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DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



House joint panel OKs bill creating new dep't to address water crisis

By **CHARISSA M. LUCI-ATIENZA**

The House Committee on Government Reorganization and House Committee on Public Works and Highways on Tuesday jointly ap-

proved a substitute bill creating the Department of Water Resources (DWR) that would ensure reliable, safe, quality, and affordable water supply, and prevent water crisis in the country.

After more than two hours of deliberations, the two House panels unanimously passed the bill, presented by Albay Rep. Joey Salceda, chairman of the Technical Working Group (TWG) ►10

House joint panel...

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tasked to consolidate 35 bills on the proposed creation of the Department of Water Resources. Baguio Rep. Mark Go moved for the approval of the unnumbered substitute bill.

"Water is a basic human right. Water is a public utility so it should be regulated by the government," Salceda said before the passage of the bill.

He explained that under the bill, the new Department shall be the primary national agency responsible for the comprehensive and integrated planning, policy formulation, and management of water resources in the Philippines.

Salceda said the bill also calls for the creation of the Water Regulatory Commission (WRC), an independent regulatory and quasi-judicial body which shall be under the umbrella of the new department.

DWR opposed

BUHAY party-list Rep. Lito Atienza opposed the creation of the new Department, saying it still needs a thorough study.

"Creating a Department will not solve the problem. Creating it only delays the solutions," he said.

Under the substitute bill, the functions of the following key water agencies - River Basin Control Office Manila Bay Coordinating Office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Flood Management Planning and Sediment Functions of the DPWH, Water Supply and Sanitation Unit of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), and Water Quality Management Section of Environmental Management Bureau (EMB)-DENR will be transferred to the DWR.

Under the bill, the following agencies shall be attached to the

DWR: Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA), Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC), and National Irrigation Administration (NIA) as an infrastructure arm.

The bill also authorizes the DWR to create subsidiaries, instrumentalities, and entities to engage in water-related programs, projects and activities.

"The Department can enter into contracts, joint ventures, MOUs, and MOAs to invest in and/or in financing of water-related projects," it said.

The bill also provides that concession agreements and other contracts for water supply provision currently existing shall remain valid and in force, unless otherwise invalidated by the Commission where public interest so dictates, after due notice and hearing for reasons provided in the concession or service agreement or contract.



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Creating new dep't won't solve water crisis – lawmakers

Three congressmen warned their colleagues yesterday that creating a new department to put water agencies under one umbrella would not solve the water crisis that millions of residents of Metro Manila and neighboring areas are facing.

Despite the warning of Reps. Lito Atienza of Buhay party-list, Bayani Fernando of Marikina and Rodante Marcoleta of Sagip, the House of Representatives committee on government reorganization endorsed a consolidated bill creating the Department of Water Resources and Services (DWRS).

The three said forming a new agency to resolve the water crisis could delay the solution and even aggravate the problem.

"What we are facing is not an issue of supply but of distribution and the failure of existing agencies and their contractors to provide us with adequate water," Atienza said.

He said there is enough water in Manila Bay, Laguna Lake and in rivers in Quezon, Rizal and Bulacan, but the concerned government offices have failed to convert it to potable supply and bring it to Metro Manila.

He said the problem is also rooted in the government's decision "to make water a commercial and profitable product."

Atienza cited the creation of the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development "that we created two years ago but which is still not organized."

Up to now, the department still has no secretary, he said.

"That is what will happen if we create this water department. It will just delay the solution, which current agencies and their concessionaires should work on," he stressed.

He pointed out that part of the solution is reducing and wiping out the so-called system losses, or supply lost due to old pipes, leakages, jumpers and pilferage.

"Do we need a new department to plug water leaks?" he asked.

Defending the proposed DWRS creation, Albay Rep. Joey Salceda, one of the authors of the bill, said having a department "will hasten the solution of the problem, since only one agency will make the decision and will be responsible and accountable."

"At present, there is diffused responsibility," he said.

Atienza said under the current setup, "only one person is also responsible and accountable, and that is the President."

"The buck stops with him," he said.

Fernando said the House "might be raising false hopes about an immediate solution by creating this DWRS."

"It will take time to organize this department. It will also take two years to three years to build the Kaliwa or Kanan dam in Quezon-Rizal," he said.

