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# DENR

## IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



TITLE:

PAGE 1/

14 JUN 2019  
DATE

## DENR TUTOK SA PROBLEMA SA POLUSYON SA DAGAT

**PINAALALAHANAN** ni Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu ang mga environment minister na pagtuunan ang kritikal na isyu ng marine plastic pollution sa ginanap na Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Ministerial Roundtable Discussion on Clean Air, Health and Climate kamakailan sa Makati City.

Ayon kay Cimatu, lima sa ASEAN member-states ang pinagmumulan ng plastic pollution sa mga karagatan sa buong mundo na siya ring may

pinakamataas na marine plastic litter concentration.

Batay sa Science Magazine, noong 2015, kabilang sa mga bansang tinawag na world's worst plastic polluters ay ang Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia at Filipinas.

Sabi ng DENR chief na kinakailangang magkaroon ng pagtutulungan at agarang solusyon ang rehiyon upang matugunan ang marine plastics sapagkat mayaman ang Asean region sa "marine biodiversity" bukod pa sa pagkakaroon nito ng strategic maritime zone.

"After all, plastics have carbon footprint, too, and bio-accumulation of microplastics may have impacts to human health," sabi pa ni Cimatu.

Nangako naman ang environment ministers at senior officials ng ASEAN member states na palalakasin nila ang mga initiative upang magbigyan ng solusyon ang patuloy na paglala ng air pollution upang mapigilan ang 0.60C pagtaas ng temperature sa taong 2050. Sa pamamagitan nito ay mapabubuti ang kondisyon ng hangin at mapipigilan ang "prema-

ture deaths" at pagkasira ng mga pananim kada taon.

Ang mga pangakong ito ay tugon sa mensahe ng roundtable discussion kung saan tinalakay ang pagkaka ugnay-ugnay ng air pollution, health at climate. Tinutukan din dito kung paano mababawasan ang short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) katulad ng black carbon, methane, tropospheric ozone at hydrofluorocarbons na labis na nakaaapekto sa kalusugan at isa ring dahilan ng global warming.

**BENEDICT  
ABAYGAR, JR.**



14 AUG 2019

DATE

TITLE:

PAGE 1/



**PARADISE SOILED:** A woman washes her child's buttocks after defecation while another buries the child's soiled underwear on a beach in Boracay in a video that went viral on Monday. The two women were reportedly Chinese tourists. Story on Page 4.

## Report environment lawbreakers – tourism chief

By RALPH EDWIN VILLANUEVA

Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat yesterday urged those who see any tourist breaking environmental laws to report it to authorities.

A video that went viral on Monday showed a Chinese tourist who let her child defecate along the shores of newly rehabilitated Boracay Island. Another woman

was seen in the video burying the child's soiled underwear.

Puyat said the incident is wrong, regardless of the nationality of those involved. She then asked anyone to readily call the attention of the authorities so they can deal with it.

"If you see (similar incidents), please report it to authorities, to police," Puyat said.

"We encourage stakeholders to

report (such incidents) to report it to authorities, regardless of nationality," she added.

She said it "could have been anybody."

Municipal Ordinance No. 311, series of 2012, prohibits littering, urinating, defecating, spitting, vandalizing and dumping trash in public places.

Violators will face imprisonment, paying of fine, or both.



## Boracay ginawang kubeta ng Chinese

Umani ng katakot-takot na batikos mula sa mga netizen ang isang babaeng Chinese national na nakitang nagpapatae ng kanyang anak sa maputing buhangin ng Boracay Islands

Nakunan ng video ang ginawa ng dayuhan na pagpapadumi sa kanyang anak at nang matapos dumumi ang bata ay tinakpan nito ng buhangin sa may pangpang ng dagat.

Nalaman na pinagsabihan ang babae ng ilang turista na pawang kinabibilangan ng ibang dayuhan at Filipino subalit dedma lang ito at itinuloy ang pagtatae sa anak.

Nakita rin na sinundan pa ng lola ng bata ang mag-ina at

hinugasan pa sa dagat ang suot na underwear ng bata na may dumi.

Nakita umano ito ng nagpost na isang alyas 'Grace', nagtatampisaw sila sa Station 1 nang mamataan ng kanyang kaibigan ang dayuhan na pinadudumi ang bata sa buhangin ng dagat.

Sa pagkadismaya agad na umahon si Grace at naligo na lamang sa kanilang hotel at saka pinost ang nakita sa social media.

Sinabi ng netizen na si Jello Macabuhay: "Nakakadiri!!! Pinaghirapan linisin ang Boracay ng 6 months tapos bababuyin lang ng turistang gaya niyan. Dapat parusahan ang ina."

Ayon naman kay Jaysylm Uy: "Kainis !!!! Huwag na kayong pumunta sa foreign country kung di niyo kayang madi-siplina at sumunod sa mga basic rules. Dapat sa mga ito dini deport agad."

Isa namang netizen ang nagsabi na "bwisit itong babae na to dapat ipakain sau ang dumi ng anak mo."

Ilan pang netizen ang nagbigay ng negatibong komento sa ginawa ng babaeng dayuhan.

Ang mga Chinese na top violator sa mga ordinansang pinapatupad sa Boracay.

Hindi nakaligtas kay Tourism Sec. Bernadette 'Berna' Romulo-Puyat ang insidente. "This was

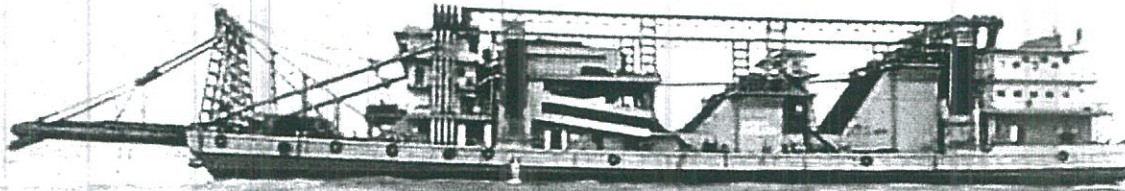
an unfortunate incident but we will not tolerate those who violate the law," sabi pa nito nang kunan ng reaksyon.

"We encourage the public, who might witness similar incidents, to immediately report offenders to the proper authorities so that they can be promptly apprehended and fined accordingly. We will continue to coordinate with the tour operators and travel agencies in informing our tourists of the proper travel etiquette when visiting the Philippines and the corresponding fines and punishments if these are not followed," pahayag pa ng kalihim. **(Juliet de Loza-Cudia)**



# CAGAYAN EXECS SEEK DU30 HELP VS 'BLACK SAND MINING'

NEWS / A4



**SAY IT AIN'T BLACK SAND MINING** The presence of this dredging vessel at the mouth of Cagayan River in Aparri, Cagayan province, has caused an uproar among provincial board members who fear it is being used to extract black sand, which Gov. Manuel Mamba denies.

—PHOTO CONTRIBUTED BY GISING CAGAYAN

## WHAT WENT BEFORE

Illegal mining of black sand or magnetite has persisted in several towns in Cagayan province despite opposition from local residents and raids by authorities on prohibited operations.

Several groups have complained that the magnetite resources are being smuggled out of the country through Port Irene in Santa Ana town with the use of allegedly questionable permits issued by the national and local governments.

In August 2013, the National Bureau of Investigation and the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) found during raids that foreign companies, mainly Chi-

nese, which held permits issued by the MGB or the provincial government were behind the illegal extraction in Cagayan.

The operatives, who belong to a task force on illegal black sand mining, arrested 18 Chinese employed by Hua Xia Mining and Trading Corp., which operated illegally a processing plant for black sand in Paddaya and Dodan villages, both in Aparri town. The company only had a permit to extract sand in Casiitan and Batangan villages, both in Gonzaga town.

Despite the campaign against illegal black sand mining, extraction activities continued in 2014,

especially at night, rousing residents from sleep as heavy machinery ran.

In April 2014, Carlito Pentecostes Jr., then mayor of Gonzaga and a supporter of black sand mining, was shot and killed by an unidentified assailant seconds after a flag-raising ceremony in front of the municipal hall.

Pentecostes had been criticized for his vocal support for black sand mining undertaken by Chinese companies in Gonzaga. He had said mining was a lucrative financial base for the town to improve its economy but had to contend with the unease residents raised about the industry.

The mayor credited black sand mining for helping Gonzaga improve its municipal hall, market and gymnasium.

In June 2014, a Chinese miner and eight Filipino workers were arrested for illegal black sand mining in a coastal village in Gonzaga.

