

DATE : 01-23-20

DAY : THURSDAY

DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



San Juan slaughterhouse shut down

A slaughterhouse in San Juan City allegedly dumping untreated wastewater into the San Juan River was closed yesterday.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, San Juan Mayor Francis Zamora and other officials served a closure order to the slaughterhouse of Megga Foods and Stockfarm Inc. situated along F. Manalo street in Barangay Kabayanan at past 9 a.m.

Cimatu said untreated wastes in the San Juan River go to the Pasig River and eventually end up in Manila Bay.

Zamora said they have been calling the attention of the owner of the slaughterhouse since

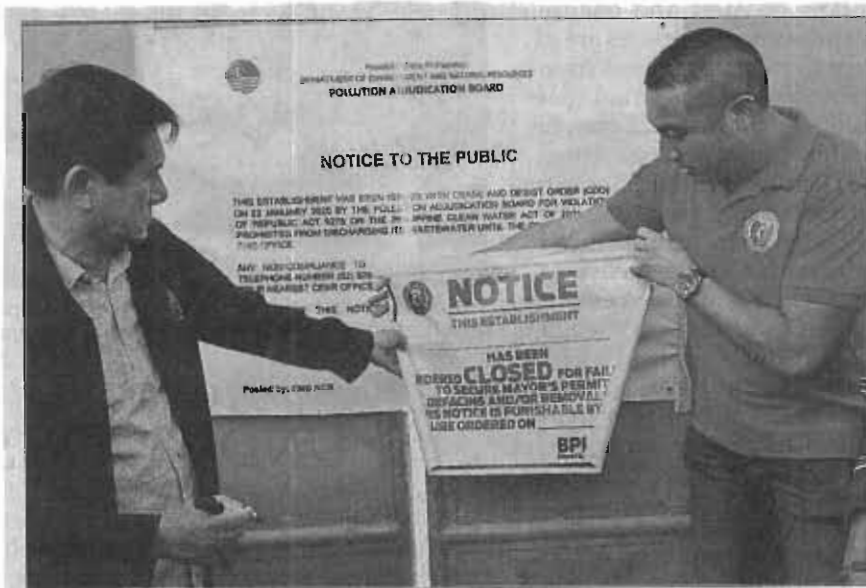
August last year for operating without sanitary, water discharge and environmental permits.

According to Zamora, the owner did not communicate with them even if they issued a show cause order in October 2019.

Cimatu also inspected a private wet market along Gen. Kalentong street in Mandaluyong City, where he also saw several violations, including the lack of a three-meter easement from the river.

They also found the market to be untidy, with a restroom not connected to a septic tank and discharging waste into the river.

Mandaluyong Mayor Menchie Abalos has ordered the market's



Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu and San Juan Mayor Francis Zamora post a closure notice on the gates of Megga Foods and Stockfarm Inc. yesterday.

administrator to clean the place and remove illegal structures

within three days or face closure.

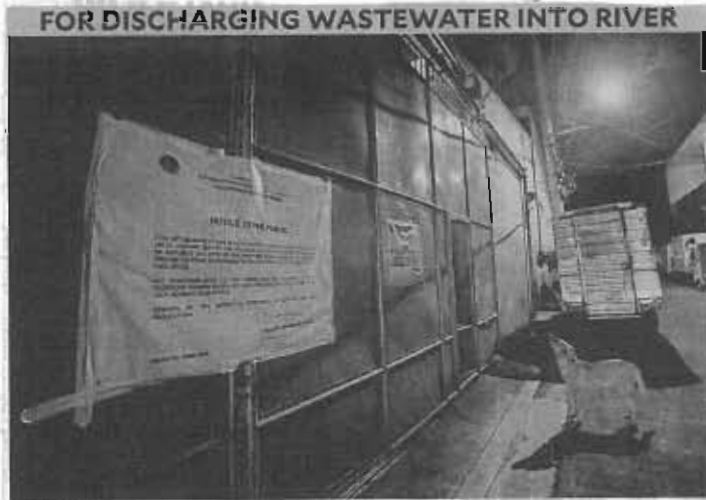
- Emmanuel Tupas



METRO

San Juan abattoir shut for violations

San Juan Mayor Francis Zamora on Wednesday padlocked the city's lone slaughterhouse, operated by Megga Foods Stockfarm Inc., for discharging untreated wastewater into the "biologically dead" San Juan River, among other violations of environmental laws. Megga Foods was found to have an expired wastewater discharge permit and lacking a sanitary permit in violation of the Clean Air Act and Clean Water Act. —STORY BY MATTHEW REYSIO-CRUZ



NOTICE Operators of the San Juan slaughterhouse get duly notified of its shutdown. —LYN RILLON

SAN JUAN PADLOCKS SLAUGHTERHOUSE

By Matthew Reysio-Cruz
@MatthewINQ

The San Juan local government shut down the city's lone slaughterhouse on Wednesday for flouting environmental regulations, such as discharging wastewater directly into the heavily polluted San Juan River.

The slaughterhouse was operated by private company Megga Foods and Stockfarm, Inc., which San Juan and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) accused of violating Republic Act Nos. 8749 and 9275, or the Clean Air and Clean Water Act, respectively.

In particular, Megga Foods had an expired wastewater discharge permit and lacked a sanitary permit or Public Employment Service Office certificate, according to the closure order.

Mayor Francis Zamora said in an interview that the slaughterhouse was a "huge factor" in the pollution of the river.

"We saw how dirty it was," he said after inspecting then padlocking the property on Wednesday. "As soon as we entered, DENR Secretary Roy

Cimatu said he smelled the odor they had remembered from previous inspections of San Juan River."

"Their violations were very blatant. It's like they didn't care that they had already been written to by the city," Zamora added.

The city had issued the slaughterhouse a show cause order on Oct. 10, 2019, after officials from the Business Permits and Licensing Office first inspected the property and discovered the lack of proper documents.

More than three months later, however, it had not issued any response and continued to operate.

The Pollution Adjudication Board of the DENR, which had been monitoring the slaughterhouse separately from the city, also issued a cease and desist order (CDO) against it on Wednesday.

The DENR said it conducted an inspection and wastewater sampling as early as Jan. 23, 2019, and found Megga Foods had an expired discharge permit, discharged untreated wastewater into the river and operated air pollution source installations without a permit. INQ



Maruming slaughterhouse, ipinasara

Isang slaughterhouse sa San Juan City ang sinilbihan ng closure order ng city government at ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), dahil sa kawalan umano nito ng environmental permits.

Mismong sina San Juan City Mayor Francis Zamora at DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu ang nagsilbi ng closure order sa Megga Foods and Stock Farm Incorporated na matatagpuan sa Barangay Kabayanan kahapon ng umaga.

Ayon kay Zamora, ang naturang establisimiyento ay walang water discharge permit at nagdi-discharge ng kanilang waste sa San Juan River.

Wala rin itong sanitary permit, at City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) permit.

Sinabi ni Zamora na Oktubre pa nang padalhan nila ng show cause order o pagpaliwanagin ang pamunuan ng naturang slaughterhouse ngunit bigo anilang magbigay ng paliwanag ang mga ito.

"Noong October, kami po ay nagbigay ng show cause order sa kanila para sagutin kung bakit wala sila ng mga permit na ito. Hanggang ngayon, hindi sila sumasagot," ani Zamora, sa panayam ng mga mamamahayag.

"Blatantly, nagba-violate sila sa patakaran ng DENR kaya minabuti natin na isara na. Walang silang anumang communication. Ang dating nito sa atin ay wala silang pakialam na sinisita sila ng city hall. Wala silang effort na pumunta sa city hall para i-comply ang hinihingi namin," dagdag pa ni Zamora.

"Very serious violation ito, wala silang wastewater discharge permit. Nagdi-discharge sila ng waste nila sa San Juan River. Pangalawa, wala silang environmental permit natin. Wala rin silang sanitary permit," aniya pa.

"Kaya sa araw na ito, isasara na po namin ang slaughterhouse na ito sapagkat hindi sila nakikinig sa patakaran ng pamahalaang lungsod," dagdag pa ni Zamora.

Sa kanyang panig, sinabi naman ni Cimatu na nakapipinsala ang naturang slaughterhouse sa rehabilitasyon ng Pasig River at Manila Bay.

"Malaki and damage nito... Ito (waste ng slaughterhouse) tumapon na sa San Juan River. Pagbaba naman sa Pasig River, galing dito, nadadamay naman ang Pasig River. Dumadaan ho ito sa Manila Bay," aniya pa.

Mary Ann Santiago



Katayan ng Megga Foods sa San Juan kinandado

Ipinasara ni San Juan City Mayor Francis Zamora ang isang malaking katayan sa kanilang lungsod matapos makitaan ng paglabag sa sanitasyon at kalinisan ang puwesto nito.

Ayon sa alkalde, lumabag sa Republic Act No. 9275 o Clean Water Act of 2004 ang katayan ng Megga Foods and Stock Farm Inc. matapos mabatid na paso na o expired ang wastewater discharge permit at sanitary permit nito.

"Binigyan namin sila hanggang January 31 para mag-renew na sila pero hanggang ngayon ay hindi pa rin sila nagre-renew. Kaya sa araw na ito ay isasara na namin ang slaughter house na ito. Iyan ang legal process,"

ani Zamora.

Sa ginanap na press conference ni Zamora nitong Lunes, kasama sina Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu at Mandaluyong City Mayor Menchie Abalos, isiniwalat nito ang mga kababuyang naganap sa isang naturang katayan na matatagpuan sa Brgy. Kabayanan na bumagsak sa multiple physical and chemical analysis.

Nabatid na una nang nag-isyu ng notice of violation laban sa katayan noong nakaraang taon kung saan ay nangako umano ang Megga Stock Farm Inc. na aayusin ang kanilang wastewater facility. **(Vick Aquino)**



Isinara nina San Juan City Mayor Francis Zamora at DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu ang slaughter house na ito sa San Juan matapos makitaan ng irregularidad at masamang epekto ang disposal nito sa San Juan River. (Patrick Adalin)



DENR focuses on protecting biological diversity in 2020

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said that for the new year, it aims to fulfill targets set in line with protecting the country's rich biological diversity.

As of October last year, the DENR's Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) has assessed 52 caves, equivalent to 137 percent of the annual target of 38.