For his part, Marcoleta reminded his colleagues that Congress raised hopes that the cost of electricity would go down when it enacted the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira) of 2001.

The opposite happened, with the Philippines having one of the highest electricity rates in Asia, he said.

He said the DWRS bill might be another Epira.

– Jess Diaz



House panels approve creation of Dept of Water

TWO committees of the House of Representatives have approved the proposal to create the Department of Water Resources (DWR).

The House Committees on Government Reorganization, and Public Works and Highways passed an unnumbered bill that will consolidate 35 measures seeking to establish the government agency.

Albay Rep. Joey Salceda, chairman of the technical working group, presented the bill to the joint panel led by Batangas Rep. Mario Marino and Pangasinan Rep. Ramon Guico, respectively.

Under the consolidated measure, the proposed DWR will be the primary national agency responsible for the comprehensive and integrated planning, policy formulation and management of water resources in the Philippines.

It will work alongside the National Water Resources Board comprising the core organization and establish a National Framework for Water Resource Management.

The bill will also consolidate the functions of key water agencies to be

transferred to the department. These are the River Basin Control Office, Manila Bay Coordinating Office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Flood Management Planning and Sediment Functions of the Department of Public Works and Highways, Water Supply Sanitation Unit of the Department of the Interior and Local Government, and the Water Quality Management Section of the Environmental Management Bureau of the DENR.

The Metro Manila Waterworks and Sewerage System, Local Water Utilities Administration, Laguna Lake Development Authority, Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission, and National Irrigation Administration will be attached to the new Department as an infrastructure arm.

The DWR may create subsidiaries, instrumentalities and entities to engage in water-related programs, projects and activities. Concession agreements and other contracts for water supply provision shall also remain valid and in force unless invalidated. **GLEE JALEA**



New water resources bill proposed

A JOINT panel in the House of Representatives on Tuesday passed a substitute bill proposing the creation of Department of Water Resources that is eyed as a long-term solution to water crisis.

The House committees on government reorganization, and on public works and highways approved the bill after consolidating the 35 proposed measures on the subject.

One of the bill's proponents, Albay Rep. Joey Salceda, chairman of the House committee on ways and means, underscored the need for Congress to enact a measure that will ensure a "reliable, safe, quality and affordable water supply."

"Water is a basic human right. Water is a public utility so it should be regulated by the government," Salceda said.

Under the proposed law, the DWR shall be the primary national agency responsible for the comprehensive and integrated planning, policy formulation and management of water resources in the Philippines.

The bill also calls for the creation of the Water Regulatory Commission, an independent regulatory and quasi-judicial body, and shall be an attached agency of the the new department.

During the hearing, Party-list Rep. Lito Atienza of Buhay thumbed down the creation of DWR, saying "creating a department will not solve the problem. Creating it only delays the solutions."

Marinduque Rep. Lord Allan Jay Velasco also welcomed the passage of the DWR that will primary focus on the country's water resources.

Velasco, author of House Bill 4897, said the creation a new agency is needed to stave off a shortage such as the recent one that affected thousands of families in Metro Manila. **Maricel V. Cruz**



Romualdez assures swift passage of DWR creation

HOUSE Majority Leader and Leyte Rep. Martin Romualdez on Tuesday assured the swift plenary passage before the year ends of a substitute bill proposing the creation of Department of Water Resources (DWR) to address the country's water crisis and other priority measures.

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"Acting on Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano's instructions, the House aims to pass before the year ends the measure creating the Department of Water Resources, the Department of Filipino Overseas, and the Department of Disaster Resilience," said Romualdez after the House committees on government reorganization, and on public works and highways approved the substitute measure, a consolidation of 35 proposed measures.

Romualdez recalled that President Rodrigo "Rody" Duterte himself called on Congress to work on these measures during his fourth State of the Nation Address (SoNA) last July.

The measure proposing the creation of the DWR aims to rationalize water resource management to provide the public with clean, safe, and accessible water.

A House technical working group led by Albay Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda, who chairs the House committee on ways and means, had held a meeting to tackle the provisions of the

measure earlier last month. Salceda stressed the need for Congress to enact a measure that will be a "reliable, safe, quality and affordable water supply."

"Water is a basic human right. Water is a public utility so it should be regulated by the government," said Salceda.

Under the proposed law, the DWR shall be the primary national agency responsible for the comprehensive and integrated planning, policy formulation and management of water resources in the Philippines.