After engaging in inland extraction activities in Cagayan's northern coastal communities from 2009 to 2014, the mining companies considered offshore extraction. There were proposals to scour the seabed 9 to 15 kilometers from the shore and extract magnetite sand from an area of 5,000 hectares. —INQUIRER RESEARCH Source: Inquirer Archives



# Cagayan execs seek Du30 help vs 'black sand mining'

By Villamor Visaya Jr.  
@VillVisayaJrINQ

**TUGUEGARAO CITY**—The Cagayan provincial board has asked President Duterte to stop dredging activities at the mouth of the Cagayan River that reportedly involves illegal extraction of black sand, or magnetite, an ore of iron used in steel production.

In a resolution approved on Aug. 7, the board members said the dredging being carried out by Pacific Offshore Exploration Inc. (POEI) posed a threat to the environment and livelihood of villagers.

"This is to be investigated as we appeal to the President (Duterte) to suspend the operation as the company has yet to comply with the requirements," Board Member Mila Catabay-Lauigan said during the board's regular session last week.

The provincial government has entered into a memorandum of agreement with POEI for the dredging project in Aparri town in June.

Lauigan also claimed that the dredging vessel put the waste or nonmineral sand back into the river.

## P2.6B a month, no ECC

Another board member, Vilmer Vilorio, said the dredging project had not been issued an environmental compliance certificate (ECC) and other permits, which, he noted, made the contractor's operation illegal.

The board resolution said the contractor was earning about \$50 million or P2.6 billion a month from the alleged black sand mining.

Residents near the Cagayan River said they had seen several dredging vessels with Chinese markings since July.

At the height of Typhoon "Hanna" (international name: Lekima) last week, one of the dredging vessels ran aground due to strong winds and rough waves, according to the Philippine Coast Guard.

## Mamba denial

Gov. Manuel Mamba denied that the dredging project involved extracting black sand.

Mamba said the dredging activities at the mouth of the Cagayan River would give way to the reopening of the Port of Aparri.

He also said the project would "improve economic and trade relations between Cagayan and China, and other neighboring Asian countries."

"I would resign if they can prove that it is black sand mining. It is dredging, plain and simple," Mamba told the Inquirer by telephone on Tuesday.

He said the company offered to dredge the river for free.

Mamba, who is also chair of the regional development council's infrastructure development committee, approved a resolution on the reopening of the Aparri port in 2018.

## Stop order

On Aug. 6, the Aparri municipal council approved a separate resolution asking the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to issue a cease-and-desist order against POEI.

According to the council, the dredged materials were being transported abroad.



**CAGAYAN DREDGING** This dredging vessel has been seen at the mouth of the Cagayan River in Cagayan province since July. The provincial board has asked President Duterte to intervene to stop the dredging activities which reportedly involved black sand extraction. —PHOTO COURTESY OF GISING CAGAYAN

"With the absence of the dredging plan and a dredging permit, it is very apparent that there is no prior assessment of the possible environmental impact of the dredging activity despite the fact that there will be pernicious ef-

fects resulting [in] environmental degradation," it said.

It added: "The operation is illegal and must be stopped immediately to avoid environmental hazards and threats to life and livelihood." INQ



ALLEGED DEFICIENCIES

# CAGAYAN BLACK SAND MINERS WIN IN COA TAX CASE

By Patricia Denise M. Chiu  
@PDMChiuINQ

The Commission on Audit has lifted the notice of charge (NC) it earlier imposed on 13 mining companies engaged in black sand mining in Cagayan during the Aquino administration.

In a decision dated June 11 but made public only on Tuesday, the COA lifted the P94.8 million NC it earlier imposed on the mining companies due to alleged tax deficiencies.

"The issuance of the NC was premature considering that the auditors failed to consider the assessment period and assessment procedure of the BIR," the decision said.

COA further explained that it was the BIR, and not COA au-

ditors, who was in charge of collecting the amount.

The case stemmed from the discovery by local auditors of the BIR regional offices in Cagayan that from 2011 to 2013, the black sand miners, which included Chinese companies, did not pay taxes in the amount of P94.8 million.

The companies and individuals issued an NC included Efren Gannaban, Alpha Infinite Vision, Cagayan Great Mines, Feiron Steel Inc, Global Exploration Mining Development, Golden Sea Miners, Huaxia Mining, Julio Dicierto, Lian Sing Philippines Stone, Lutra, San You Phil, Unic 101 and Well Resource Mining Inc

In February 2014, the officer in charge-audit team leader

and the supervising auditor of the BIR issued Audit Observation Memorandum (AOM) No. 2014-03-(2013) regarding the deficiency in the collection of excise taxes from the mining companies for the years 2011 to 2013, in the amount of P97.9 million.

The excise tax due was later recomputed to include Huaxia Mining's sand and gravel fee, which brought the total amount to P111.69 million.

However, the COA regional office said that only P16.9 million were collected by the BIR.

"Thus, there is a deficiency of P94,801,948.73. Despite this deficiency, the BIR issued excise tax clearance certificates (ETCC) to the mining companies," the decision said.

The P94.8 million deficiency triggered the imposition of a notice of charge against the 13 companies and individuals, including several BIR personnel.

In their appeal, the BIR officers argued that the COA had no jurisdiction over the case since the BIR had not issued a final ruling on the assessments.

For its part, the COA appreciated the merits of the argument of the BIR officers, and lifted the notice of charge.

"The amount of excise taxes payable by the mining companies had yet to be verified/computed against actual payments and corresponding assessment made by the BIR officers concerned, in accordance with the BIR rules and regulations," the decision said. INQ



## Kaliwa Dam construction advantageous to everyone

The construction of Kaliwa Dam in Infanta Quezon as an alternative source of water to lessen the water shortage problem in Metro Manila is generating different opinions and speculations from different groups and netizens.

Since, water is life and it is the number one basic need particularly of humans, I believe that the building of Kaliwa Dam is a good idea and an advantage to everyone especially to those residing in Metro Manila.

Our indigenous Dumagats who are living in Sierra Madre mountains are worried over the construction of Kaliwa Dam and I do understand them since they want to protect their ancestral domain. But I have a strong faith that the construction of this dam will give more opportunity to our Dumagat brothers to make income and for

their living. Jobs will open for them as the dam is constructing. I also believe that the government will not allow the construction if this will endanger residents in the area and the Dumagats.

I am sure that the government will take care of them and they are the priority before the President approve the construction of Kaliwa Dam. However it is not new that speculations are spreading against the construction of the dam since many anti-government are using propaganda to deceive our indigenous people.

In the end, I do believe that many terrorist NPAs are hiding and camping in the mountain of Sierra Madre and once the construction starts, many soldiers will secure the area and these terrorists will have nowhere to hide. - **THAMMY GARCIA**, [thammyg1986@gmail.com](mailto:thammyg1986@gmail.com)





## ANTAS NG TUBIG SA ANGAT DAM, NASA 175.65 METRO NA!

MASAYA ang mga taga Metro Manila, hindi dahil sa walang klase ang mga estudyante o kaya maaga pinapauwi ang mga empleyado. Ang mataagal natin hinihintay kung kailan ulan muli ay nagsisimula na. Noong nakaraang linggo, halos walang tigil ang naging pagbuhos ng ulan kaya wala na tayong aalalahanin sa suplay ng tubig.

Ayon kay Dr. Seville David, Jr. Executive Director ng NWRB, "ang antas ng tubig ay nasa 175.65 metro (as of August 13, 2019, 7:00am) tumas ng bahagyang dahil madalas na ang pagbuhos ng ulan sa may paligid ng Angat Dam, ngunit, hindi pa rin dapat maging kampanel! Kahit tumas na siya, mababa pa rin ang antas ng tubig kung ikukumpara sa minimum operating level na 180 meters at

sa normal high water level (NHWL) na 210 meters. Malayo pa rin sa end of the year target na 212 meters."

Ang lebel ng tubig sa Ipo Dam ay nasa 100.97m at 76.66m sa La Mesa Dam. Tumaas man sa 175.65 mtrs ang lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam, ipinatutupad pa rin ng NWRB ang 36cms metro kubiko bawat segundo alokasyon para sa Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS)

Ang Low Level Outlet (LLO) o ang mababang antas ay kasalukuyang ginagamit upang mapanatili ang kasalukuyang alokasyon ng 36 kubiko metro bawat segundo o mahigit-kumulang sa 3.1 bil-yong liters bawat araw.