BMB, through the Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife or Task Force POGI, also confiscated a total of 72 heads of different wildlife species, and 15.6 kilograms of agarwood (*Aquilaria spp.*) in different operations in the country.

Task Force POGI is a composite team of wildlife enforcers from various agencies including the BMB, National Bureau of Investigation and the Philippine National Police.

The bureau has issued a total of 7,926 wildlife permits, greatly surpassing the target of 4,026 by 197 percent. Examples of the permits issued are gratuitous wildlife farm, wildlife local transport, wildlife collector, import, export and re-export permits, as well as certificates of wildlife registration.

The high accomplishment was due to the fact that the issuance of permits is demand-driven, the BMB explained.

In 2019, the BMB maintained 42 wildlife rescue centers and 384 ecotourism facilities nationwide, accomplishing 89 percent and 98 percent, respectively, of the targets.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu reported that the DENR - through the BMB - is poised to achieve all its 2019 goals in terms of biodiversity conservation, with targets surpassing in the areas of cave assessment and issuance of wildlife permits as early as last October.

He said DENR never wavered in fully enforcing Republic Act 9147 or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001.

The law aims to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity, and regulate the collection and trade of wildlife species.

- Rhodina Villanueva

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EDITORIAL

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Private sector's role in Manila Bay cleanup

GOVERNMENT officials are fond of saying that an important project cannot see the light of day without the full cooperation and participation of the citizens, particularly the private sector.

For sure, there are important things that cannot be taken for granted and left only to officials to manage. And this cannot be truer than in the cleanup of Manila Bay, a gargantuan undertaking that needs the action and sacrifice of many stakeholders.

Exactly one year ago this month, President Duterte instructed DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu to clean up Manila Bay and improve the quality of its waters--obviously a close to impossible assignment. To hasten the completion of this task, Cimatu drafted and implemented the Manila Bay Action Plan, a well-funded program to bring down coliform and fecal contamination in the bay and make it safe for water sports activities.

The role of the national government and LGUs had been cited in this effort. It is now time to look at the role of the private sector.

'With Joseph as the incoming president of the old and prestigious Rotary Club of Manila, the government and the public can expect that not only the yacht club but also the RCM will be active in environmental endeavors -- from water, and this time, also about trees.'



CONT. EDITORIAL

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PRIVATE SECTOR'S ROLE IN MANILA BAY CLEAN UP

Most proximate to the bay is of course the Manila Yacht Club, and for years it has implemented measures to mitigate the pollution in Manila Bay. Commodore Robert Lim Joseph Jr. of the Yacht Club has been in close partnership with Cimatu in effecting environmental reforms in the bay.

To recall, Commodore Joseph and Atty. Tony Oposa Jr. had supported the legal fight in the Supreme Court that resulted in the mandamus for several agencies and institutions to clean up Manila Bay. Joseph noted that from 1999 when the SC intervened up to 2008 nothing really moved in the way of compliance to the High Tribunal's order, until President Duterte and Cimatu came along.

Now the DPWH is constructing sewage treatment plants for Metro Manila's waste water which used to be dumped directly onto the bay. Bobby Joseph noted that this has been an environmental anomaly started by then Manila Mayor Antonio Villegas in the 1960s, when all the waste of Manila Zoo were thrown in the bay untreated.

The practice could have been reduced had the two water concessionaries -- Maynilad and Manila Water -- were decent enough to make good on their promise to establish sewerage treatment plants, Joseph said, stressing that President Duterte is correct in going after the greedy service providers who do not give the promised service.

On Joseph's example, boat owners in the club are happy to support Cimatu's efforts, even lending their boats to officials conducting surveys and studies on environmental impact on the bay.

With Joseph as the incoming president of the old and prestigious Rotary Club of Manila, the government and the public can expect that not only the yacht club but also the RCM will be active in environmental endeavors -- from water, and this time, also about trees.

We salute the efforts of the private-sector leaders in these undertakings for the environment and may their tribe increase.



**SENTIDO
KOMUN**

Celo Lagmay

Sa pagpapalubog ng Manila Bay sunset

BAGAMA'T may himig na pag-aatubili, gustong kong maniwala na tututulan ni Pangulong Duterte ang anumang panukala hinggil sa reclamation projects sa Manila Bay. Nakaangkla ang naturang paninindigan ng Pangulo sa kanyang matinding hangaring pangalagaan ang kapaligiran ng malawak na karagatan -- lalo na ang

tanyag sa buong daigdig na Sunset in Manila Bay.

Nangangahulugan na hindi niya pahihintulutan ang mistulang pagtatabon ng lupa sa naturang malawak na baybay-dagat -- tulad ng mga reclamation projects na kinatatayuan ngayon ng iba't ibang nagtatayugang mga gusali at business establishments. Sa ganitong situwasyon, mataginting ang kanyang pahayag: "Not in my time". Ibig sabihin, hindi natin masasaksihan ang gayong mistulang pagwasak sa kapaligiran hanggang sa panahon ng kanyang panunungkulan.

Ang nabanggit na pananaw ay binigyang-tinig ng Pangulo pagkatapos bigyan ng 'green light' ng Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) ang 10,000 ektaryang reclamation projects sa Manila

Bay. Kinabibilangan ito ng apat na proyekto: Navotas City Coastal Reclamation Project, Pasay 360-hectare Reclamation Project, Pasay 265-hectare Reclamation Project at Horizon Manila 418-hectare Reclamation Projects.

Hindi ko matiyak kung ang naturang plano ay sumailalim sa masusing pag-aaral at pagsusuri ng mga eksperto sa gayong mga proyekto; kung sinangguni ang mga dalubhasa sa kapaligiran, tulad ng Climate Reality Project na naniniwala na ang pagtatabon ng lupa sa Manila Bay ay magiging dahilan ng matinding pagbaha at pagkawasak ng tinatawag na biodiversity. At mawawalan ng tirahan ang libu-libong mga kababayan natin, kabilang na ang mga informal settlers o mga iskuwater na hanggang ngayon

ay hindi pa nahahanapan ng mga relocation areas.

Sa kabila ng gayong paninindigan ng Pangulo, naniniwala ako na marapat ding magkaroon ng masusing pagsasaalang-alang: ibig sabihin, dapat ding timbangin kung ang mga reclamation projects ay makatutulong sa pagpapaangat ng ekonomiya ng ating bansa; kung ito ay hindi makasasama sa sambayanan lalo na nga kung hindi maglalagay ng sapat na water treatment facilities.

Kung ang nabanggit na mga proyekto, sa kabilang dako, ay magiging dahilan ng pagkawasak ng kapaligiran -- lalo na ang mistulang pagpapalubog ng Manila Bay Sunset -- ang pagtutol ng Pangulo sa naturang mga proyekto ay nasa wastong direksiyon at karapat-dapat suportahan ng sambayanang Pilipino.



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Manila Standard

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LGUs

LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS

ESTERO CLEANUP. The community's participation in environmental activities, including the cleanup and maintenance of the cleanliness of Manila Bay's tributaries, may become their legacy, says Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Rizal head Isidro Mercado during a cleanup activity along Hulong Bangiad Creek in Barangay San Juan, Taytay, Rizal on Jan. 17, ahead of the celebration of the first anniversary of the #BattleForManilaBay.



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Take the steps toward zero-waste Philippines

"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it," said eminent environmentalist Robert Swan.

The month of January is not just the month of festivals, but also declared as the National Zero Waste Month, as mandated by Presidential Proclamation 760, dated May 2014.

With the theme "Zero Starts Now: Reducing Waste, Sustaining Actions," the celebration of Zero Waste Month focuses on reducing daily wastes. Thus, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Region 6 is calling the attention of the public to be trash-free in their every day activity.

Under a zero-waste approach, recyclables are reused and these become a source of livelihood for waste workers. At the same time, through proper segregation, bio-degradables can be composted in homes, schools and offices.

However, the sustainable life will not be successful if not



The three R's: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. These three are the best ways to make a positive impact on our environment. It's important to put these into practice, as landfill space is quickly running out, the plastic pollution in our oceans is increasing, and our only home – the Earth – is deteriorating at a faster pace. (Infograph from Twitter @VRNeighbours)

regulated. Thus, the DENR encourages the local government

units (LGUs) to be proactive in implementing RA 9003 or the

Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

"Let us practice the three Rs – 'Reduce' using materials that can harm Mother Earth, 'Reuse' the plastics and other reusable materials, and 'Recycle' the trash that we can still use when recycled," said regional executive director Francisco Milla, Jr.

He added: "This Zero Waste Month, we at the DENR Regional Office 6 are asking for your full cooperation. May this month be a start of the step-by-step process in achieving a sustainable community, toward a sustainable environment."

Zero Waste Month is an advocacy that promotes the designing and managing of products and the processes to avoid and eliminate the volume and toxicity of waste and materials.

It is also defined as a goal that is ethical, economical, and efficient to guide people in having a resourceful lifestyle, in which discarded materials can be re-designed as resources for others to use.



Editorial

Single-use plastics ipagbawal na

NAMUMULAT na ang mga Pinoy sa masamang dulot ng single-use plastics o disposable plastics at karamihan sa kanila, gusto na itong ipagbawal. Problema ang plastic pollution sa bansa at kung hindi ipagbabawal, mas malubha pang problema ang kahaharapin ng mga Pilipino. Tanging ang pagbabawal sa paggamit ng plastics ang solusyon sa problemang ito.

Ayon sa bagong Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey na kinomisyon ng Global Alliance for Incinerator Alternatives, pito sa bawat 10 Pilipino ang gustong ipagbawal na ang paggamit ng plastics. Ginawa ang survey noong Setyembre 2019. Kabilang sa mga plastic na gustong ipagbawal ay ang tinatawag na sando bags, plastic straws at stirrers, plastic labo bags, styrofoam containers, sachets, tetra pack ng juices, plastic na baso, kutsara, tinidor, botelya ng juice at tubig. Ayon pa sa survey, 59.8 bilyong piraso ng plastic sachets at 17 bilyon na shopping bags ang ginagamit sa bansa taun-taon.

Ang Pilipinas ay pang-apat sa mga bansa sa Asia na malakas magtapon ng mga basurang plastic sa karagatan. Nangunguna ang China, sumunod ang Vietnam at ikatlo ang Indonesia.