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Velasco, author of House Bill (HB) No. 4897, said the creation of a new

agency is needed to stave off a shortage such as the recent one that affected thousands of families in Metro Manila.

"Unfortunately, the management of the country's water resources remains fragmented and uncoordinated with over 30 government units and agencies at national and local levels implementing separate and disharmonized policies, plans and programs to develop and operate water facilities and infrastructure for various uses, regulate water use and set tariffs, and monitor water-related parameters," said Velasco, chairman of the House committee on energy.

Velasco cited a 2015 World Resources Institute study warning that the Philippines will likely experience a "severe water shortage" by the year 2040.

Under the substitute bill, the functions of the following key water agencies— River Basin Control Office Manila Bay Coordinating Office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Flood Management Planning and Sediment Functions of the DPWH, Water Supply and Sanitation Unit of the Department of Interior and

Local Government (DILG), and Water Quality Management Section of Environmental Management Bureau (EMB)- DENR will be transferred to the DWR.

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"The department can enter into contracts, joint ventures, MOUs & MOAs to invest in and/or in financing of water-related projects," it said.

In the 17th Congress under Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, the leadership also approved the proposed Department of Water amid the new round of water service interruptions hounding several parts of Metro Manila and nearby areas.

The measure primarily aims to strengthen and coordinate water resource planning and policy-making to make the allocation and use of water resources sustainable and fair.

Ryan Ponce Pacpaco



DEPT. OF WATER, APRUB

INAPRUBAHAN na ng joint committee on Government Reorganization at Public Works and Highways ang panukalang paglikha ng Department of Water Resources.

Aabot sa 35 panukalang-batas kaugnay sa paglikha ng departamento ang pinag-isa ng technical working group.

Magiging mandato ng Department of Water Resources ang pagbuo ng mga komprehensibong pagpapalano, mga polisiya, programa at proyekto upang masigurong may sapat na suplay ng tubig sa lahat ng maaaring paggamitan nito tulad ng malinis na inumin, sanitasyon, irigasyon, hydropower at flood control.

Kasama rin sa magiging trabaho nito ang pag-regulate at pagkontrol ng water re-

sources pati na ang implementasyon ng mga batas tungkol sa pangangasiwa ng tubig sa bansa.

Sa ilalim ng panukala, may ilang tanggapan ang mabubuwig at ia-absorb ng Department of Water, kabilang ang National Water Resources Board at ang trabaho

naman ng ibang ahensiya at bureau ay ililipat na rin sa magiging bagong departamento.

Kasabay nito ang pagbuo ng independent regulatory at quasi-judicial body na tatawaging Water Regulatory Commission.

(Jeff Tumbado)



NWRB KINILALA NG GQMC SA PAGKAKAKUHA NG ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFICATION

UMANI ng magkasunod na parangal ang National Water Resources Board (NWRB) na pinamumunuan ng dedikadong lingkod-bayan na si Dr. Seville David, Jr. bilang executive director nitong nagdaang buwan ng October 2019.

Tumanggap ng Certificate of Recognition ang ahensiya mula sa Government Quality Management Committee (GQMC) kaugnay sa ginanap na 7th Recognition Ceremony and Public Sector Quality

and Productivity Improvement Forum sa Delegation Building, Philippine International Convention Center sa Pasay City nitong October 24, 2019.

Ang pagkilala ay ibinigay sa lahat ng mga organisasyon ng gobyerno na may natanggap na sertipikasyon ng ISO 9001 Quality Management System (QMS).

Pinangunahan ni Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Acting Secretary Wendel Avisado na siyang GQMC chairperson ang pagkakaloob ng parangal.

Para sa NWRB, malugod itong tinanggap ni Atty. Archie Edsel Asuncion, Officer-In-Charge, Deputy Executive Director.

Ang pagkilala sa NWRB ay bunsod ng pagkakuha nito ng ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS) certification noong December 10, 2018 na nagpapatunay sa mabilis, makabago, sistematiko at maayos na paghahatid nito ng serbisyo sa mamamayang Pilipino.

Nakasentro sa temang, "QMS Level-Up! Gearing for Future-ready Public Service", kinikilala sa kaganapang ito ang Quality and Productive Improvement (QPI) na mga pagsisikap ng mga ahensiya ng gobyerno sa pagbibigay ng mga pambihirang serbisyo sa mga tao.