Noong ika-22 ng Hunyo 2019, binawasan ng NWRB ang alokasyon ng tubig para



## ANG INYONG LINGKOD

DR. HILDA C. ONG

sa MWSS at sa mga konsyunaryo nito ng 4 cubic meters per second (CMS), mula 40 CMS, ibinaba sa 36 CMS dahil ang antas ng tubig sa Angat Dam naging mas mababa sa kritikal na lebel na 160 meters. Ang 4 CMS na ibabawas ay katumbas ng konsumo ng halos 700,000 na katao kada araw.

Kung ang antas ng tubig sa Angat Dam ay patuloy ang pagtaas hanggang sa umabot na sa 180 mtrs, umaasa ang MWSS, ibabalik ng NWRB ang kanilang dating alokasyon.

Ang mungkahi ng inyong lingkod sa NWRB, kung maaaring panatilihin ang kasalukuyang alokasyon na 36cms, huwag munang dagdagan ang alokasyon, hintayin

muna umabot sa 185mtrs ang antas ng tubig. Kung nasa 185mtrs na, saka ibalik ang dating 40cms allocation upang ma-kapag-ipon pa tayu.

Patuloy pa rin ang panawagan ng NWRB sa publiko na maging responsable sa paggamit ng tubig. Kasama na rin ang pag-iipon ng tubig at tamang pag-imbak para marecycle ang tubig ulan.

Ngayon panahon ng tag-ulan, subukan kumolekta ng tubig-ulan at gamitin sa pagdilig ng mga pananim, panghugas ng sasakyan, pang-flush sa banyo at panglinis ng sahig sa mga tahanan. Malaking katipiran dahil hindi na kayo gumagamit ng treated water, lilit ang babayaran sa Manila Water o Maynilad Water.

Sa ating mga tahanan, kung mayroon tayong mga drums o 5 gallons water containers, linisin itong mabuti, siguraduhin na may pantakip dito, at ilagay ito sa may alulod kung saan bulto kung bumuhos ang tubig ulan. Palipasin muna ang limang minuto bago magsimulang tipunin ang tubig para masiguradong ang anumang dumi sa bubungan ng bahay ay naanod na.

WATER IS PRECIOUS  
**SAVE IT**  
DO YOU HARVEST RAIN WATER?

**STOP water drops** **STOP water drops**

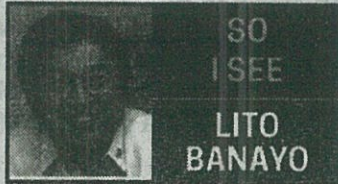
SAVE WATER

shutterstock

(Photo credit to www.shutterstock.com)



## Harvesting rain



AS THE plane circles Taoyuan before landing at the Taiwan International Airport, one would notice several “lakes” which are actually catch basins for rain water. Actually you can see these reservoirs, these water impounding basins, all over the island.

Before Davao City had safe and clean water piped into homes and establishments from Dumoy in the late sixties, residents had galvanized iron water tanks connected to their downspouts, which served their water requirements. Those were the days when forests were still lush, and rain occurred each afternoon until early evening in most parts of Mindanao.

One of the biggest problems of Baguio City is the paucity of water. In a city that sits on a river delta at the mouth of Agusan River, the water supply that flows into the taps of residents is chancy. Ironically, when the rains swell the Taguibo River from where the water concessionaire gets its supply, that is when the taps run dry.

When I built my house on the Tagaytay Ridge way back 1977, there was no assurance I would get water from the Tagaytay City Water District, because my lot was about 200 meters from the national highway. So I had a huge cistern built underneath what was to be my carport and the downspouts of the house were connected to that cistern.

of all that water for irrigation.

So much debate has put to a halt the construction of the Kaliwa and Kanan dams, or the Laiban, or whatever else, such as the over-stretched concern for the ancestral domain of indigenous peoples, but what about the needs of millions of our population who need water. Need we remind everybody that water is life?

We speak of food security, particularly as it concerns rice production. We keep arguing that the Vietnamese and the Thais studied agriculture at Los Baños, yet they are rice surplus countries from which we now import our staple. It's really such an absurd argument.

First there is the impact of our ever-growing population. I keep repeating that our 7,100 islands all comprise 30 million hectares while Thailand's contiguous whole is all of 51 million hectares. But on the demand side, we are 110 million mouths to feed versus Thailand's 68 million.

And then there is water. It takes 5,000 liters of water to produce a kilogram of rice. Thailand has the Chao Phrya; Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia have the Mekong River, even Myanmar has the Irrawady. Our Cagayan River is long but relatively shallow and narrow. The Agusan and Rio Grande, Pulangi and Agus in Mindanao are not fully exploited for their irrigation potential.

But this is the worst part: the number of irrigated ricelands we have has not significantly increased since the time when Ferdinand Marcos was the president. When Marcos left, 1.4 million hectares were irrigated, some of them built as far back as when Elpidio Quirino was president in the early fifties. We have added to that just about a hundred thousand hectares.

“ I have always wondered why we do not make use of the tons and tons of rainwater that pour from the heavens during our wet season. ”



TITLE:

harvesting rain...

PAGE 1/

2/2

14 AUG 2019  
DATE

But by 1978, when the house was finished, the water district began laying pipes to my property and the adjoining house owned by a celebrated movie star, so the rainwater collected into my cistern was used for watering the plants and the lawn.

I have always wondered why we do not make use of the tons and tons of rainwater that pour from the heavens during our wet season. These days, for instance, we have torrents of rainfall pounding on rooftops, causing floods and inundating both urban streets and rural fields. The water, the precious water, just stays there, waiting for natural evaporation.

When a prolonged El Niño started to dry up Angat Dam, the entire metropolis was in near panic as one of the water concessionaires, Manila Water, started rationing its supply in some parts of its concession area. Now we are relieved because the rains have come, and Angat as well as La Mesa have leveled up. But wait for the next drought.

Whenever I pass the Quezon Memorial Circle during a heavy downpour, I always wonder why either the national or local governments have not constructed a huge cistern underneath the Circle to catch all the floodwaters that cover the elliptical road network.

When heavy rainfall causes landslides in the Cordilleras, the streams and rivulets that feed into the Agno River get swollen, but all that precious water just flows into the sea after traversing Pangasinan. Think

I just read a news item about the Commission on Audit taking the National Irrigation Authority (NIA) to explain why some P20 billion of irrigation projects are grinding exceedingly slow.

Add to all these the specter of climate change, the impact of which everyone and his mother have explained to death.

Even the water supply for the paddies of the Indo-Chinese peninsula are in danger. China is building more and more dams, trapping the water that flows from the Tibetan highlands into the mighty Mekong River. Laos, for its part, is getting both China and Thailand to finance the construction of dam after dam that would produce hydro-electric power that they would then sell to Thailand.

The geographical fact that China controls the territory in the upland sources presents a potential danger to the low countries.

So the President in his latest SONA proposes a Department of Water Resource Management, putting together the various agencies that are mandated to manage water supply: the MWSS, the LWUA, the NWRB, and whatever else.

Will the new department finally put direction and create plans that will answer the ever-growing need for water?

Meanwhile, water conversation could be started by local governments, households, and everyone for that matter.



**DIRECT HIT**



**By ITCHIE CABAYAN**

**FIRST of all, special greetings and thanks to the staff of Globe Glorietta for the swift and orderly assistance given to yours truly recently.**

Retail manager Maria Aileen Ruiz, assistant retail manager Menchie Qui-latan and retail assistant Kaye Morales made easy what seemed difficult for the staff of Globe in Mall of Asia, when all I ever wanted was a change of my SIM card from the old type to the new one.

The kind of service they provide and their friendly attitude towards all customers -- at least this was what I saw while awaiting my turn -- is truly laudable and worthy of emulation.

During the recently-concluded meeting of the Department of Energy (DoE)-led Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee and Task Force Palawan Electric Cooperative (IACC-TF PALECO) with the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD) and PALECO representatives, the DOE has laid down the roadmap for action that would address the persistent power woes hounding Palawan.

Energy Secretary Al-

## Cusi solves Palawan Power woes; Thanks Globe Glorietta

fonso Cusi created Task Force PALECO earlier this year to conduct an exhaustive assessment and audit of the power situation in the province. This included the determination of the root causes for the frequent power outages, as well as the consolidation of all recommendations from other concerned agencies into the Task Force's Final Report.

Among the findings of TF PALECO were the uncoordinated synchronization of the protection system of PALECO and the National Power Corporation's (NPC) transmission lines; obstructing vegetation along both the long NPC transmission lines and PALECO distribution lines; overloaded substations; the unstable temporary generators; derailed coal power plant and the slow coordination among various government agencies on distribution line maintenance and improvements.