Noong nakaraang taon, nagpahiwatig si President Duterte na balak niyang ipagbawal ang paggamit ng plastic sa buong bansa. Nasabi niya ito sa Cabinet meeting makaraang mapanood ang presentation ng Natural Resources Development Corp. may kinalaman sa programa ng gobyerno para sa environment at climate change.

Isa ito sa magandang ideya na naisip ng Presidente at nararapat niyang ituloy. Bagama't kailangan pa ng pagsang-ayon ng Kongreso sa pagbabawal ng paggamit ng plastic, ang malaman na kontra siya rito ay malaking bagay para maisakatuparan ang batas.

Panahon na para mawala sa buhay ng mga Pilipino ang single-use plastic. Labanan ang plastic pollution para maisalba ang pagkasira ng kapaligiran at pati na rin ang buhay ng mga lamandagat. Pati mga balyena ay namamatay din dahil sa pagkalulon ng mga plastic na basura na naiistak sa kanilang bituka.



WASTE SEGREGATION SERYOSOHIN

NAGPAALALA ang lokal na pamahalaang lungsod ng Maynila sa mga residente na seryosohin at simulan sa sariling tahanan ang pag-segregate ng mga basura o paghihiwalay ng mga nabubulok sa hindi nabubulok upang maging maayos din ang sistema ng koleksiyon nito ng mga truck na humahakot ng mga ito.

Ayon sa abiso ni Manila Mayor Isko Moreno Domagoso sa kanyang social media Facebook page, sinambit nito na ang City Ordinance No. 7876 ay isang ordinansa na naglalayon na maisulong

ang pagkokompost at pag-eresiklo ng mga basura sa pamamaraan ng paglalaan ng mga sisidlan sa mga residente at sa mga pribado at pampublikong pamahalaan sa lungsod ng Maynila.

Batay sa nasabing ordinansa, ang sinumang lalabag ay mahaharap sa kaukulang parusa.

Sa unang paglabag ay pagmumultahin ng hindi tataas sa P1,000; sa pangalawang paglabag ay pagmumultahin ng hindi tataas sa P2,000; at sa pangatlong paglabag ay pagmumultahin ng hindi tataas sa P5,000 at pagsuspinde ng business per-

mit na hindi tatagal ng isang taon.

Hiniling naman ng alkalde sa mga barangay officials na dapat ay sa kanila magmula ang pagtuturo at pakikipag-ugnayan sa mga residente ng kanilang nasasakupan sa tamang pagsasaayos ng kanilang mga basura.

Gayundin, nanawagan ang Department of Public Services (DPS) sa pamumuno ni Director Kenneth Amurao sa mga residente ng Maynila na hintayin ang oras ng pagdating ng truck bago ilabas ang mga basura upang hindi ito kumalat sa kalsada.

PAUL ROLDAN



Advocates hit low bar set in environmental protection

An environmental think tank said the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) fell short in protecting the environment and warned that pollution from coal plants was more dangerous than ashfall coming from an erupting volcano.

The Center for Energy, Ecology and Development (CEED) on Tuesday called on the DENR not to pat themselves too much on the back for their work in the past year, especially in light of the recent panic brought about by the eruption of Taal Volcano.

"With residents in Batangas, surrounding provinces and Metro Manila hoarding as many face masks as they could find in the face

of dangerous pollution brought by a natural disaster, Taal's eruption and the public health panic that accompanied it should serve as a nudge to the DENR," CEED executive director Gerry Arances said.

He said DENR was accountable for "the role they played in the proliferation of dirty industries, especially coal facilities, that pollute the environment and threaten the health of the Filipino public."

Veronica Cabe of the Coal-Free Bataan Movement said in the past week "we have seen how mere hours of spewed pollutants brought much trepidation and rightful concern especially for the welfare of populations with sensitive health in the areas affected by

the volcanic ashfall."

She said ashfall "is a constant reality for coal-affected residents across the country, such as in the communities of Limay and Marivelles in Bataan, who regularly breathe contaminated air as if a volcano was erupting in their backyard every single day."

The CEED said that compared to the ashfall of Taal consisting mostly of PM 10 and sulfur dioxide, ashfall from coal plants is comprised of PM 2.5, a particle more lethal than PM 10, and other toxic materials and carcinogenic substances such as mercury and arsenic.

"For communities living near the 29 coal-fired power plants currently operating in the Philippines,

particulate matter, toxic gas and pollutants float in the air on a daily basis," Ian Rivera, national coordinator of the Philippine Movement for Climate Justice, said.

While the department's milestones such as the rehabilitation of Manila Bay must be acknowledged, Aaron Pedrosa, secretary general of Sanlakas, asserted that "air pollution is a problem the DENR simply cannot wash its hands of."

Citing a 2016 Harvard University study on coal pollution which claimed at least 2,400 Filipinos are killed each year due to emissions from coal-fired power plants, Arances challenged the DENR to "rethink their standards."

- Jose Rodel Clapano



House committee approves fiscal regime bill for mining

THE House Committee on Appropriations approved Wednesday an unnumbered substitute bill seeking to establish a fiscal regime for the mining industry.

The bill, which consolidates House Bills (HB) 288, 560, 1687, 2557, 4541, 4874, 5022, and 5253, had cleared the House Committee on Ways and Means on Nov. 19.

The bill calls for large-scale metals miners to pay a royalty equivalent to 3% of their total gross output. It exempts small-scale miners from such royalties.

Currently, the law imposes a royalty scheme only in mining areas declared as mineral reservations.

The bill also proposes to create a National Resource Trust Fund which collects revenues from mining operations and "extends their benefits to next generations" through educational programs, technological and research programs, health services and disaster risk reduction management initiatives.

The fund will be created from the annual payment of mining contractors to the Bureau of Internal

Revenue of an additional 2% based on gross output for large-scale metals miners.

The bill proposes that failure to comply with such obligations will warrant "immediate suspension or closure of the mining activities" of the mining concession holder.

The measure also proposes an auction system for concessions, which will be established by the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB).

"This will minimize awarding of mineral agreements based on asymmetrical information, first-come first-served systems, and patronage politics. Moreover, it shall promote investments in mineral-rich areas through an online portal open to the public" Albay Rep. Jose Maria Clemente S. Salceda said in his explanatory note to HB 5022.

By requiring full public disclosure in the mining industry, the measure also institutionalizes the Philippines' participation in the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), an international disclosure system under which participants declare the taxes and revenue generated by such industries.

— Genshen L. Espedido



TO ACCOMMODATE FARMERS' TITLES

DAR, DENR DRAFT DEAL TO ALLOW FARMS IN UPLAND FORESTS

By Vincent Cabreza
@vincentcabrezaINQ

BAGUIO CITY—Upland farmers who were granted agrarian lands inside forests and critical reserves like Mt. Pulag may be allowed to continue their tilling in a new deal being drafted by the government, Agrarian Reform Secretary John Castriciones said on Tuesday.

A draft joint administrative order currently being discussed by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) states that occupants of forest lands who tended their crops for decades "would no longer

be disturbed by the DENR," said lawyer Luis Meinrado Pañgulayan, agrarian reform undersecretary for legal affairs.

CLOAs

The DENR and DAR have been at loggerheads over farming activities in protected woodlands. In 1998, the DENR nullified eight certificates of land ownership award (CLOAs) issued to farming communities in the Benguet town of Kabayan in 1992.

Majority of Kabayan's villages are within the 11,500-hectare Mt. Pulag National Park, which is home to virgin pine and mossy forests as well as endangered plants and animals like the cloud rat. Scholars from the

University of the Philippines in Los Baños have described Mt. Pulag farming as the most destructive activity threatening Luzon's highest mountain.

As many as 15,000 CLOA-holders in many of the country's woodlands would be affected should the DENR disfranchise them by reasserting control over 46,000 ha of occupied timberlands, said Castriciones, who was here for a yearend review of the DAR's accomplishments.

"If it is just a forest and it was distributed to farmers, the position we have taken is that we will maintain [these farms inside timberlands] as is," he said.

Castriciones also said the DAR was studying how to assist

Ibaloy and Kankanaey farmers dwelling inside the Camp John Hay forest reserve.

Residents of Barangay Happy Hallow, recognized as the Baguio Ibaloy ancestral domain, also have farms and small rice terraces, and may qualify for CLOAs, he said after discussing the matter with Mayor Benjamin Magalong.

Not watersheds

But the agrarian reform secretary qualified that farming inside watersheds was not permissible under the agreement being forged by the Cabinet.

Castriciones distinguished forests or woodlands from watersheds or tree-populated ar-

eas which absorb or discharge rainwater toward creeks and water bodies from which communities draw potable water.

"Watersheds absolutely cannot be alienable and disposable. These lands [granted CLOAs] are not exactly in watersheds [but] in the event there are portions which are actually watersheds ... and will affect the community, then that's not negotiable They will be canceled and the lands would be reverted ... to the care of the DENR," Castriciones said.

He said the DAR's latest inventory of CLOAs inside forests do not appear to be affecting watersheds and are therefore "validly distributed." INQ



GROWING SAPLINGS IN NURSERIES

BAGUIO TO RECLAIM TREES LOST TO DEVELOPERS

BAGUIO CITY—The city government will begin rehabilitating the diminished pine tree cover here by 2022, allowing it to grow saplings within two years, an official said on Monday.

Rhenan Diwas, acting city environment officer, said part of Baguio's redevelopment initiative is a plan that requires trees to be planted in dedicated areas near settlements.

Citing an urban forest master plan that was presented during the executive-legislative meeting at the City Hall, Diwas said they planned to "reclaim trees we lost to developers."

Diwas said the reforestation plan "seeks to reverse the current trend of decreasing urban forest brought about by incessant real estate developments, reverse the stigma of urban decay, and increase canopy cover and greenery throughout the city."

At present, Baguio has about 2.5 million trees clustered in forest reservations of Camp John Hay and the Philippine Military Academy. Only 400,000 are pine trees.

Tree planting suspended

The city intends to plant 200,000 trees in public lands and 50,000 more in private lands. About 40 percent of these trees will be pine trees.

During a briefing for Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat and Interior Secretary Eduardo Año on Jan. 10, Mayor Benjamin Magalong said he suspended all tree-planting activities until saplings being grown by four city-sponsored nurseries are mature enough.

Magalong drew flak for that

decision but he said many trees planted in previous reforestation activities did not survive, partly because many volunteers left the saplings on their own.

Clusters

He said research confirmed that trees of the same species must be clustered together because plant life tends to protect each other.