-ooOoo- MAY Libreng Accident Insurance ang mga Empleyado ng MMDA

Sa ikatlong sunod na taon, muling nagsama ang Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) at ang Pru Life UK para sa libreng insurance support sakaling maaksidente ang mga empleyado ng ahensiya habang



DR. HILDA C. ONG

nasa trabaho.

Ayon kay MMDA Chairman Danilo Lim, muling pinalawig ng Pru Life UK ang commitment nito sa pagbibigay ng accident insurance coverage, na wala nang kailangan pang bayaran sa loob ng isang taon, sa 8,000 kawani ng MMDA.

"Nais naming pasalamatan ang Pru Life UK sa pagbibigay sa ating mga empleyado - permanente, casual, o job order - ng libreng accident insurance sa ikatlong magkasunod na taon. Tiyak na protektado sila at ang kanilang mga mahal sa buhay sakaling magkaroon ng aksidente sa panahon ng kanilang pagtatrabaho," pahayag ni Lim.

Sa kasalukuyan, nasa 26 family beneficiaries na ng mga insured na empleyado ng ahensiya ang nakatanggap ng financial assistance dahil sa nasabing partnership.

Alinsunod ito sa adbokasiya ng Pru Life UK na bigyan pa ng mas mataas na importansya ang ligtas na paggamit ng lansangan para sa kapakanan ng mga motorista, pedestrian at iba sa pamamagitan ng Safe Steps Road Safety Program.

Sinimulan noong 2017, ang MMDA-Pru Life UK partnership ay naging daan para ipakalat ang mga educational at awareness materials ng SAFE STEPS Road Safety na mula sa Prudence Foundation.





More reforms seen in mining industry

THE government is pursuing reforms in the local mineral industry to sustain environmental protection, an executive from the Mines and Geoscience Bureau said.

During the launching of an information campaign dubbed #MineResponsibility, MGB-12 Regional Director Felizardo Gacad Jr. said the government supports mining not only for economic gains "but also (with) regards (to) environmental protection and social-economic gains of communities" through practicing responsible mining.

President Duterte, Gacad said, cited that "responsible development of our mineral wealth will help us achieve sustained economic growth and improve the quality of our life".

He said there is an ongoing review of performance on existing mining operations and cleansing of the so-called "non-moving mining rights holders".

The MGB executive said there is an existing review of the many mining operations all over the country, and the agency is also cleansing the non-performing and non-moving mining rights.

"There is an ongoing moratorium on the grant of Mineral Agreement under Executive Order 79, there is a ban of open-pit mining under Department Administrative Order 2017-10 and the excise tax has been

increased 2% to 4% under Train 1," he added.

He said the government would revalidate the 2016 resolution of the Department Environment and Natural Resources mine audit by the Mining Industry Coordinating Council "for the coming months".

"There is a moratorium on new mining projects under DAO 2016-01 and also the consideration of expanding areas closed to mining under the Strategic Agriculture and Fishery Development Zone under EO 79," he added.

He said these things have been put in place "for us to look into reforms that may be implemented to allow our mining operators to do their activities in a responsible manner".

The reforms include guidelines on apprehension, seizure, confiscation, and disposition of illegally-sourced mineral products and by-products, as well as tools, conveyances, and equipment on mining used in the country.

Under DENR Memorandum Order 2016-01, it clarified that small-scale projects in Minahang Bayan, a program under DENR tasked to regulate small-scale mining operations, are not covered by the DMO 2016-01.

MGB also pursued the lifting of the moratorium on acceptance and approval of applications for exploration permits under DMO 2016-01.

He added that the MGB provides a performance rating system and a standard monitoring checklist through scorecards to determine compliant and non-compliant mining contractors and permit holders which include exploration projects.

The DENR-MGB also issued guidelines for additional environmental measures for operating surface metallic mines, "which provides new environmental policies that will ensure environment protection at every stage of mining operations".

He said responsible mining with strict requirements could prevent future mining activities from repeating past mistakes.

He added that DENR has already issued new guidelines in the evaluation and approval of the three-year development/utilization work program as monitoring tools for conducting mining operations "if/or requirements are complete".