'We immediately directed PALECO and all relevant government agencies to carry out the recommendations in the final report of the task force. The livelihood of consumers and the operations of crucial infrastructure, such as hospitals and government offices hang in the balance.

'We will not stop working until we finally bring this power issue to an end,' Cusi stressed.

One of the major problems identified in the audit is the existence of a heavy vegetation problem on the NPC transmission lines in Palawan especially in the southern towns. To solve

this, the PCSD, through the Department of Environmental and Natural Resources (DENR), will issue PALECO a special permit for the transportation of the required tools and equipment to be used for the necessary tree cutting and clearing operations. The NPC likewise guaranteed the immediate upgrade of its line protection devices, which minimize the effects of transmission line trippings.

Meanwhile, the National Electrification Administration (NEA) has activated the 'Task Force Kapatid' program, which would involve the active participation of 10 electric cooperatives (ECs) to help with the rehabilitation of PALECO. Under this program, the participating ECs will be deploying six engineers and 60 linemen to help PALECO until October 2019. The necessary tools and equipment to effect improvements in PALECO's distribution system will also be provided.

Furthermore, Palawan Governor Jose Alvarez, head of the PCSD, assured the DoE of its efficient coordination with Local Government Units (LGUs) in securing all relevant certificates needed by PALECO. During the meeting, PALECO also had the opportunity to discuss the progress it has made in the implementation of the action plan it has previously submitted to the DoE. Their presentation prompted various public and private stakeholders to pledge their support to the local EC and guide it towards the neces-

sary steps to effectively and efficiently improve the power supply condition in Palawan.

According to Cusi, PALECO will have until the end of 2019 to complete its rehabilitation.

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**Beauty tip**— For skin whitening, home remedies include applying lemon juice throughout the skin like a lotion at least once a day after a warm shower. Let it dry and then rinse after 20 to 30 minutes. Vitamins A, C, and E, with glutathione intake, helps a lot. (Source: Dr. Rosary May Canay-Diaz of Californian Bloom Aesthetic Institute and Medical Spa / 4108424 / 4669596 / 09178038240 / 025053987 )

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**Jokjok (from Annalyn Vergara of Samar. Leyte)**— ANAK: 'Nay, buntis po ako/NANAY: Ganun ba? Sige matulog ka na/ ANAK: Ganun lang? Hindi mo man lang ba ako tatanungin kung sino nakabuntis sa 'kin? Di mo ba 'ko pagagalitan na paano na pag-aaral ko? Anong klaseng ina ka? Wala kang pakialam sa anak?! /NANAY: Ako ang ina na malapit nang makapatay ng anak! Ikaw Pedro ha, umayos ka! 'Yang kabaklaan mo pinayagan ko na tapos kung makakerengkeng ka, wagas! Matutulog ka na o gusto mong patulugin kita sa sapak??

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FOCUS

# Discharging 'scrubber wash water' poses serious danger to oceans

**I**NDUSTRY experts have warned that the indiscriminate discharge of scrubber wash water into the sea could pose serious risks to marine life and human health.

Some Philippine ships use the scrubbers or chemicals used to remove pollutants from engine exhaust. Scrubbers are akin to a car's exhaust filter, as they can reduce or remove pollutants from the ship's fuel chemical process to release clean smoke. With scrubbers, there's a pollutant residue such as scrubber wash water that could harm marine life and pollute the sea.

The dangers of discharging scrubber wash water into the sea include the poisoning of marine life. It can also lead to increased toxic levels, decreased pH levels, and acid rain. Abatement measures can mitigate the dangers of scrubber wash, industry experts said.

Research from Elementa, a marine publication, indicated that an open-loop scrubber could discharge more zinc and copper to the surface water than anti-fouling paint. The release of pollutants into seawater therefore can result in human health risks and water acidification. The paper noted that particulate matter, made by sulfate, forms one of the pollutants.

Ms. Nimfa, a marine life researcher, explained the toxic effects of scrubbers on marine life. "Chemicals such as sulfuric acid and nitrous oxide that made up the scrubber wash can poison marine life from planktons, small fish, to sharks. The reason behind this is the toxic magnification where preys such as planktons and small fish get eaten

by predators such as barracuda and shark. The poison accumulates from prey to predatory fish," she said.

An international paper called Umweltbundesamt said the decreasing pH level in the sea can adversely impact marine organisms, although a pH value reduction can greatly benefit closed water environments.

### Poison on marine life and food sources

Mr. Jerry E, a marine life researcher, warned against the effect of scrubber wash on marine life and seafood. "Scrubber wash can poison the fish, mollusk, and sea plants. Poisoned marine animals could end up in someone's dining table and cause unnecessary poisoning. I think it's like throwing garbage to the sea or dumping laundry wash water to the seashore," he said.

The International Maritime Organization's MARPOL (International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships) covers some issues concerning pollutants that could poison marine life and food sources.

First, an increase in chemical oxygen demand can potentially impact aquatic systems. Second, the polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon or PAH is a carcinogenic chemical that exists in petroleum products and can contaminate marine ecosystems.

Third, it could result in the increase in turbidity, a measure of

suspended particles in water and a decrease in water transparency. Fourth, nitrate, a highly oxidized form of nitrogen, can also be harmful. Fifth, wash water can contain arsenic, cadmium, nickel, copper, vanadium, selenium, and lead which are all toxic.

The European Water Framework Directive or WFD listed 33 harmful priority substances in wastewater. Such substances include benzene, fluoranthene, dioxins, endosulfan, and other chemicals with long names.

The International Surface Ocean-Lower Atmosphere Study or Solas, a research initiative by a non-profit organization, conducted a study about the ship-to-air, sea-interface, and scrubber emissions. The study identified the effects on the oceanic biome, which include the release of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen, aerosols, particulate matter, and nitrogen.

### Abatement measures

The Arctic Alliance, a non-profit organization, reported that by 2020, the International Maritime Organization's regulations would require fuel to limit sulfur content to 0.5%. This forced ships to adopt scrubber technology to meet the sulfur cap.

Lloyd's Register and DNV GL recommended technical standards for the scrubber operation and construction and required the correct installation of monitoring instruments.

Elementa, a shipping publication, also warned that wet scrubbers could reduce particle emissions into the atmosphere. A closed loop



2/2



Illustration from Sharp Minds Content

scrubber can re-circulate and buffer with caustic soda.

Mr. Ryan, a marine engineer, cited the need for abatement measures with the use of scrubbers. "Shipping companies could buy high-tech scrubbers that can filter all pollutants without leaving any traces or use fuels that are clean. Perhaps, ships can migrate to renewable energy sources such as solar energy or lithium batteries. Why not?" he said.

Mr. Jerry, another marine expert, suggested the proper disposal of scrubbers. "Ships could keep a container to hold wastewater and then after birthing, keep those containers onshore, recycle or bury underground similar to disposing of nuclear waste. Or shipping companies can recycle wastewater and

turn them into useful products to avoid pollutants. Small companies that are on a budget or cannot afford scrubbers could use less sulfur fuel or rely on liquefied natural gas," he said.

CSA or Clean Shipping Alliance, an organization composed of 25 maritime companies, concluded that compliant fuel and scrubbers are both essential to realize the 2020 sulfur cap required by IMO. It said that to ensure that the water discharged to the sea doesn't pollute the environment, ships should use water analysis instruments to monitor pH, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons, and turbidity.

The water analysis results must be kept on board not less than 18 months from the time of recording.

Shipping companies are also exploring alternatives to scrubber systems to reduce fuel sulfur content. Such options include fuel switching, fuel conversion, new engine technologies, dry scrubbers, and direct water injection.

Another technology is the Maritime Emission Control System (made by Advanced Maritime Emission Control System). It decreases a ship's emission while anchored or at berth. Such technologies focus on reducing nitrogen oxide, sulfur dioxide, particulates, and heavy metals.

Another alternative seen by the industry is to reduce the price of low sulfur content fuel so that ships will have more choices beyond using scrubber systems.