Planting will be mapped out, focusing on areas where trees will not be disturbed by human activity and will not pose harm to households, Magalong said.

Open areas, including sections of the city which are geologically hazardous for settlement, can host pine, calliandra or agohe trees.

Barangay greenbelts

Roads will host trees to reduce the negative impact of pollution, while parks and barangay greenbelts can host Norfolk pine, lemon-scented cypress, coral trees, pink shower trees and bottlebrush trees.

Planting will take place until 2027, to be followed by another round of planting from 2028 to 2030, targeting "unique planting locations," Diwas said.

According to an urban carrying capacity report, Baguio's forest cover, now below 40 percent of its area, has been overtaken by overdevelopment.

It says the population threshold for Baguio forests (or the point when the forest resource becomes insufficient for a given number of residents) was breached after 2012. —VINCENT

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Easy ways to become 'green' when you travel in 2020

Text and photos by KARA SANTOS

For those who have been bit by the travel bug, the first month of the year is usually the time to plan trips and vacations. But aside from listing down travel goals and bucket list destinations, it's also the time for making resolutions.

The tourism industry has a huge impact on the world. Just think of the energy and natural resources consumed for tourism-related infrastructure, transportation, accommodation, and activities. Whenever we travel, we contribute to the depletion of key natural resources, disrupt natural habitats, and contribute to the degradation of biological diversity.

As travelers, we can do simple steps to travel responsibly and encourage others to do the same. Here are just a few simple, green travel resolutions to consider this 2020.

Be more eco-conscious

Awareness is the catalyst towards adopting an eco-friendly lifestyle. Avoiding single-use plastics, refusing to buy souvenirs that make use of animals especially exotic and endangered species, and conserving water during trips, are just some of the basic steps.

Opt to take a shower instead of soaking in a bathtub. Reuse towels, and don't request for sheets to be replaced every night to cut back on laundry.

Bring your own bottle

Another really simple step, which most travelers forget to do, is to bring a water bottle and refill it when traveling. According to the Container Recycling Institute, over 60 million plastic bottles end up in landfills and incinerators every single day. It's really easy to just refill water at drinking stations and restaurants.

Shop with your own eco-bag

A typical plastic bag usually ends up in a landfill after being used once and can take up to 500 years to decompose. It's great that more establishments now are starting to ban single-use plastics and opting for eco-friendly alternatives like tote bags, paper bags, boxes, and biodegradable instead of plastic straws.

When shopping, bring your own reusable canvas bag so you can easily carry the stuff you buy.

The same goes for dining out. It's easy enough to bring a small reusable food container for stashing leftovers to avoid food waste. You

'The best way to experience a destination is to eat where the locals do. Locally-produced food tastes fresher, better, and does not cause as much pollution.'



can always snack on the food later.

Buy local products

Skip the mass-produced souvenirs in tourist spots. Cheap keychains, magnets, bottle openers, and button pins churned out by factories more often than not, end up as clutter in the house. Instead of buying lots of different items, why not opt to buy only two or high quality

locally-made souvenir that tells a story or serves a practical purpose.

Each destination has its own special product that you may not find anywhere else, such as uniquely handwoven scarves, ceramic plates, or specialty coffee beans, so why not get those instead? Supporting local industries can help boost the local economy and encourage artisans to preserve traditional craftsmanship.

Pick the best form of transport

Long-haul flights are one of the major contributors to greenhouse gas emissions. If you have the time, opt for alternative forms of transportation. Consider traveling by train or by bus instead of flying to your destination. When going around a city or town, take public transportation, ride a bicycle or explore the place on foot instead of hailing a cab.

Pick low-impact accommodations

While some hotels make an effort to employ green practices, there's no denying that big hotel chains do more harm to the environment than low-impact homestays. Staying in a friend or relative's house is not only economical, but better for the environment.

Head to local favorites when dining

The best way to experience a destination is to eat where the locals do. Locally-produced food tastes fresher, better, and does not cause as much pollution as fast-food joints and big-scale hotels to reach your table.

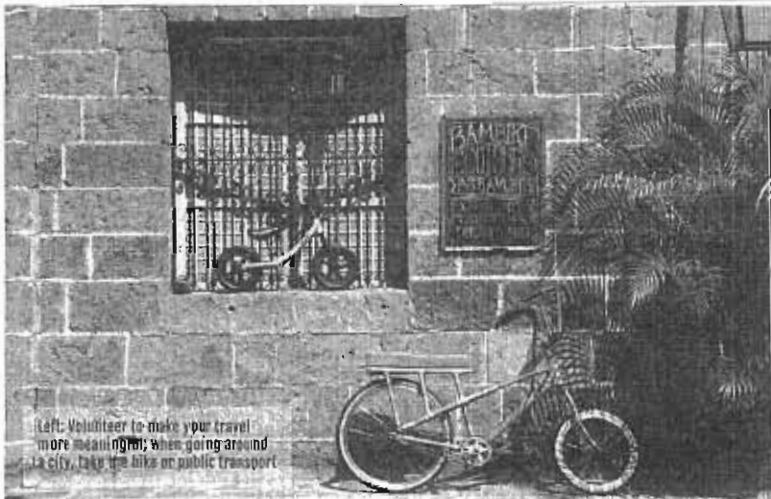
Travel locally

We all know that long-haul flights produce more carbon emissions than traveling locally. Before you book plane tickets to a far-flung country, why not consider other vacation destinations that are close to home? There are many equally beautiful but overlooked destinations in the Philippines that will take you far less.

Volunteer

For travelers looking to make a difference, how about combining your trip with something more meaningful for the environment?

Various organizations offer trips that include voluntary activities for a good cause that help communities or preserve nature. From planting trees during a hike to doing coastal cleanups in between island hopping, there are various ways to help. Visit websites like ecotourism.org or voluntourism.ph to find out more on how you can embark on your own journey.



Left: Volunteer to make your travel more meaningful; when going around the city, take the bike or public transport

Trees for healthier cities

'Trees can live without people, but people cannot live without trees.'

ACCORDING to scientists, planting billions of trees around the world can make a big impact in cleaning the world's overwhelming carbon emissions and help combat climate change. Researchers at ETH Zürich have identified planting trees as our best and cheapest solution to fight climate change. Their recent analysis reports that 1.2 trillion native tree saplings can grow in 1.7-billion hectares of treeless areas. In fact, planting forests the size of the United States can reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide by 25 percent. Aside from absorbing carbon dioxide, trees can also retain other urban pollutants like nitrous oxide, industrial soot and heavy metals, among others, which are stored in the wood. The older the trees are, the more effective they are in controlling pollutants. Sadly, last year and until now, deadly wildfires have laid waste millions of hectares of rainforests, bushland and national parks — densely vegetated areas that are the earth's carbon sinks. In the Amazon, approximately 1,812,992 hectares of rainforests were destroyed, while in Australia, more than 4,870,391 hectares have already been razed — further elevating greenhouse gas emissions. Worse, it will take years before these trees are replaced and can be mature enough to absorb atmospheric carbon and other pollutants. Nevertheless, experts have calculated and ranked certain regions where it will be least risky and costly to reforest. They discovered that the best locations to reforest are in more than 100 million hectares of tropical rainforests spread across Africa, Southeast Asia, and Central and South America.



FELINO A. PALAFOX JR.

In 2015, the World Economic Forum (WEF) included enhancing green canopy cover at the top 10 urban initiatives that cities must prioritize. As a result, tree-planting programs have become an important component of urban planning because these promote resiliency, sustainability, health, wellness and economic success, among others. The manifold benefits of urban trees should hinder local governments and developers from cutting down trees to make more space for infrastructure and other kinds of development. Trees can alleviate some of the negative effects of urbanization and can help cities become more resilient and sustainable. Extensive tree cover in the city can reduce urban heat island temperatures of between 2 degree Celsius and 8 C by increasing water evaporation and blocking shortwave radiation. A mature tree can absorb up to 150 kilogram of carbon dioxide each year and can filter fine particulates and other urban pollutants, thus improving air quality. Trees are valuable components of stormwater management because a single tree can retain more than 100 gallons of rainfall, and collectively, trees help collect and filter water to be channeled to aquifers and watersheds that replenish our groundwater supply. Trees increase food security by providing fruits, leaves and nuts for consumption, and they boost urban biodiversity by giving animals and other plants more favorable and safe habitats. Living near urban green spaces has

numerous physical and mental health benefits such as increased physical activity and reduced stress and blood pressure. Trees around buildings can help conserve energy, reducing the need for air conditioning by 30 percent and winter heating by 20 to 50 percent. In addition, green urban spaces can increase property value by 20 percent and attract more opportunities for business and tourism.

Thankfully, more cities are heeding the call for urgent and large-scale reforestation. Treepedia, a collaboration between the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the WEF, measures the tree cover of 27 cities through their Green View Index — a metric that assesses and compares tree canopy density. Tampa City in Florida is No. 1 on the list, with 36.1 percent of its area as tree cover, which is more than one-third of the city. It is followed by Singapore with 29.3 percent, Oslo with 28.8 percent, and Sydney and Vancouver with 25.9 percent.

It took decades for Singapore to replace its reputation as an overly polluted city with its current international renown as a "city in a garden." It started with Lee Kuan Yew who was fondly called "Chief Gardener" because of his belief in the ability of biodiversity and plants to increase people's and spaces' well-being. Singapore has since flourished and become a model for environmentalism and sustainability by establishing urban plans that promote the creation of world-class gardens and nature reserves, revitalization of urban parks and streetscapes, construction of green infrastructure, strengthening of their landscape and horticultural industry, and community engagement.

Oslo is Europe's Green Capital for 2019. Its sustainable city planning, which is the result of a collaborative effort of the local government, urban planners, businesses and communities, includes emission-free mobility, energy-efficient neighborhoods, waste-to-energy initiatives, habitat conservation and, of course, expansion of green areas in the city. School gardens are a tradition in Oslo, and early on, local children learn firsthand the joys of urban farming. Additionally, the city has allotted 1,000 gardens that are part of garden colonies in which families or individuals can plant vegetables, fruit trees and other plants. Similarly, Sydney is hoping to plant 5 million trees by 2030 through the city initiative "Five Million Trees," which will increase their urban tree canopy from 16 percent to 40 percent. The local government allotted \$38.7 million for this project. Trees will be planted in schools, parks, backyards and streets — creating a more livable and healthier city.