"Responsible mining should not only be responsible mining. Responsible mining should be responsive mining as well as, meaning we don't only meet the minimum requirements of the government but have to go beyond these minimum requirements," he said.

The reforms tightened various restrictions to ensure responsible mining in the country.



OK KA HARRY



Harry Roque

TWITTER: @HarryRoque

Sa wakas ay nagkaroon ulit ako ng pagkakataon na pumunta sa Boracay! Katatapos lang ipag-utos ni Presidente Rodrigo Roa Duterte (PRRD) na pansamantalang itigil ang pagbubukas nito para isaialim ulit ito sa masusing paglilinis.

Isa ako sa mga unang nakatuklas ng isla. Nagpunta ako doon noong 1988 kasama ang aking current law partner. Pagkagaling namin sa Bacolod, dala-dala ang aming mabibigat na backpack, dumeretso kami sa Boracay.

Sa Naro's kami nagarkila ng kuwarta. Wala pang kuryente at aircon noon doon. At dahil estudyante pa lamang kami e wala kaming sapat na pera. Monay at palaman lang ang dala namin. Pero hindi naman isyu ang pagkain at tirahan. Ang mahalaga ay ang mala-pulbos na puting buhangin at ang malinis na asul na tubig ng Boracay Beach.

Boracay: Paraiso

Makalipas ang 30 taon at dahil sa malakas at matatag na paninindigan ni Presidente Duterte na gawin ang nararapat, ito ay nanumbalik sa kanyang kamangha-manghang kagandahan at kalinisan.

Tinanggal na ang mga silyang ginamit noon para harangan ang mga taong nagtangka pa ring pumasok kahit ipinagbawal na. Ibinalik sa likas na may-ari ang karapatan sa mga parte ng Boracay na inagaw sa kanila. Pati ang mga mailingay at magugulong banda at parties ay wala na. Mahigpit na ipinatutupad ng mga kaukulang ahensya ang pagpapanatili ng kalinisan doon.

Ang kapuri-puring

tagumpay na naabot ng gobyerno ay ang paggiba ng mga istraktura na lumampas sa 30 metrong hangganan ng Boracay Beach. Kahit minsan ay hindi ko inakala na darating ang araw na magigiba ang mga iyon. Ngunit naisagawa ito ni Pangulong Duterte. Tala-ga namang kagila-gilalas at kahanga-hanga ang tagumpay na ito!

Nang malaman ko ang desisyon ni PRRD na ipasara ang Boracay Beach, tulad ni Secretary Sonny Dominguez, ako ay nagkaroon ng reserbasyon. Naging abogado ako ng marami sa mga may-ari ng mga resort doon kaya kagaya nga ni Sec. Dominguez, ini-

sip ko na marami na bahagi lamang nito ang unti-unting isaayos. May karanasan si Sec. Dominguez sa pamamahala ng hotel kaya may basehan ang kaalaman niya ukol dito. Palagay niya, mahirap na hikayatin ulit ang mga parokyano kapag nagkaroon na silang panibagong paborito. Ngunit dahil alam na alam talaga ni PRRD ang kaniyang ginagawa, isinagawa ng gobyerno ang halos imposibleng misyon na buhayin ang mala-paraisong estado ng Boracay Beach.

Maraming salamat PRRD sa pagpapanumbalik mo ng Boracay Beach bilang isa sa mga hiyas na bakasyonan dito sa Pilipinas!



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RECYCLING FOR MEUA - MANILA

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Our rivers, lakes, seas, and oceans are part of what we call the “blue” economy. It is similar to what is often referred to as the “green” economy, only that it represents the economic development of marine and coastal ecosystems.

The Philippines, like other coastal and island states, depends on tourism and fisheries. In 2015, our ocean economy was valued at \$11.81 billion while our ecosystem services were valued at \$17 billion. Our blue economy is an important cornerstone in food security, health, livelihood and a source of employment, trade, shelter, renewable energy, and even climate change mitigation.

While continuous technological improvement has helped realize new growth possibilities, unregulated human-based activities have seriously affected our coasts and oceans. Plastic waste leakage — i.e. plastic waste leaking into our waterways and oceans — is at alarming levels.

In Manila Bay alone, 3,810 tons of garbage, water hyacinths, and silt was collected from the bay’s coastline and drainage system as of two months ago. In other reports, collected waste reached 27,000 tons of garbage. More than 50% of waste collected, according to waste audits, is plastic.