**SHARP MINDS CONTENT**



**PORTRAIT of Surfer Marama Tokong from  
DLSU-CSB's exhibit *Alon!***

## Exhibit on plastic waste

De La Salle-College of Saint Benilde (DLS-CSB), through its Center for Campus Art, presents *Alon!*, a specially curated exhibition that aims to create awareness on plastic waste, thus to hopefully initiate change. One of the highlights is a series of images of local surfers — Siargao, La Union, Baler, Mati in Davao, Gubat in Sorsogon and Sabang Daguitan in Leyte — with accumulated plastic trash in their hands, picked up from the beach in a five-minute period. The eponymous documentary, *Alon*, written and directed by Gabby Fernandez, will also premier on Aug. 28, one day before the Aug. 29 opening night of the exhibition. The short film, also produced by the CCA, features interviews with 40 local surfers as they try to answer the question: Why is the Philippines the third worst plastic polluter in the world? A mini photo exhibit featuring pictures by photographer Noel Guevara for Greenpeace Philippines will highlight the amount of non-biodegradables that have found their home in the depths of the seas. The photos were taken during a three-day dive and exploration at the Verde Island Passage. Also part of the exhibit is a sculpture of a dead baby whale sculpture by Biboy Royong, first seen as part of the famous 78-by-10-foot whale-like statue *Cry of the Dead Whale* recently installed in front of the Cultural Center of the Philippines. The piece is made from plastic bags, bottles and various waste products found in the bodies of water. *Alon!* will likewise showcase solutions, with student-designers from DLS-CSB showcasing tiles made out of plastic trash and a number of ensembles made from unconventional and upcycled materials. The exhibit will run from Aug. 29 until Dec. 14 at the 12<sup>th</sup> floor Main Gallery, School of Design and Arts Campus, DLS-CSB, Pablo Ocampo (Vito Cruz) St., Malate, Manila. *Alon!* is open free to the public.



# Cardema case ignites

**From page 1**

influential political clans "claim to represent the poor" during elections, explaining that this is not the intent of the Constitution when it introduced the sectoral representation process.

"The current partylist system was exploited by powerful political clans to strengthen their hold on power," the Senate leader said.

"Every election,

we would see billionaires—the poorest section don't think the Constitution,"

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SEGREGATION is practiced at the Payatas dumpsite in Quezon City.

ANALY LABOR





## KALINISAN AT KAAYUSAN KAYANG-KAYA NAMAN PALA

KAHIT saan ka mapunta, dito na lamang sa Metro Manila, maninibago ka sa iyong maayos na makikita. Malinis na kalsada, maayos na mga hanay ng tindero't tindera at mga terminal ng sakayan na hindi nakahambalang sa daan, ngayon ay nararanasan na.

Kung 'di pa ipag-uutos ng Pangulo sa ating mga punong lungsod o mga mayor ang paglilinis ng mga kalye sa buong bansa ay hindi pa natin makikita at mararanasan ang ganitong kaaya-ayang kapaligiran.

Hindi ito dahil sa may itinakdang panahon si Pangulong Duterte sa ating mga Mayor upang linisin ang mga lansangan upang gumaan ang takbo ng trapiko kundi naisa-isip ng ating mga lider, lokal man o nasyunal, na tila nakalimot din tayong lahat na ayusin ang

ating kapaligiran.

Sa pagtatanggal ng mga sagabal sa daan, kasama na ang mga bulok na sasakyan, mga iligal na nakaparada at mga istraktura, naitanim sa ating mga isip na tayo rin pala ang may sala sa ganitong sitwasyon.

Walang nakapagpaalala sa atin na ang ganitong senaryo ay 'di na pala kaaya-aya sa mata, at tayo na mismo ang gumawa ng mga hindi karapat-dapat na mga bagay para kumitid ang ating mga lansangan.

Sa paglilinis naman, naipakita nating muli ang pagtutulongan o ang bayanihan na isang taglay na ugali ng bawat Filipino. Sa aking barangay lamang sa may Quezon City, nakita kong nagsamasama ang aming Mayora, mga



## DALAKO EGCO

ni Joel M. Sy Egco

opisyal ng lokal na pamahalaan at ng barangay, maging ang mga ordinaryong mamamayan na kumilos upang pagaanin ang takbo ng trapiko sa pamamagitan ng paglilinis ng mga daanan.

Walang nangyaring sisihan bagkus ay kanya-kanyang mungkahi ang lumabas upang ang lahat ay hindi maapektuhan gaya ng kabuhayan ng ating mga kababayan o kabarangay.

Hindi sana maging "ningas-kugon" ang lahat ng ito, upang sa habang panahon ay mada-la rin ng mga susunod pang henerasyon na ang kalinisan at kaayusan ay magbibigay ng maayang kapaligiran.

'Di na kailangang may masuspinde pang opisyal dahil sa hindi maayos na lansangan, dahil tayo mismo ang may kagagawan nito. Sinamantala ng karamihan sa atin ang maluwag at maaaring pagsasawalang-bahala ng ating mga lider sa kaayusan. Marahil ay umaasa sila (ating mga lider) na tayo bilang mamamayan ay susunod at gagawa ng sariling hakbang at paraan upang maging maayos ang kapaligiran. Ngunit naiba nga ito. Lumala, 'ika nga, ang kapaligiran.

Maging mahusay na paalala sana itong ginawa ni Pangulong Duterte sa ating lahat, na ang kaayusan ay nagsisimula sa kalinisan.



# 3 global firms to design, build Bulacan airport

By Daxim L. Lucas  
@daxINQ

Three international firms—Groupe ADPi, Meinhardt Group and Jacobs—have been commissioned by the country's largest conglomerate to design and build the proposed P734-billion New Manila International Airport in Bulacan.

San Miguel Corp. president Ramon Ang said the three firms were leaders in their respective fields and had been involved in building world-class airports including Singapore's Chiangi Airport, France's Charles de

Gaulle Airport and Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in the United States.

"This is our biggest investment in a single project to date, one that will definitely impact the lives of millions of Filipinos and the country in general," Ang said. "It's all the more reason for us to push for greater sustainability and choose the best people to work with us."

The initial designs, some of which were released earlier, envision a future-ready airport focusing on overall passenger experience and sustainable technologies, consistent with

the needs of the environment and the local communities of Bulacan and nearby provinces.

SMC said it would also engage a world-class airport operator to help manage the country's future premier gateway.

Meanwhile, Ang assured fisherfolk who would be affected by the project that they would have better homes in relocation sites with motorized fishing boats so they could easily reestablish their livelihood.

"This project's success is anchored on helping support the local fishing industry," he said. "We are in the process of

identifying areas where together we can build a fishing community, that will last for generations to come."

"We want Bulacan to eventually become the seafood capital of the Philippines where seafood is exported to other countries, and tourists come in droves to sample them, similar to what happened to Japan's Tsukiji for so many years," Ang said.

Ang said this project would provide more and better livelihood opportunities instead of taking them away, and ensure environmental balance and enhance resilience against calamities. INQ



# SMC taps 3 foreign partners for Bulacan airport

By RICHMOND MERCURIO

**Food-to-infrastructure conglomerate San Miguel Corp. (SMC) is tapping three international companies involved in building world-class airports to design and construct its P734-billion airport project in Bulacan.**

SMC said yesterday it has engaged the services of global firms Groupe ADPi, Meinhardt Group and Jacobs to design and build its proposed New Manila International Airport project.

All three companies were involved in building world-class airports including Singapore's Changi Airport, Atlanta Airport

and France's Charles de Gaulle Airport.

Aside from the three firms, SMC said it would also engage a world-class airport operator to help manage the country's future premier gateway.

"This is our biggest investment in a single project to date, one that will definitely impact the lives of

millions of Filipinos and the country in general – all the more reason for us to push for greater sustainability and choose the best people to work with us," SMC president and COO Ramon Ang said.

SMC said the airport's initial designs envision "a future-ready gateway focusing on overall passenger experience and sustainable technologies consistent with the needs of the environment and the local communities of Bulacan and nearby provinces."

The Swiss challenge period for the New Manila International

Turn to C2

## SMC taps... From C1

Airport project ended last July 31, with SMC's proposal going unchallenged.

Transportation Undersecretary for aviation Manuel Antonio Tamayo earlier told **The STAR** that the government is poised to issue the notice of award to SMC anytime this week.

Meanwhile, Ang assured fisherfolks who would be affected by the project that they would have better homes in relocation sites, with fishing power boats, where then can easily re-establish their livelihood.

As soon as SMC gets final approval from the government, he said it would officially start meaningful and productive engagement with all concerned stakeholders, especially the affected communities.

"This project's success is anchored on helping support the local fishing industry. We are in the process of identifying areas where together we can build a fishing community that will last for generations to come," said Ang, noting the company's plan to make Bulacan the country's seafood capital similar to what happened to Japan's Tsukiji.

Ang said the project would "provide more and better

livelihood opportunities and not to take them away."