Today, intensifying reforestation and urban tree planting initiatives have never been more crucial. If you look at it, trees take care of us; the numerous benefits we get from trees are invaluable. So, shouldn't we, in the same way, value and take care of them more?



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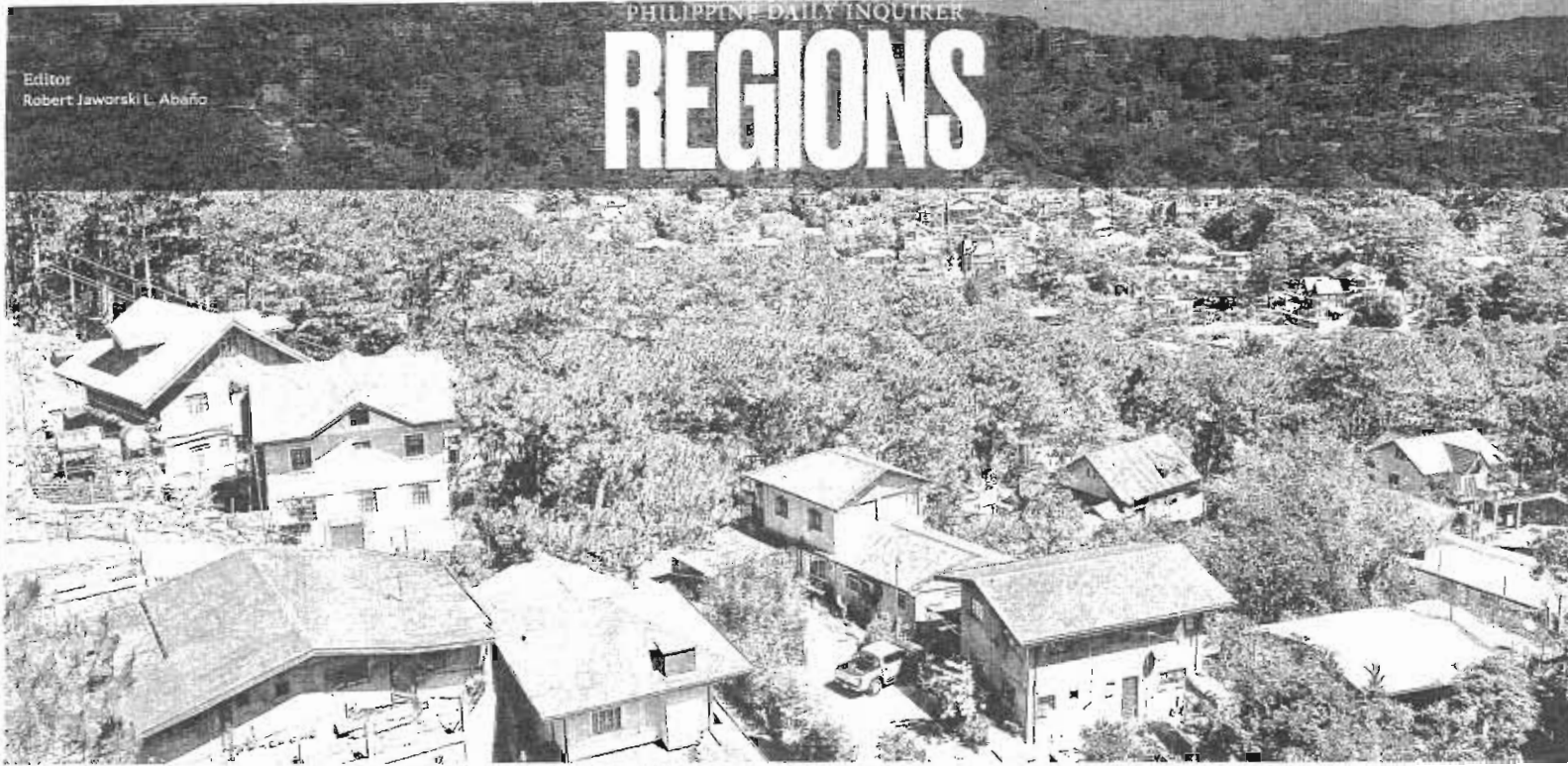
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Editor
Robert Jaworski L. Abaña

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
REGIONS

REFORESTATION The Baguio City government plans to rehabilitate the diminished pine tree cover by 2022. The plan "seeks to reverse the current trend of decreasing urban forest brought about by incessant real estate developments, reverse the stigma of urban decay and increase canopy cover and greenery throughout the city." —REM ZAMORA



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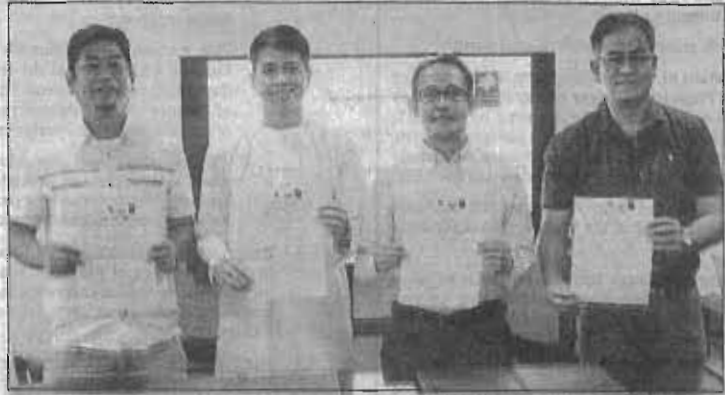
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De La Salle Philippines has partnered with geothermal leader Energy Development Corp. through the BINHI program, which aims to bring back to abundance endangered Philippine native tree species. DLSP will build its first botanical garden in its 34-hectare property in Porac, Pampanga that will be a platform for understanding and identifying potential environmental solutions through scientific research, biodiversity conservation, education and recreation. Signing the agreement are Warren Joseph Dolente, director of DLSP-Lasallian Institute for the Environment, and chief operating officer Br. Alexander Ervin Diaz, FSC; Allan Barcena, head of EDC's CSR-PR group, and Eduardo Jimenez, stakeholder relations expert.





Bgy head evades arrest in Ecija anti-logging operation

By **STEVE A. GOSUICO**

ALIAGA, Nueva Ecija - An incumbent barangay chairman eluded arrest after authorities armed with a court-issued search warrant raided his premises and seized less than half-a-million-pesos worth of various undocumented hardwood

species found stored inside his residential compound on Tuesday here.

Town police head Major Marlon Cudal identified the at-large barangay official as Roman "Bobot" Gamboa III, of Bgy. Bucot, said to be affiliated with the Vargases, with son David Angelo Vargas as the incumbent town mayor.

Cudal said the search

operation was conducted at 10 a.m. and led by his men and members of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Muñoz Science City office led by Florencio Lalu, and the military under the 84th Infantry Battalion's Alpha company of 1Lt. Arnold Quiñon.

He said it was implemented based on a search

warrant issued by Judge Ana Marie C. Joson-Viterbo, executive judge of regional trial court branch 24, Cabanatuan City.

However, during the raid, Gamboa, who is also allegedly a quarry operator was nowhere to be found for he was said to be in Cabanatuan City doing another business, Cudal told this reporter yesterday.



Akalain mo, Taal volcanic ash ginawang bricks

INIHAHALO sa plastic waste ang abong ibinuga ng Bulkang Taal upang makabuo ng bricks bilang solusyon na rin sa lumalalang problema ng Pilipinas sa polusyon at madaalas na natural disasters.

Sumabog ang bulkan noong Jan. 12 at naghasik ng dust columns sa kalangitan. Napuno ng abo ang maraming lugar sa Batangas, Cavite at Laguna, kabilang na ang siyudad ng Biñan.

Hindi lang basta nilinis ng environment officials ang dumi ngunit nagdesisyon ding paghaluin ang abo, semento at plastic wastes para makagawa ng nasa 5,000 bricks kada araw para sa local building proj-

ects.

"Instead of just piling up the ashfall somewhere, we are able to turn it into something useful. And it includes plastics, too," sabi ni city environmental officer Rodelio Lee.

Kinahaharap ng bansa ang waste crisis. Sa isang report noong isang taon, gumagamit ang Pilipinas ng "shocking" amount ng single-use plastic, kabilang na ang humigit kumulang 60 billion throwaway sachets taun-taon.

Binabayo rin ang bansa ng umaabot sa 20 bagyo at niyayanig ng malalakas na lindol na kumikital sa daangdaang buhay kada taon.

Dahil pa sa posisyon

nito sa Pacific "Ring of Fire" zone of seismic activity, nakararanas din ang Pilipinas ng periodic volcanic eruptions.

Ang pagbaha ng lava at 15 kilometrong kapa ng abo ay nagdulot ng 70,000 evacuees sa evacuation centers at nagsiklab ng babala na maaaring maganap ang mas matinding pagsabog kahit anong oras.

Sa dami ng supply ng volcanic ash at plastic, nakikita ng Biñan officials ang proyekto bilang "silver lining" kasunod ng sakuna.

"During these times, our creativity becomes apparent," sabi ni Biñan Mayor Arman Dimaguila. —AFP



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NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

Kaliwa Dam construction may not start this year due to documentary requirements — MWSS

CONSTRUCTION OF the Kaliwa Dam, intended to serve as a medium-term water source for Metro Manila, may not start this year as the project has yet to comply with all requirements such as the consent from affected indigenous people communities and defending the environmental clearance certificate (ECC), according to the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System's (MWSS) top official. In a briefing on Wednesday, MWSS Administrator Emmanuel B. Salamat said the documentary requirements could take time to process. "It's possible (to start construction this year). We just want to make sure... to address the other complications or requirements... the environmental effects and cultural sensitivity of the construction of the dam," he said. The project's ECC, issued by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in October last year, has been questioned by various groups. Under Republic Act 8371, the Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997, project developers are required to secure from the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples a Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC) and other clearances from the indigenous communities that will be affected. — **Gillian M. Cortez**

>> See full story on <https://qrgo.page.link/ycyjZ>

Editorial

'Onerous' deals further illustrate need for land use law

OUR editorial yesterday addressed the Philippines' critical need for a National Land Use Act (NaLUA), a measure that has been repeatedly introduced in Congress, including the current 18th one, but has yet to come into being. Two recent news stories about another lately popular topic, so-called "onerous" contracts between private enterprises and the government, further illustrate why the NaLUA is very important.

