Bulacan

For more details, please contact the EIAMD Division at this Office at telephone number (02) 920-2240 to 41 through the project casehandlers Engr. Lene Ramboyong or For. Mark Anthony Tuliao.

Malaya – July 11 & 18, 2019