SMC will build the proposed airport on a 2,500-hectare property in Bulacan, Bulacan, about 30 kilometers northeast of Metro Manila, at no cost to the government.

The proposed airport, which will be capable of accommodating 20 million passengers a year, is designed to address congestion at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport.

SMC said the project is expected to fuel trillion of dollars in economic activity annually, create an estimated 20 million direct and indirect jobs, bring in 30 million foreign tourists in the country, and decongest Metro Manila with plans to integrate the complex to a larger infrastructure ecosystem that includes new and existing expressways and mass transit systems.

"Bulacan's local industries will not only survive, they will also grow. With a major international airport at their doorstep, fisherfolk, micro entrepreneurs, and local businesses will have a huge, ready market for their products, and even a means to ship them to other provinces or export them," Ang said.



This is an artist's rendition of the planned Bulacan airport.



STRATEGIC  
COMMUNICATION  
INITIATIVES  
SERVICE

# Manila Standard

B1  
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PAGE 1  
STORY

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STORY

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CARTOON

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# SMC taps 3 foreign firms to build Bulacan airport

By Darwin G. Amojelar

**S**AN Miguel Corp. said Tuesday it tapped the services of global companies Groupe ADPi, Meinhardt Group and Jacobs Engineering Group to design and build the P734-billion New Manila International Airport in Bulakan, Bulacan.

The three companies were involved in building world-class airports including Changi Airport in Singapore, Atlanta Airport in the United States and Charles de Gaulle Airport in France.

San Miguel said the initial designs, some of which were released earlier, envisioned a future-ready airport focusing on overall passenger experience and sustainable technologies consistent with the needs of the environment and the local communities of Bulacan and nearby provinces.

The conglomerate said it would also engage a world-class airport operator to help manage the future premier gateway.

"This is our biggest investment in a single project to date—one that will definitely impact the lives of millions of Filipinos and the country in general—all the more reason for us to push for greater sustainability and choose the best people to work with us," SMC president and chief operating officer Ramon Ang said.

Meanwhile, Ang assured fisherfolks who would be affected by the project that they would have better homes in relocation sites with fishing

power boats where they could easily re-establish their livelihood.

"This project's success is anchored on helping support the local fishing industry. We are in the process of identifying areas where together we can build a fishing community that will last for generations to come. We want Bulacan to eventually become the seafood capital of the Philippines where seafood is exported to other countries, and tourists come in droves to sample them—similar to what happened to Japan's Tsukiji for so many years," Ang said.

The conglomerate said it was expecting to set the stage for a meaningful and productive engagement soon once it secured the final approval from the government.



## 3 global firms tapped for P734-B Bulacan airport

CONGLOMERATE San Miguel Corp.'s (SMC) vision to establish a major gateway grew closer to becoming reality after identifying three international groups to design and build its proposed P734-billion New Manila International Airport (NMIA).

In a statement, SMC said it tapped the services of global firms Groupe ADPi, Meinhardt Group and Jacobs for the multibillion peso project in Bulacan town, Bulacan province.

These companies were responsible for building world-class airports including Singapore's Changi Airport, Atlanta Airport and France's Charles de Gaulle Airport.

"This is our biggest investment in a single project to date, one that will definitely impact the lives of millions of Filipinos and the country in general -- all the more reason for us to push for greater sustainability and choose the best people to work with us," SMC President and Chief Operating Officer Ramon S. Ang said in the statement.

Addressing the issue on the fishing industry in the province, the tycoon said the group would ensure livelihoods of affected individuals would be reestablish as SMC vowed to provide "better homes in relocation sites with fishing power boats...."

"This project's success is anchored on helping support the

local fishing industry. We are in the process of identifying areas where together we can build a fishing community that will last for generations to come. We want Bulacan to eventually become the seafood capital of the Philippines where seafood is exported to other countries, and tourists come in droves to sample them -- similar to what happened to Japan's Tsukiji for so many years," Ang said.

On July 31, SMC saw the Swiss challenge from its proposal to build the airport end with no rival groups to match its offer.

But before it could receive the notice to proceed, which is expected to be given by early

September, the Ang-led group has to meet requirements, including post performance security and proof of commitment.

Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade wanted to speed up the process for construction, which is slated to begin by the fourth quarter of 2019.

SMC bagged original proponent status in October 2017 for its proposal to construct, operate and maintain the 2,500-hectare air hub. The project will feature a passenger terminal building with airside and landside facilities, as well as an airport toll road.

Shares of SMC finished flat at P177 apiece on Tuesday.

**LISBET K. ESMAEL**



# SMC names int'l partners for P734-B airport project

## *Assures affected fisherfolk of new homes, better lives*

SAN Miguel Corporation has engaged the services of global firms Groupe ADPi, Meinhardt Group and Jacobs to design and build its P734-billion proposed New Manila International Airport in Bulacan (NMIA).

All three companies were involved in building world-class airports including Singapore's Changi Airport, Atlanta Airport and France's Charles de Gaulle Airport.

The initial designs, some of which were released earlier, envision a future-ready airport focusing on overall passenger experience and sustainable technologies consistent with the needs of the environment and the local communities of Bulacan and nearby provinces.

SMC said it will also engage a world-class airport operator to help manage the country's future premier gateway.

"This is our biggest investment in a single project to date, one that will definitely impact the lives of millions of Filipinos and

the country in general— all the more reason for us to push for greater sustainability and choose the best people to work with us," SMC president and COO Ramon S. Ang said.

Ang assured fisherfolk who will be affected by the project that they will have better homes in relocation sites with fishing power boats where they can easily re-establish their livelihood.

"This project's success is anchored on helping support the local fishing industry. We are in the process of identifying areas where together we can build a fishing community that will last for generations to come. We want Bulacan to eventually become the seafood capital of the Philippines where seafood is exported to other countries, and tourists come in droves to sample them—similar to what happened to Japan's Tsukiji for so many years," Ang said.

SMC said it hopes to be able to set the stage for a meaningful and productive engagement soon as it gets

final approval from the government.

Ang reiterated this project would "provide more and better livelihood opportunities, not to take them away; ensure environmental balance and enhance resilience against calamities, because it's the right thing to do.

He added that as soon as SMC gets final approval from the government, it would officially start meaningful and productive engagement with all concerned stakeholders, especially the affected communities.

### Benefits of the NMIA

SMC is building its proposed airport on a 2,500 hectare property in Bulacan, Bulacan about 30 kms northeast of Metro Manila at no cost to the government.

The proposed airport is designed to address the capacity needed today amid existing airport congestion, while allowing for future expansion. It will be capable of accommodating 20 million passengers a

year who will enjoy the benefits of world-class facilities.

As a catalyst to development, NMIA is expected to fuel trillion of dollars in economic activity annually; create an estimated 20 million direct and indirect jobs; bring in 30 million foreign tourists in the country; and, most of all, decongest Metro Manila with plans to integrate the complex to a larger infrastructure ecosystem that includes new and existing expressways and mass transit systems

This will also bring Bulacan's local economy, together with adjacent provinces, to unprecedented levels of growth.

"Bulacan's local industries will not only survive, they will also grow. With a major international airport at their doorstep, fisherfolk, micro entrepreneurs, and local businesses will have a huge, ready market for their products, and even a means to ship them to other provinces or export them," Ang said.



# Duterte to submit P4.1-T 2020 budget next week

By JESS DIAZ

President Duterte is scheduled to submit his proposed P4.1-trillion national budget for 2020 to the House of Representatives next Tuesday.

He will present his budget proposal through acting Budget Secretary Wendel Avisado, who earlier informed the House that the proposed outlay would be transmitted between this week and Tuesday next week.

But House appropriations committee chairman Davao City Rep. Isidro Ungab told reporters yesterday that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) was still printing the budget.

"They cannot make it this week. They will most likely submit it on Tuesday, which is their constitutional deadline to do so, since Wednesday is a national holiday," he said.

Ungab was referring to the mandate of the Constitution for the President to present his annual budget proposal to Congress within 30 days from the convening of the legislature last July 22.

Last year, when Benjamin Diokno was budget secretary, Malacañang transmitted its proposed outlay for this year to the House a day after lawmakers convened.

Ungab said his committee would start scrutinizing the budget a day after it is submitted.

"After one or two hearings on general principles, on the macro-economic assumptions used

by the administration in putting together the budget, we will go into simultaneous subcommittee work to expedite consideration of the budget proposal," he revealed.

He added that the target of Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano is for the House to approve the outlay on second reading before Congress goes on its first recess on Oct. 5.