The first story concerns the arrangement between the Ayala Group and the University of the Philippines (UP) for the lease of the land where the UP Technohub is located along Commonwealth Avenue in Diliman, Quezon City. According to Palace spokesman Salvador Panelo, Ayala Land Inc. has been paying a mere P20 per square meter (sqm) per month for the property on a 25-year lease that is due to expire in 2033.

Ayala Land quickly denied Panelo's claim and stated that it actually pays P171 per sqm, which will amount to a total of P10.23 billion paid to the government by the time the contract expires and the property and buildings revert back to UP ownership. Panelo countered by pointing out that even at P171 per sqm, the rental rate was still far below what the prime property is actually worth on the market.

The reason the Technohub property has become a new focus of the administration's attention is because of President Duterte's displeasure with the Ayala Group, which began with the discovery of clearly onerous provisions in the concession contract between the government and Ayala-led Manila Water Co. Inc. That should have no bearing on whether or not the Technohub deal is unfair to the government as well: Ayala is either paying a fair lease price or they are not.

Our research with several sources indicated that the rate for most undeveloped commercial properties for lease in Quezon City range from P150 to P250 per sqm per month. The value of the Technohub property, being in a prime location, is certainly at the upper end of that range and may even exceed it, and therefore, initial indications are that Ayala may indeed be paying too little for it. A proper study of the terms of the contract and a comparison to the current property market will determine that one way or the other.

“ Both the Technohub and Chevron land deals will have to be properly investigated and resolved... and these are just two of a potentially large number of similar contracts that will need to be reviewed and corrected ”

The second story comes from the Department of Finance (DoF) and concerns the land in Batangas that oil giant, Chevron, leases from a subsidiary of the National Development Corp. According to data gathered by the DoF, Chevron pays a mere 17 centavos per sqm per month for the land where its oil refinery now sits. That is less than one percent of the fair market leasing value of P17.90 per sqm, the DoF said. That translates to a lease payment of just about P3 million annually, he added, whereas a lease at the fair market rate would be worth about P257 million annually.

The apparent loss to the government from both of these questionable property deals could have been avoided if a clear and strictly enforced national land use law had been in place. A good land use framework would, among many other things, establish parameters for the value of different kinds of government land, preventing either unscrupulous companies or ethically challenged government officials from taking advantage of contracts.

Both the Technohub and Chevron land deals will have to be properly investigated and resolved, and will almost certainly involve the courts. And these are just two of a potentially large number of similar contracts that will need to be reviewed and corrected. One way for the government to ensure that process will not need to be repeated in the future is to pass the NaLUA, ensuring that it establishes guidelines for the disposal or use of government lands. The NaLUA need not be viewed as a strictly protective measure, either; many of the current difficulties encountered by investors, such as right-of-way issues, can also be clarified by the NaLUA, making doing ethical business with the government a much more attractive prospect.



NDC to abolish BLCI

By LOUELLA DESIDERIO

The board of state-run National Development Co. (NDC) has ordered the dissolution of its subsidiary, Batangas Land Corp. Inc. (BLCI), over the onerous lease contract it entered with Chevron Philippines Inc.

"The NDC Board, which DTI (Department of Trade and Industry) chairs and has DOF (Department of Finance) as one of the members, has already directed the NDC to work on the dissolution and non-extension of the life of BLCI, the joint venture between NDC and Chevron," Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez said in a message to reporters yesterday.

Apart from DOF, other members of NDC are the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Department of Energy, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Development Bank of the Philippines, Board of Investments, Department of Budget and Management, and a representative from the private sector.

Lopez said the government plans to consolidate its ownership of the land and buy out

the shares of Chevron.

"The NDC and DOF technical team has been working on this," he said.

He added BLCI has already approved its dissolution during its latest board meeting.

"The existing lease term is one that started almost 50 years ago and ending in 2025, which needs a renegotiation or bidding under the new set-up," he said.

Earlier this week, the DOF revealed the lease contract between Chevron Philippines and the NDC subsidiary has onerous terms.

This, as Chevron Philippines was allowed to pay a monthly rental fee of just P0.74 per square meter (sqm) on a 120-hectare or 1.2-million sqm property in San Pascual, Batangas being used as oil terminal, an amount way too small compared to the current fair market rental value in the area which should be around P17.90 per sqm.

But Raissa Bautista, policy government and public affairs manager at Chevron Philippines, said yesterday the lease contract entered into with BLCI is aboveboard.



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Climate change pushing Australia's platypus toward extinction

SYDNEY (AFP) – Prolonged drought and other effects of climate change are pushing Australia's unique platypus population towards extinction, scientists warned in a study published Monday.

The river-dwelling animal has already disappeared from up to 40 percent of its historical range on Australia's east coast due to the drought, land clearing, pollution and building of dams, which fragment their habitat, the researchers said.

They predicted that if the current threats persist, platypus numbers will fall another 47 to 66 percent over the next 50 years.

If projections about worsening climate change are taken into account, the numbers of the duck-billed, egg-laying mammal could plummet up to 73 percent by 2070, they wrote.

The platypus is listed as "near threatened" by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

But the scientists from the University of New South Wales' Centre for Ecosystem Science said damage to river systems caused by years of little rainfall and high temperatures had worsened prospects for the animal.

"These dangers further expose the platypus to even worse local extinctions, with no capacity to repopulate areas," said Gilad Bino, lead author of the study.

The scientists said there is an "urgent need" for a national risk assessment to determine if the platypus should be downgraded to "vulnerable" status and to lay out conservation steps "to minimize any risk of extinction."

The study is the first across all platypus habitat zones to establish a so-called "metapopulation" model while also projecting the impacts of climate change on the species going forward.

The survey estimated the total platypus population had fallen by 50 percent since European settlement of the continent two centuries ago.

An earlier study published in November 2018 estimated the population had fallen by 30 percent over that period, to around 200,000.

"Under predicted climate change, the losses forecast were far greater because of increases in extreme drought frequencies and duration, such as the current dry spell," Bino said of the latest report.

The new study comes as unprecedented bushfires ravage vast areas of eastern Australia, fuelled by the drought and record-high temperatures.

The platypus, which along with four species of echidna are the only mammals that lay eggs, is one of the world's strangest animals, with the bill of a duck, tail of a beaver, otter-like feet and a venomous spur on its hind leg.



Bello bares official's attempt to block OFW's murder probe

By EDU PUNAY

An official tried to intervene in the investigation of the case of slain Filipino household worker in Kuwait, Jeanelyn Villavende, Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III revealed last Tuesday.

"Somebody asked me not to seek help from the NBI (National Bureau of Investigation) anymore for the autopsy (of the victim)," he told the hearing of the House committee on overseas workers, chaired by TUCP party-list Rep. Raymond Democrito Mendoza.

Bello stopped short of naming the individual, but said he rejected the person's request.

He said he grew suspicious of why the official tried to stop him from seeking an independent probe by the NBI to determine the cause of Villavende's death.

The labor chief said he rejected the request and immediately asked the NBI to conduct the re-autopsy of Villavende's body once it arrived in the country.

"I cannot reveal now (the name of the official). Only in an executive session will I re-

veal this," he told lawmakers.

However, none of the lawmakers moved to hold an executive session for Bello to identify the person.

The Ministry of Health of Kuwait issued a medical certificate stating that Villavende's cause of death was "acute failure of heart and respiration as a result of multiple injuries."

The NBI confirmed after re-autopsy that the cause of death was "consistent with multiple, severe traumatic injuries." The bureau also revealed that there was "clear evidence" Villavende was sexually abused.

At the same hearing, Department of Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Sarah Lou Arriola said that the Kuwaiti couple charged with the murder of Villavende may still evade the death penalty if they can raise the equivalent of P5 million as blood money and the victim's family accepts it.

Kuwait cooperates

Yesterday, the Philippine embassy in Kuwait said the Gulf state is now willing to allow investigators from the Philippines to join the probe.

This development came last Sunday at the meeting between Kuwaiti Deputy Foreign Minister Al-Jarallah and Presidential Adviser on Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) Concerns Secretary Abdullah Mama-o.

Mama-o met with Al-Jarallah to echo the message of President Duterte to the Kuwaiti government, to ensure the safety and welfare of OFWs in the Middle East country.

He also explained to the Kuwait Foreign Ministry's second-in-command the recent decision of the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) governing board to ban the deployment of OFWs to Kuwait.

Mama-o thanked the Kuwaiti government for acting on Villavende's murder case, particularly the immediate arrest of her employers who are the primary suspects.

The embassy said both the Philippine and Kuwaiti sides expressed hope that all the issues concerning 150,000 Filipino domestic workers in Kuwait will be resolved through the soon-to-be-convened

Joint Committee Meeting on the 2018 Philippines-Kuwait Agreement on the Employment of Domestic Workers.

Repatriation woes

Meanwhile, the government admitted it is facing hurdles in implementing the mandatory repatriation of Filipinos in Iraq amid tension in the gulf region of the Middle East.

So far, only 15 of the 1,640 Filipinos documented in Iraq have been brought back to the country since repatriation started early this month.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, special envoy to the Middle East, told the House inquiry on contingency measures for OFWs in the gulf region that there is lack of proper monitoring mechanisms for Filipinos in Iraq.

"Most Filipinos there are undocumented because they are not allowed to work due to the existing employment ban there," Cimatu said. "We don't have a labor office there."

Cimatu stressed that even before tension escalated in the gulf, Filipinos in Iraq have been hiding from authorities

because most of them are undocumented.

"Because we don't have contacts of Filipinos there in Iraq, we just contact their families here and ask them to convince their relatives to avail of repatriation," he lamented.

Another challenge is that there are employers preventing OFWs from leaving because they want a refund of the \$10,000 (about P510,000) they paid to job recruiters.

"The employers won't allow them to leave unless they return the \$10,000. Despite securing exit visa, they were stopped at the immigration counter in the airport because the employers ran after them and claimed breach of contract," Cimatu said of the experience of some of the Filipinos recently repatriated

OFW Labor Summit

Labor groups are pushing for the holding of an OFW Labor Summit aimed at ensuring the safe and orderly evacuation of some two million Filipinos in the Middle East in case war breaks out in the gulf.

Sonny Matula, Nagkaisa

labor coalition chairman, said the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) should immediately convene a high-level OFW summit.