Addressing both solid waste and wastewater elements of the Manila Bay clean-up and rehabilitation, the Department of Envi-

ronment and Natural Resources (DENR) continues to strengthen coastal clean-up operations, partnerships with the private sector, and monitoring of non-compliant establishments in the bay area. An example is the Adopt-an-Estero program, launched in 2013, where several communities have clean-up activities in the waterways of Manila.

What it lacks though are localized initiatives and monitoring to disincentivize consumers and households from littering and encourage proper segregation.

In Boracay, the local anti-littering policy stipulates that violators could face a fine or be made to render community service from eight to 16 hours. There is also a proposal to arrest citizens caught littering. While local policies and regulations may vary in intensity and extent, one thing is for sure: coastal clean-ups can only do so much.

This makes collection, treatment, recycling, and proper disposal, especially in coastal areas, critical. It needs to be supported by wastewater management system and infrastructure. Many of the recycling facilities are in Metro Manila and Metro Cebu and even they only process a sparse volume of waste compared to what is generated on a national level. Extensive land-based and sea-based solutions are essential to address plastic waste pollution sustainably.

THINKING BEYOND POLITICS VANESSA PEPINO



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VOLUNTEERS participate in the Manila Bay clean-up in Baseco compound, Tondo, Manila on Feb. 16.

Recycling for Mega-Manila

PHILIPPINE STAR/KRIZ JOHN ROSALES

This is a sustainability model that can be adapted and replicated in other LGUs. It is a source of green jobs and livelihood opportunities, and an innovation for environmental management to plug leaks in the circular economy of waste.

In the larger scheme of things, such initiatives help support the goal towards a healthy and resilient “blue” economy, with abundant opportunities that can be leveraged for sustainable development. Cleaning up Manila Bay, for instance, means opening and diversifying economic opportunities in tourism and heritage conservation, among others.

An efficient Philippine recycling system that is well integrated within a circular economy, upscales the economic value of waste down to the communities. It reinforces and incentivizes environmental awareness and discipline in segregation and recycling. It also creates a momentum to develop other segments of the waste management system.

Keeping our oceans clean is not just important for economic sustainability, it is essential for survival. We are all part of the circular economy of waste. There is already a global momentum to build government, private, and community partnerships for stronger recycling systems, solid waste and wastewater infrastructure, but plugging leakage will depend on the discipline of each consumer. ■

VANESSA PEPINO is a Non-Resident Fellow of the Stratbase ADR Institute.

In simple terms, that means keeping the trash out of our oceans. Waste management is key for reducing pollution of the coastal and marine environment. We need efficient waste-management systems, particularly an upscaling of our recycling system.

Coca-Cola Philippines, Inc. is one of many global businesses that have developed game-changing technology to be part of the solution. Anchored on its “World Without Waste” initiative, Coca-Cola Phils. is investing in a state-of-the-art recycling and reprocessing facility in the Philippines, the first in Southeast Asia. In line with the concept of the circular economy, the recycling facil-

ity will collect, sort, clean, and wash post-consumer PET plastic bottles and turn them into new bottles using advanced technology. The bottling subsidiary also intends to use an average of 50% recycled content in its packaging. In fact, it recently launched country’s first-ever food-grade PET bottle made of 100% recycled material – The Viva! Eco-bottle.

Any large-scale recycling facility is dependent on waste inputs, a minimum amount that makes it economical to operate. That should not be a problem for the Philippines – the amount of plastic recyclable waste in our landfills and waterways is unfortunately a somber manifestation

that recycling should be a viable commercial venture. However, a critical component is to close the loop of collection to ensure the supply of plastic recyclables.

In line with this, Coca-Cola Phils. also entered into a public-private partnership with the City of Manila to allocate recycled PET (RPET) benches, collection bins, and capability training for the Manila Bay clean-up. A similar partnership was also initiated in Davao by working with its communities and local government units (LGUs). Collected PET bottles are diverted to the recycling system and transformed into high-value products such as chairs and benches.



Bundok sa La Union binastos

THE LAST MOHICAN



By **MARIO FETALINO JR.**

SINONG damuho naman kaya ang umuka ng bundok diyan sa La Union at napakakapal ng mukha para sirain ang ating likas na kayamanan.