According to sources in the House, the President's budget proposal, officially known as national expenditure program, will include pork barrel allocations for 24 senators and 305 House members amounting to a total of P35.3 billion.

Each congressman would have P100 million for his district or constituency in the case of a party-list representative, while each senator would have P200 million.

The DBM had requested lawmakers to submit their list of projects and programs so these could already be included in the budget proposal in compliance with a Supreme Court ruling on pork barrel funds.

Under the ruling, a senator or congressman could propose projects for funding while the legislature is still considering the budget. Post budget enactment intervention and meddling are prohibited.



## Climate change, land and your life



VIRTUAL  
REALITY  
TONY  
LOPEZ

A SPECIAL report, Climate Change and Land, by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released Aug. 7 in Geneva, will make you stop eating rice, pork, beef, hamburgers, and everything processed and genetically modified.

It says the only thing safe to eat, if you are serious about preserving the environment, for your children, grandchildren and their children, is fish.

You may have to ditch your car into the river for good. And you should also limit the amount of water you drink—a rule, which if followed seriously, will make you dead, of course. And even after you die, you will still

“Which is more important—food security and reducing malnutrition or halting and reversing desertification and land degradation?”

pollute the environment.

So I advise you, if you read the report, don't be too serious about it. Eat. Enjoy life, which is short anyway, by global standards, for Filipinos, only 68-69 years.

After all, the contribution of all Filipinos, 106 million of us, is less than one-tenth of one percent. The top six countries who contribute 60 percent of

total pollution (as of 2015) are: China 28 percent; United States 15 percent; India 6 percent; Russia 5 percent, Japan 4 percent, and Germany 2 percent.

So before citizens of the Philippines suffer, shouldn't the Chinese, Americans, Indians, Russians, Japanese, and the Germans suffer first? By so doing, the world will solve 60 percent of its total carbon dioxide emissions. And the rest of the world can live better.

According to IPCC, agriculture eats up 70 percent of total water use. Global population growth and changes in per capita consumption of food, feed, fiber, timber and energy have caused unprecedented rates of land and freshwater use.

Currently, 25-30 percent (about 1.2 billion tons) of total food produced is lost or wasted. Changes in consumption patterns have contributed to about 2 billion adults now being overweight

Turn to A5





## Climate...

From A4

or obese.

An estimated 821 million people are still undernourished. About 500 million people live in places turning into desert. Soil is being lost between 10 and 100 times faster than it is forming, according to the report.

About a quarter of the Earth's ice-free land area is subject to human-induced degradation. Soil erosion from agricultural fields is estimated to be currently 10 to 20 times (no tillage) to more than 100 times (conventional tillage) higher than the soil formation rate.

Humans degrade the land. Land use by humans is "unprecedented in human history," the report says. Human use "affects about 60-85 percent of forests and 70-90 percent of other natural ecosystems (e.g., savannahs, natural grasslands)." And land use has caused an 11-to-14 percent drop in global biodiversity, IPCC notes.

Not only is human use of the land more pervasive than ever, it is set against a background of a warming climate. Climate change is magnifying the pressures that humans are already putting on the land.

Climate change "not only exacerbates many of the well acknowledged ongoing land degradation processes" of managed landscapes, such as croplands and pasture, but it "becomes a dominant pressure that introduces novel degradation pathways in natural and semi-natural ecosystems," the report says.

The report also notes that "changes in extreme weather and climate have negative impacts on food security through regional reductions of crop

yields." Around 10 percent of cereal production has been lost globally because of extreme weather events.

Since 1961 methane emissions from ruminant livestock, which includes cows as well as sheep, buffalo and goats, have significantly increased, notes the *New York Times* quoting IPCC. Yearly, forested land that is cleared—much of that propelled by demand for pasture land for cattle—releases the emissions equivalent of driving 600 million cars.

Cattle are significant producers of methane, another powerful greenhouse gas, and an increase in global demand for beef and other meats has fueled their numbers and increased deforestation in critical forest systems like the Amazon.

Land contributes an annual value of \$75 trillion to 85 trillion—to the global economy, an amount greater than the world's GDP.

Per IPCC data, humans have appropriated three-quarters of the ice-free land globally. About 12-14 percent of that area is used for growing crops, 22 percent are managed or planted forests; and 37 percent is grassland for grazing and other uses.

Warming—and changes in rainfall patterns—have "altered the start and end of growing seasons, contributed to regional crop yield reductions, reduced freshwater availability, and put biodiversity under further stress and increased tree mortality."

"Conversion of natural land, and land management, are significant net contributors to GHG [greenhouse gas] emissions and climate change, but land ecosystems are also a GHG sink."

So which is more important—food security and reducing malnutrition or halting and reversing desertification

and land degradation?

The world's forest declined by 3 percent from 1990-2015. Satellite data suggest that forest loss is accelerating.

Warming conditions and changing rainfall patterns will also "trigger changes in land—and crop management, such as changes in planting and harvest dates, type of crops, and type of cultivars", the report notes, "which may alter the conditions for soil erosion."

The air can generally hold around 7 percent more moisture for every 1 degree Celsius of temperature rise. This means a warmer climate has the potential for more intense rainfall events, which "increase the erosive power of rainfall (erosivity) and hence increase the likelihood of water erosion," the report says.

Heavy rainfall and flooding can also "delay planting, increase soil compaction, and cause crop losses," the report says, and "flooding associated with tropical cyclones can lead to crop failure from both rainfall and storm surges." In some cases, this flooding can affect yields more than drought, the report notes—particularly in tropical regions, such as India, and in some mid- and high-latitude regions, such as China and central and northern Europe.

Extreme heat events can reduce photosynthesis in trees, restrict growth rates of leaves and reduce growth of the whole tree, the report notes. Forests can become less resilient to future heat stress as extreme events occur more often, the report adds, and "widespread regional tree mortality may be triggered directly by drought and heat stress (including warm winters) and exacerbated by insect outbreak and fire."

[biznewsasia@gmail.com](mailto:biznewsasia@gmail.com)



## It is real

**UNDOUBTEDLY**, climate change, which is brought about by society's continued addiction to fossil fuels, is real. And people, including Filipinos, are experiencing its effects everyday.

Of course, it is lamentable and disheartening to know that this addiction to the highly-expensive fossil fuels is being perpetuated by governments and industries throughout the world.

If we do not stop it or learn to adapt it, we will be destroying the world we live in, according to House Deputy Speaker and Antique Rep. Loren Legarda, a known environmentalist.

In fact, the adverse effects of climate change are getting worse and damaging, prompting government authorities across the globe to exert concerted efforts to arrest global warming.

Admittedly, climate change is causing great concern among world authorities, who have an eye for the health of Mother Earth.

In the Philippines, Congresswoman Legarda, a former senator and broadcast journalist, has urged local communities to implement measures to combat climate change and its effects.

"Climate change is real and we are experiencing its effects everyday. The change in weather patterns, the worsening calamities, and the disturbances seen in ecosystems - these are only some of its effects," she said.

Legarda and other experts agree that in a few years or so, we will be producing less output from our farms, drinking toxic water, and seeing worsening pollutions of rivers and oceans.

This, if we do not stop climate change or learn to adapt to it, according to Ms. Legarda who, as a senator, authored several landmark environmental laws such as the Clean Air Act.

The lady lawmaker and the rest of our government officials who have an eye for the future generations deserve the support of the public as they map out plans to address climate change.



TITLE:

PAGE 1/

KUNG rapist ka, wala kang karapatang mabuhay.

Sentensyado ka kagad ng kamatayan at hindi na kailangang sumalang ka pa sa husgado.

Ito ang sinapit ng dalawa sa limang suspek sa magkahiwalay na kaso ng panggagahasa sa bayan ng Parang sa Maguindanao.

### TIYO AT 3 PINSAN

Graduating student na sa kolehiyo nang matagpuang bangkay at hubad ang biktimgang 22-anyos sa likuran ng Parang National High School, Parang at malapit lamang din sa bahay ng biktima sa Brgy. Poblacion 1.

May mga sugat sa iba't ibang bahagi ng katawan ang biktima at may palatandaan na pinatay ito sa sakal.

Nang usisain ng pulisya sa pamumuno ni Lt. Col. Ibrahim Jambiran ang bangkay, nakita sa pag-iingat nito ang isang sulat na para sa kanyang ina na matalag na siyang ginagahasa ng kanyang sariling tiyuhin.

At sa huli, magkasama ang kanyang tiyuhin at ang tatlongpinsan na nang-rape at pumatay sa kanya.