Matula suggested the summit invite leaders of trade unions and employers' groups, airline companies, OFW associations, the POEA, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, the National Reintegration Center for OFWs and even the Social Security System and other social protection agencies.

"We acknowledge that both DOLE and the Department of Foreign Affairs have plans for an evacuation, but we are not fully aware of these plans," Matula said.

"Our government must now lay out its contingency plans, including arrangements with other foreign governments on their respective repatriation plans and the private sector," he added.

Also, the summit can serve as a forum for wider participation to discuss different assistance to be extended to affected OFWs in the Middle East. — With Pia Lee-Brago, Mayen Jaymalin



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Repatriation efforts hampered by need to repay fees paid by Iraqi employers to recruiters

By BEN ROSARIO

The refund of fees as high as \$10,000 paid by Iraqi employers to recruiters of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) is among the **▶ 6**

Repatriation efforts hampered... 1 ◀

factors that has led to the snail-paced repatriation ordered by President Duterte for all OFW's in troubled Middle East nations.

Since the executive department reached the decision for a mandatory repatriation two weeks ago, only 15 people – 13 adults and two minors – have made it back to the Philippines.

Appearing before the House committee on overseas workers affairs, key officials of various government agencies tasked to evacuate Filipinos from Iraq and Iran said everything is ready for the repatriation operations.

Undersecretary Sarah Lou Arriola of the Department of Foreign Affairs said another batch of OFWs from the war-threatened Middle East nations is expected to arrive in the Philippines on Thursday.

However, Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, designated by President Duterte as special envoy to the Middle East, admitted that only 15 out of the

1,640 documented and undocumented OFWs have left Iraq.

Cimatu said they have listed 1,184 Filipinos living in Iran, but the majority of them prefer to remain in the Middle East country, notwithstanding the threat of hostilities between Iran and the United States.

He also said that Filipinos are not regarded as "combatants" by Middle East governments because of the Philippines' neutral stance on the ongoing Middle East tension.

Muntinlupa City Rep. Ruffy Biazon has aired fears that sending Philippine Navy and Philippine Coast Guard vessels to fetch Filipinos may make them targets of Iran's "proxies" in retaliating against the US in connection with the killing of top Iran General Qasem Soleimani in an American-launched drone strike three weeks ago.

Also appearing at the hearing were Secretaries Silvestre Bello III of the Department of Labor and Delfin Loren-

zana of the Department of National Defense.

Arriola said employers have not been fully cooperative in granting exit visas to OFWs until portions of the fees they paid recruiters are returned.

Her concern was also raised by Cimatu, who said employers want their money back as some of them have paid as high as \$10,000 to recruiters for every Filipino brought to them for employment.

Officials said many Filipinos in Iran married to Iranis have rejected repatriation and chosen to remain with their families there.

DFA Undersecretary Brigido Dulay assured lawmakers that the governments of Iraq and Iran have been very cooperative in the efforts of the Philippines to repatriate their nationals.

"We have already gotten assurance from Tehran, and they are assuring us that they will take care of all Filipinos in Iran. Anytime, in any situation, we can expect their full support and cooperation," Dulay told lawmakers.



Iraqi employers wanted P500K refund before releasing Pinoy workers – Cimat

BY WENDELL VIGILIA

THE repatriation of undocumented overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) from Iraq suffered delays because some Iraqi employers refused to allow their workers to leave until they got a refund of the P500,000 that they paid to recruiters when they hired the Filipinos.

“There are some recruiters who were able to receive from employer \$10,000 (or P500,000) and when they (OFWs) volunteered to come

home, the employer won't allow them until they pay the same amount,” Middle East Roy Cimat told a hearing of the House committee on overseas workers last Tuesday.

Cimat said that while Filipinos are barred from working in Iraq due to an existing employment ban, some still managed to get work by having their employers pay their recruiters.

The Philippine government has raised Alert Level 4 in Iraq and started repatriating its citizens

amid escalating tensions between the US and the Arab country following a US airstrike that killed top Iranian general Qassem Solaimani early this month.

The first batch of 13 Filipinos arrived in Manila last week.

Nine of the workers came from Baghdad while four were from Erbil, located in the Kurdistan region of the country.

Cimat said nine of the workers were stopped by Iraqi immigration last week even if they were already issued exit visas after their employ-

ers tried to stop them from leaving for alleged “breach of contract.”

“Sinamahan ng charge d'affaires, natulog sa detention center sa airport (Our charge d'affaires accompanied them overnight at the detention center in the airport),” he said. “They stayed there and I would also like to commend the chargé d'affaires in Baghdad na sinamahan silang matulog mismo sa loob ng detention center ng airport (who accompanied the workers inside the detention center of the airport).”



NAGKAKAUBUSAN na umano ng face mask sa bansang China.

Paanong hindi magkakaubusan, eh, nasa 1.4 bilyon ang bilang ng mga Tsino.

Binubulabog ng sakit na likha ng corona virus ang buong China, kasama na ang Hong Kong kaya nagkakaubusan ng face mask.

Ang magandang balita, wala pa tayong naririnig na nag-o-overprice ng face mask gaya ng nangyari sa mga face mask sa atin nang pumutok ang Bulkang Taal.

Hindi lang nagdoble kundi nagtriple ang presyo ng mga face mask.

Ang P1 na ordinaryong face mask ay naging P3-P4 bawat isa.

Ang N95 na face mask na P50-P75 bawat piraso, naging P200-P400.

Natigil lang ito nang magbanta na si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte na ipare-raid nito sa militar ang mga tindahang nag-o-overprice.

DELIKADO

Itong sakit na ito na likha ng notoryus na corona virus ay mabilis pumatay ng tao at habang tinitipa natin ito, may siyam nang patay habang nasa 400 na ang naospital.

Sabi, delikado ang sakit mula sa notoryus na uri ng corona virus dahil 4-5 araw bago may palatandaan na meron ka nito.

Kasunod nito ang 4-5 araw ring pag-aaral ng mga doktor kung notoryus na corona virus ang tumama sa iyo.

Kapag nadeklarang notoryus na virus ang kumapit sa iyo, saka nila gagamutin nang todo.

Kung gagaling ka, magpasalamat ka sa lumikha sa iyo.

Kung hindi, magpasalamat ka pa rin at binigyan ka ng buhay para masilayan ang ganda ng mundo.

HANGGANG 15 ARAW KA LANG

Bago magsara ang taong 2019, partikular noong Disyembre 31, 2019, idineklara ng China ang outbreak dahil sa sakit mula nga sa corona virus.

Ngayon ay Enero 23 na at may 6 nang patay at nasa 400 na nasa ospital.

Ang sabi ng iba, maaaring lbo-libo na ang nahawa ng sakit lalo't kiarong lumilipat ang sakit mula sa hayop sa tao at tao sa tao.

Ang paglilipat ng tao sa tao ay napatunayan



ULTIMATUM NI BENNY ANTIPORDA

FACE MASK VS CORONA VIRUS NAGKAKAUBUSAN

ng pagkakahawa ng nasa 15 na taong ospital na nanggagamot sa mga maysakit sa China ngayon.

HINDI MAIIWASAN

May nakapasok nang may dala ng sakit sa Estados Unidos.

Nauna rito, may ilan nang naospital sa Thailand at nagkaroon na rin ng mga pasyente sa Japan, South Korea at Taiwan.

Meron na rin tayong apat na suspetsadong may corona virus.

Ang isa, ang batang 5-anyos, bagama't maganda na ang kalagayan sa ospital sa Cebu, ay inoobserbahan pa rin.

Ang tatlong Tsino na nasabat sa Aklan at patungo sana sa Boracay ay inoobserbahan pa rin.

Hindi talaga maiiwasan ang paglaganap ng sakit na ito dahil wala ni alinmang bansa ang nagdedeklara ng ban sa pagbiyahe ng mga tao.

Kahit pa patungo at mula sa Wuhan, China ang mga biyahe.

Tanging ang North Korea lang ang nagdeklara ng ban.

MGA PAG-IINGAT

Lahat na ng paliparan sa iba't ibang bansa ay nagbabantay laban sa sakit na ubo at lagnat ang mga palatandaan.

Kahit ang mga pier ay binabantayan din.

Ang mga dumarating, lalo na mula sa Tsina at Hong Kong, ay talaga namang isinasalang sa mga thermal examination kung tatawagin.

Habang naglalakad ka patungo sa mga teler ng mga airport o pier, nakasalang ka na sa mga thermal scanner.

Sinusukat na ang init ng iyong katawan at binabantayan ka na rin kung umuubo ka o hindi.

Sa oras na may init ang katawan mo na 38 degrees centigrade, sinitahin ka na, ihihiwalay ka at ilalagay ka sa quarantine para matsekap.

At pasensya na po kung hindi ka palalabasin sa quarantine station hanggang sa dalhin ka sa ospital.

Pero hindi lang ang mga nasa airport at pier

may nagbabantay.

Maging ang mga kompanya ng eroplano ay nag-uutos na ng pagbabantay sa kanilang mga pasahero.

Kung sa paniniwala nila ay may sakit ka mula sa corona virus, sa unang paliparan na dadaungan ng iyong eroplano ay ipapasa ka na sa mga awtoridad sa airport na iyon.

Huwag na po tayong umangal dahil para sa atin naman lahat ng ito at para rin sa ating mga pamilya at komunidad na ating madadatnan.

KAYANG LABANAN

Ayon sa Department of Health natin, kayang laban ng mahal kong Pinas ang sakit na ito.

Kinatatakutan ang sakit na ito dahil kamag-anak ang virus nito ng virus sa SAFIS na pumatay ng nasa 800 ka-tao sa loob lang ng ilang buwan noong 2002-2003.

Kaya na umano natin dahil mayroon na tayong mga gamit para malaman kung may sakit o wala ang dumarating sa atin mula sa ibang mga bansa.

Mayroon na rin tayong mga quarantine station na may sapat na kagamitan para sa mga doktor, nars at midwife na maaatasang haharap sa mga maysakit.

Meron na rin tayong mga ospital na pupwedeng pagdalhan ng mga may sakit at kayang ihiwalay ang mga maysakit sa iba pang mga pasyente.

Sana nga, makaya nating labanan ang sakit na nakamamata'y hindi lang sa tao kundi maging sa ekonomiya ng bansa.