Kung kayo ay magagawi sa nasabing probinsya gamit ang Tarlac-Pangasinan-La Union Expressway o TPLEX ay pihadong mapapansin niyo ang kahayupan na ginawa sa bundok dahil para itong buhok ng lalaki na binastos ng barberong galit sa mundo.

Sayang at hindi ko alam ang pangalan ng biniaboy na bundok ngunit ito raw ang pinagkukunan ng ma-

teryales ng isang kumpanya para sa paggawa ng semento.

Bukang-bibig ng mga taga La Union ang 'NCC', ang cement company na nasa likod umano ng sinirang bundok.

Kayong mga umuka sa bundok na yan ng La Union, kayo kaya ang ukaan sa ulo ng taumbayan?

Hindi maganda ang panimula ni Leni sa kanyang bersyon ng anti-illegal drugs campaign.

Imbes na umaksyon ay patuloy ang kanyang putak at paninira sa nagawa ni Pangulong Duterte upang labanan ang ipinagbabawal na gamot.

Kung talagang nais ni Leni na humanga ang mga Pilipino sa kanya, dapat niyang gayahin ang istilo ni Manila Mayor Isko Moreno.

Kauupo lang ni Yorme nang umaksiyon ito laban sa illegal vendors sa Divisoria na agad ikinalugod ng taumbayan.

Kumbaga, walang reklamo. Aksiyon agad. 'Yan sana ang gawin ni Leni at hindi ang pamumulitika.

Makakaasa ng buong suporta si Leni sa taumbayan kung maipapakita niya ang tunay na pagtulong at pakikiisa sa gobyerno upang sugpuin ang illegal drugs.

Bigyan natin ng sapat na panahon ang Pangulong Duterte sa pagpili ng susunod na hepe ng Philippine National Police.

Sa ganitong paraan ay mapipili niya ng mabuti ang magiging lider ng ating kapulisan na nangangalaga sa kaayusan at kaligtasan ng mga Pilipino.

Nagsilbing aral sa ating Pangulo ang karanasan ni dating PNP Chief Oscar Albayalde na isinangkot sa isyu ng 'ninja cops' at ayaw na niya itong maulit pa.

Marahil, hinahanap pa niya ang kandidato na bukod sa magaling at matapang, ay may malinis din na pangalan.

Mabigat ang tungkulin ng isang PNP chief at hindi makakatulong ang anumang dumi sa kanyang imahe.

For comments, please call or text 09055080126 or email lastmohican2004@yahoo.com



TITLE:

AKTUWAL na karanasan sa giyera sa droga ang pag-uugatan ng mala-lim, malawak at maka-buluhang paggawa ng patakaran, batas at im-plementasyon ng mga ito.

Dapat dito magsi-mula si Vice President Leni Robredo bilang isa sa tinatawag na Drug Czars.

Kung walang aktuwal na karanasan sa giyera sa droga ang isang government official na maiuupo laban sa droga, anak ng tokwa, mala-mang na all-talk ang magagawa niya.

Si House Speaker Alan Cayetano mismo ang may sabi niyan, hal 'Yung all-talk lang.

ANO ANG AKTUWAL NA KARANASAN?

Hindi basta aktuwal na karanasan ang pinag-uusapan kung giyera sa droga ang usa-pin.

Halimbawa, si Jojo Trajano, isang reporter natin ng Remate, ay masipag noon na lumalaban sa droga.

Sumasama siya sa mga operasyon ng pulisya.

Ang nangyari, sa isang operasyon sa Taytay, Rizal, noong mada-ling araw ng Hunyo 3, 2009, pinasok nina Trajano at PO1 Virgilio de la Cruz ng Special Operations Group Rizal police and lugar na pinagha-harian ng isang sangkot sa droga.

Pagpasok nila sa lugar, pinaputukan sila ng mga drug suspect at tinamaan sila.

Namatay sina Trajano at Dela Cruz.

ANO PA?

Sa Cebu noong Nobyembre 16, 2014, nagsilbi ng warrant of arrest sina PO3 Fabi Fernandez, 53; at PO1 Alrazid Gimlani; pawang mga miyembro ng Moalboal Police Station la-ban kay Michael Aquino na sangkot sa droga at gunrun-ning.

Anak ng tokwa, si-nalubong sila ng mga bala mula sa malalakas na baril nina Aquino.