### NAKADROGA

Kabilang sa mga suspek sina Esrael Sarip, Samsudin Sarip, Sulayman Sarip at Tato Bualan.

Nadakip agad ng mga kamag-anak at taumbayan sina Esrael Sarip at Tato Bualan at kinuyog ang mga ito.

Namatay sa bugbog, palo at tadyak si Esrael samantalang nabuhay at dinala sa bilangguan si Bualan ng mga pulis makaraang magbuhos ng galit ang mga kamag-anak ng biktima at taumbayan.

Nakatakas naman sina Samsudin at Sulayman.

Sa huli, napag-alamang sangkot sa droga ang mga suspek kaya nagawa nila ang panggagahasa at pagpatay sa magandang dalaga.

### NANG-AGAW NG BARIL

Patay rin ang isa pang suspek sa hiwalay na panghahalay nang mang-agaw ito ng baril sa isang babaeng pulis, ayon pa kay Kernel Jambiran.

Nakilala ang suspek na si Datu Mohamad Acmad, 46, may asawa at residente sa Brgy. Ma-



## PATAY KANG RAPIST KA!

nion, Parang, Maguindanao.

Sa kwento ng mga pulis, inaresto nila si Acmad makaraang isumbong ito ng panggagahasa.

Habang nasa Parang Municipal Police Station, nang-agaw umano ito ng baril sa isang babaeng pulis kaya napalitang barilin ito ng iba pang mga pulis.

Itinakbo si Acmad sa isang ospital ngunit hindi na ito nakaabot pang buhay roon.

### MARAMI NANG GINAHASA

Habang nagsasagawa ng imbestigasyon ang mga pulis ni Kernel Jambiran, anak ng tokwa, napag-alamang marami na palang ginahasa ang suspek.

At hindi nito pinatawad maging ang misis ng sarili nitong stepson.

Tumatanda na si Acmad sa edad nitong 46 ngunit hindi ang kanyang pagiging hayok sa laman, kamamag-anak man o hindi ang mga biktima.

At dahil hindi nagsusumbong ang mga biktima dahil sa kahihyan, tuloy lang ang paggawa nito ng krimen, pero dumating din ang katapusan ng lahat nang may isang naglakas-loob na itindig ang kanyang puri na siyang hudyat ng katarungan.

Iba naman ang kwento ng kamag-anak ni Acmad.

Kusa umano itong sumuko sa pulisya at maaaring ginawan na lang umano ng drama ng mga pulis ang pagkamatay nito.

Kung ano ang totoo, hindi importante para sa mga biktima.

Katarungan ang hanap nila, anoman ang mga hakbang para makamit lamang ito.

### SUSUNOD NA KABANATA

Sa kaso ng pinatay na dalagang kolehiyala, may tatlo pang buhay.

Si Bualan na nagtamo ng serious injuries ngunit hindi namatay sa resbak ng mga galit na taumbayan.

Hinahanting na ng mga pulis sina Samsudin at Sulayman.

Paano kung mamatay ang lahat ng rapist na ito

nan?

Kasama sa mga maa-arang dahilan ang pambubugbog ng taumbayan, pang-aagaw ng baril ng pulis o panlalaban at impeksyon sa mga su-gat kung nasa ma-ospital ang mga ito.

### PARUSANG BITAY

Ang mga rape na katulad ng nabanggit sa itaas ay maituturing na karumal-dumal, mga Bro.

Sa ngayon, nasimulan na ang pag-file ng mga panukala sa pagbabalik ng parusang bitay.

Magkasabay ang ilang kongresman at senador sa gumawa nito.

May nagsusulong ng bitay para sa mga rapist habang ang iba ay hanggang sa pandarambong at pagkakasangkot sa droga lamang.

Sakaling maaprubahan ang bitay, maisasama kaya ang mga rapist sa mga bibitayin?

Paano naman kung hindi maaprubahan ang bitay, anomang ang paraan dito gaya ng firing squad, pagbigti o lethal injection?

Tiyak na mananatili ang habambuhay na pagkakulong o 20 taon at isang araw hanggang 40 taon na pagkakulong.

Pero paano ang mga taumbayan at kamag-anak ng mga biktima ng rape na may pagpatay pa sa biktima sa ilang kaso?

Paano kung maisipan ng mga ito na pagpapatayin ang mga suspek sa iba't ibang paraan?

Ang isang mungkahi ay dapat na tingnan ito nang mabuti ng mga awtoridad.

Maliban sa paggamit ng mga ligal na paraan gaya ng pagtatanggol ng sarili, pagtatanggol ng kamag-anak at pagtatanggol ng ibang tao, mayroon bang posibleng idaragdag na paraan para maabswelto ang mga makapapatay ng mga rapist?

Anomang reaksyon o reklamo, maaaring ipa-rating sa 09228403-333 o i-email sa banti-



TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE 1/ \_\_\_\_\_



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD**

MASAITO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,  
Applicant.

Case No. 19-2805

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

Applicant, an authorized operator of the waterworks system within Citihomes Molino Subdivision, Barangay Molino 4, Bacoor, Cavite, applies for the renewal of Certificate of Public Convenience and authority to increase water rates as follows:

Residential / Institutional / Public Taps		Commercial / Industrial	
Consumption, cu. m.	Peso / cu. m.	Consumption, cu. m.	Peso / cu. m.
0 - 10 (min.)	P 200.00 (min.)	0-25 (min.)	P 1,000.00 (min.)
11 - 20	21.40		
21 - 30	23.60	26 - 1000	47.20
31 - 40	26.60		
41 - 50	30.00	Over 1000	59.90
Over 50	34.00		

This application will be initially heard by the Board on **September 9, 2019**, hearing will start at **9:00 o' clock in the morning** at the NWRB-WUD Conference Room, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, NIA Building, EDSA, Quezon City at which time applicant shall present its evidence.

At least fifteen (15) days prior to the scheduled hearing, applicant shall publish this notice once in a daily newspaper of general circulation in the province of Cavite and serve by personal delivery or registered mail a copy of the (i) application and its attachments, and (ii) this notice, to all affected parties appearing on page 2 hereof.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition supported by documentary evidence on or before the above scheduled date of hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant.

Failure on the part of any person affected to file its opposition on time and to appear at the hearing will be construed, as a waiver of their right to be heard and the Board will proceed to hear and decide the application based on the evidence submitted.

Likewise, failure by the applicant to appear at the hearing shall amount to lack of interest on its part and the instant application shall be dismissed accordingly.

Witness the Honorable Executive Director of the National Water Resources Board this 31<sup>st</sup> day of July 2019.

By Authority of the Board

  
Dr. SEVILLA-ORTIZ DAVID, Jr., CESO III  
Executive Director

*Affected Parties*

The Secretary  
Sangguniang Bayan  
Bacoor, Cavite

The Barangay Chairman  
Barangay Molino 4,  
Bacoor, Cavite

The Homeowners Assn. President  
Citihomes Molino Subdivision  
Barangay Molino 4, Bacoor, Cavite

The Administrator  
Metropolitan Waterworks & Sewerage System  
MWSS Compound, Katipunan Road  
Balara, Quezon City 1105



14 AUG 2019

TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE 1/ \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES BOARD**

**MASAITO DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION,**  
Applicant.

Case No. 19-2806

**NOTICE OF HEARING**

Applicant, an authorized operator of the waterworks system within Covina Villas Subdivision, Barangay Tanzang Luma, Imus, Cavite, applies for the renewal of Certificate of Public Convenience and authority to increase water rates as follows:

**PROPOSED RATES**

Residential / Institutional / Public Taps		Commercial / Industrial	
Consumption, cu. m.	Peso / cu. m.	Consumption, cu. m.	Peso / cu. m.
0 - 10 (min.)	₱ 240.00 (min.)	0-25 (min.)	₱ 1,200.00 (min.)
11 - 20	26.00	26 - 1000	56.60
21 - 30	28.30		
31 - 40	32.00		
41 - 50	36.00	Over 1000	71.90
Over 50	40.00		

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Bacoor, Cavite

The Barangay Chairman  
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Bacoor, Cavite

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Cithomes Molino Subdivision  
Barangay Molino 4, Bacoor, Cavite

The Administrator  
Metropolitan Waterworks & Sewerage System  
MWSS Compound, Katipunan Road  
Balara, Quezon City 1105



TITLE:

PAGE 1/

DATE

San Miguel Corporation's Limay CFB (Circulating Fluidized Bed) power plant undergoes daily emission testing. Average results for the week show its emissions are way below Department of Environment and Natural Resources and World Bank limits.