Kabilang sa mga usaping pang-ekonomiya na apektado ang turismo at ang biyaheng pangnegosyo at personal na kinakailangan ng mga mamamayan at dayuhang pumapasok at lumalabas ng Pinas.

©Oo

Anomang reaksyon reklamo, maaaring iparating sa 0922840-3333 o il-email sa bantiporda@yahoo.com



STRATEGIC
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PAGE

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 STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

01-23-20

TITLE:

RA 9048/ RA 10172 Form No. 1.1. (LCRD)
(Modified 7 January 2013)

Local Civil Registry Office
Province: Metro Manila
City of Valenzuela

Republic of the Philippines) SS
Valenzuela City)

Petition No. RA 10172

PETITION FOR CORRECTION OF CLERICAL ERROR IN THE CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH

1. IRIS JEN E. LUMBIAO of legal age, Filipino and a resident of Blk 6, Lot 28, Northville 1-B, Pasaden, Valenzuela City, after having duly sworn to in accordance with law, hereby declare that:
2) I am the petitioner seeking correction of the clerical error in My Certificate of Live Birth
2) I was born on February 8, 1991 at Valenzuela, Metro Manila, Philippines
3) The birth was recorded under registry number 91-1833
4) The clerical error (s) to be corrected is (are) (Use additional sheets, if necessary.)
Item No. Description From To
1 CHILD'S SEX MALE FEMALE
2 CHILD'S FIRST NAME IRIS JES IRIS JEN
3 CHILD'S DATE OF BIRTH 2 FEBRUARY 1991 2 FEBRUARY 1993
4 CHILD'S LAST NAME LUMBIAW LUMBIAO
5 MOTHER'S MIDDLE NAME ABRA ABRA
6 FATHER'S LAST NAME LUMBIAW LUMBIAO
7 FATHER'S MIDDLE NAME LUMBIAW LUMBIAO

5) The facts/reasons for filing this petition are the following: Change of Gender, Correction of Clerical/ Typographical Error
6) I submit the following documents to support this petition: (a) PSA Copy of Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate, Voters ID & UMIS, SR Photo (b) MBI & Police Clearance, PSA Copy of Birth Cert. of Father (No Record) & Mother (c) Affidavit of Non Employment, Medical Certificate, Voters ID & SS ID of Father (d) Certificate of Indigency from DSWD & CSWDP, Form 137
7) I have not filed any similar petition and, to the best of my knowledge, no other similar petition is pending with any LCRO, Court of Philippine Consulate.
8) I am filing this petition at the LCRO of Valenzuela, Metro Manila in accordance with R.A. No. 9048 and its implementing rules and regulations.

(Sgd.) IRIS JEN E. LUMBIAO
Signature over printed name of petitioner

RA 9048/ RA 10172 Form No. 1.1. (LCRD)
(Modified 7 January 2013)

Local Civil Registry Office
Province: Metro Manila
City of Valenzuela

Republic of the Philippines) SS
Valenzuela City)

Petition No. RA 10172

PETITION FOR CORRECTION OF CLERICAL ERROR IN THE CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH

1. ELYVIRA P. AUSA of legal age, Filipino and a resident of #277 C. San Juan St., Pasaden, Valenzuela City after having duly sworn to in accordance with law, hereby declare that:
2) I am the petitioner seeking correction of the clerical error in My Certificate of Live Birth
2) I was born on January 27, 1971 at Candelija, Babel, Philippines
3) The birth was recorded under registry number 60
4) The clerical error (s) to be corrected is (are) (Use additional sheets, if necessary.)
Item No. Description From To
1 CHILD'S DATE OF BIRTH FEBRUARY 25, 1971 JANUARY 27, 1971

5) The facts/reasons for filing this petition are the following: Change of Date of Birth
6) I submit the following documents to support this petition: (a) PSA Copy of Birth Certificate, Baptismal Certificate (b) NBI & Police Clearance, Voters ID, Police & UMIS (c) Affidavit of Non Employment, Medical Certificate, Voters ID of Mother & Father (d) Certificate of Indigency from DSWD & CSWDP
7) I have not filed any similar petition and, to the best of my knowledge, no other similar petition is pending with any LCRO, Court of Philippine Consulate.
8) I am filing this petition at the LCRO of Valenzuela, Metro Manila in accordance with R.A. No. 9048 and its implementing rules and regulations.

(Sgd.) ELYVIRA P. AUSA
Signature over printed name of petitioner

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
National Ecology Center East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, National Capital Region, Patents and Deeds Section, in pursuance to Administrative Order No. 38 dated 19 April 1990, will sell at DENR-NCR Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division, National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, through sealed bidding to the highest bidder at 10:00 A.M. on MAY 05 2020, the tract of land situated in **Barangay Western Bicutan (Pinaragman), Taguig City** which are specifically described below to wit:

APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./BLK NO./PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607-2088	MELIZA D. TALAMAYAN	Lot 7, Block 46, Psd-00-036894	60 sq.m.	Php140.00	Php 8,400.00	Php 200,000.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-mentioned Division on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 007607-2088". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shall be forfeited to the government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines: *Atty. Alvin Joseph G. Constantino*
ATTY. ALVIN JOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO
OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2020

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
National Ecology Center East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, National Capital Region, Patents and Deeds Section, in pursuance to Administrative Order No. 38 dated 19 April 1990, will sell at DENR-NCR Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division, National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, through sealed bidding to the highest bidder at 10:00 A.M. on MAY 05 2020, the tract of land situated in **Barangay Western Bicutan (Fort Bonifacio), Taguig City** which are specifically described below to wit:

APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./BLK NO./PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607-1956	ALEXANDEI M. TRAYGO	Lot 41, Block 4, Psd-00-057780	48 sq.m.	P140.00	P6,720.00	P90,000.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-mentioned Division on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 007607-1956". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shall be forfeited to the government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines: *Atty. Alvin Joseph G. Constantino*
ATTY. ALVIN JOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO
OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2020

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
National Ecology Center East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, National Capital Region, Patents and Deeds Section, in pursuance to Administrative Order No. 38 dated 19 April 1990, will sell at DENR-NCR Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division, National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, through sealed bidding to the highest bidder at 10:00 A.M. on APR 21 2020, the tract of land situated in **Bar. Pinaragman, Taguig City** which are specifically described below to wit:

APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./BLK NO./PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607-418	VICTOR T. GANTALA	Lot 16, Block 48, Psd-00-036894	118 sq.m.	Php140.00	Php 16,520.00	Php 250,000.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-mentioned Division on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 007607-418". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shall be forfeited to the government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines: *Atty. Alvin Joseph G. Constantino*
ATTY. ALVIN JOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO
OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2020

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
National Ecology Center East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

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APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./BLK NO./PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607-3052	CONCHITA D. HAYARES	Lot 3, Block 48, Psd-00-036894	80 sq.m.	P140.00	P11,200.00	P300,000.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-mentioned Division on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 007607-3052". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shall be forfeited to the government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines: *Atty. Alvin Joseph G. Constantino*
ATTY. ALVIN JOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO
OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2020

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
National Ecology Center East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

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APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./BLK NO./PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607-2086	JEMMYN S. BAUTISTA	Lot 12, Block 12, Psd-00-036894	6 sq.m.	P140.00	P8,400.00	P700,000.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-mentioned Division on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 007607-2086". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shall be forfeited to the government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines: *Atty. Alvin Joseph G. Constantino*
ATTY. ALVIN JOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO
OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2020

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
National Ecology Center East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, National Capital Region, Patents and Deeds Section, in pursuance to Administrative Order No. 38 dated 19 April 1990, will sell at DENR-NCR Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division, National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, through sealed bidding to the highest bidder at 10:00 A.M. on APR 21 2020, the tract of land situated in **Bar. Western Bicutan (Fort Bonifacio), Taguig City** which are specifically described below to wit:

APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./BLK NO./PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607-1981	ADONES P. CRUZ	Lot 26, Block 2, Psd-00-057782	53 sq.m.	P140.00	P7,420.00	P150,000.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-mentioned Division on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 007607-1981". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shall be forfeited to the government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines: *Atty. Alvin Joseph G. Constantino*
ATTY. ALVIN JOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO
OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2020

TITLE:

PAGE 1/

Republic of the Philippines
 Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
 National Ecology Center East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, National Capital Region, Patents and Deeds Section, in pursuance to Administrative Order No. 38 dated 19 April 1990, will sell at DENR-NCR Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division, National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, through sealed bidding to the highest bidder at 10:00 A.M. on **28 MAY 2020**, the tract of land situated in **Western Bicutan (Fl. Bonifacio), Taguig City** which are specifically described below to wit:

APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./BLK NO./PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607-2089	SUSANA T. VILLANUEVA	Lot 17, Block 1 Pcd-00-057782	63 sq.m.	Php140.00	Php 8,820.00	Php 200,000.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-mentioned Division on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 007607-2089". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shall be forfeited to the government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines

ATTY. ALVIN JOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO
 OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2020

Republic of the Philippines
 Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
 National Ecology Center East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

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APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./BLK NO./PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607-2071	FLORANTE JL. SALVADOR	Lot 45, Block 29 Pcd-03-036894	60 sq.m.	Php140.00	Php 8,400.00	Php 1,000,000.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-mentioned Division on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 007607-2071". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shall be forfeited to the government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines

ATTY. ALVIN JOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO
 OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2020

Republic of the Philippines
 Department of Environment and Natural Resources
NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
 National Ecology Center East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

Notice is hereby given that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, National Capital Region, Patents and Deeds Section, in pursuance to Administrative Order No. 38 dated 19 April 1990, will sell at DENR-NCR Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division, National Ecology Center, East Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, through sealed bidding to the highest bidder at 10:00 A.M. on **APR 23 2020**, the tract of land situated in **Western Bicutan (Pinasaguan), Taguig City** which are specifically described below to wit:

APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./BLK NO./PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607-1493	HONORIO A. SERQUINA	Lot 24, Block 16 Pcd-00-036894	60 sq.m.	Php140.00	Php 8,400.00	Php 1,200,000.00

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-mentioned Division on or before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 007607-1493". Bids must be accompanied with cash, money order, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn after the highest bidder is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shall be forfeited to the government. No bid shall be less than the appraised value of the land. The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines

ATTY. ALVIN JOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO
 OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - January 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13 and 20, 2020