Namatay on-the-spot sina Fernandez at Gimlani.

ANO PA?

Nito namang Oktubre 25, 2019, nagsagawa ng buy-bust ang Rizal police sa Piliilla, Rizal laban sa isang Moymoy na kilalang tulak ng droga sa lugar.

Ginanap ang buy-bust sa katanghalian sa Brgy. Bagong Bayan.

Nakahalata si Moy-



ULTIMATUM

NI BENNY ANTIPORDA

ISABAK SI VP LENI SA GIYERA SA DROGA

moy na pulis ang kanyang katransaksyon.

Hayun, bumunot ng baril at pinaputukan si Police Staff Sgt. Michael Cabillo na nagsilbing poseur-buyer.

Napuruhan si Cabillo kaya nalagutan ng hini-nga.

Sumunod na rito ang barilan sa pagitan ng tulak at mga kasamahang pulis ni Cabillo at natumba at namatay si Moymoy.

ANO PA?

Noon namang Oktubre 5, 2018, inambus ang mga kagawad ng Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency sa Malna, Kapai, Lanao del Sur.

Nakilala ang mga bik-tima na sina Kenneth Tabulo, Kristine Mae Tortao, Lores Joy Amar, Binzo Dipolla, and Diobel Pacinio.

Makaraan ang symposium sa isang barangay roon, tumulak na sila pa-tungong Marawi City.

Dito na sila inambus at pinatay.

Ang utak umano ng pananambang?

Si William C. Gandawali, chairman ng Inudaran village sa bayan ng Tagoloan II.

Itong si Gandawali ay kapatid ni Comayog Macapagal na napatay sa isang buy-bust operations sa Marawi noong Agosto 8, 2018.

ANO PA?

Nito namang Pebrero 17, 2019, ipinadala ng PDEA si Agent Enrico Barba sa Daet, Camarines Norte para makipagkita sa isang asset laban sa droga.

Naging missing siya pagkatapos at makaraan ang dalawang araw, naitagpuan ang kanyang bangkay na naka-tape ang bunganga at nakagapos ang mga kamay sa Lupi, Camarines Sur.

Tinadtad ng bala ang kanyang mukha at katawan at nilagyan pa siya ng karatulang "Tulak ako, huwag tularan."

KUMASA SI VP LENI

Ngayon, mga Bro, kumasa si VP Leni sa hamon ng mga pulis at PDEA na sumama siya sa mga operasyon.

Buy-bust, pagsisilbi ng warrant of arrest at search warrant, paniniktik

at iba pang totoong mukha ng mabangis na giyera sa droga.

Pumayag din ang Palasyo na sumama siya sa operasyon ng mga pulis at taga-PDEA.

Dito magkakaroon ng aktuwal na karanasan sa giyera sa droga si VP Leni.

Pero hindi dapat na minsanan lang, mga Bro.

Dapat na maraming beses siyang sumama mula sa preparasyon ng mga operasyon hang-gang sa matapos ito.

May katakot-takot na puyatan sa pagpaplanó, pag-iwas sa mga ninja cop, pag-aaplay ng warrants of arrest at search, pagbiyahe at pagpunta sa lugar na walang kasama at incognito at marami pang iba.

ADVICE

KAY VP LENI

Kung totooanin ni VP Leni ang sumama sa mga operasyon laban sa droga, payo ng Ultimatum sa kanya na maghanda siya physically dahil sa puyatan, takbuan at bigat na dalahin gaya ng baril at bullet-proof vest.

Maghanda rin siyang mapasabak sa patayan maipagtanggol lamang niya ang kanyang sarili.

Dapat din niyang ihanda ang kanyang sarili na makipagpatayan, kung kinakailangan dahil kung may kasama siyang tinamaan sa barilan, dapat niyang ipagtanggol ito laban sa mga lumilipad at nakamatay na bala.

Ayaw nating mapahamak si VP Leni sa anomang paraan.

Kaya nga narito ang ilang advice natin sa kanya.

Kasama sa mga advice ang katotohanan at hindi salita lamang na mga pangyayari sa giyera.

Sana, kung sasama, siya sa police at PDEA operations, walang mamamatay na tao.

Period.

Anomang reaksyon o reklamo, maaaring ipa-rating sa 0922840-3333 o i-email sa bantiporda@yahoo.com.