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12-09-19

PAGE 1/

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DENR calls for concerted efforts to end garbage crisis

By HELEN FLORES

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) yesterday called for cooperation among all stakeholders and the public in solving the country's perennial garbage problem, especially in Metro Manila.

"Solid waste management is not the government's responsibility alone, it is everyone's business," DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government, the situation threatens to get

Units Concerns Benny Antiporda said.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu earlier said the country, particularly Metro Manila, "is in the middle of a garbage crisis."

Without concerted efforts, worse, said Antiporda, who also chairs the National Solid Waste Management Commission.

"We shouldn't wait for the time when there is more trash than fish in the ocean," he added.

Antiporda said the local government units (LGUs) play a crucial role in solid waste management, having been tasked to ensure proper waste segregation and disposal under Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

The law requires LGUs to come up with their respective 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) and convert open dumpsites into sanitary landfills.

The NSWMC, Antiporda said, had fast-tracked the approval of SWMPs of hundreds of LGUs nationwide, while the DENR shut down some open dumpsites and filed criminal and administrative charges against local officials allowing the operation of these dumpsites that pose serious threat to the

environment and public health.

He said citizens could also help in solving the garbage problem by observing proper waste segregation and disposal, and not throwing rubbish anywhere.

"If we do not properly manage our waste, it can end up in drains and rivers, and eventually make its way to the sea," the DENR official said.

Cimatu's declaration comes amid government efforts to revive the heavily polluted Manila Bay, which is the repository of trash and untreated sewage from households and businesses in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

Antiporda said efforts to rehabilitate Manila Bay would be futile if there is no effective implementation of solid waste management in the localities surrounding the historic body of water.

The DENR earlier said the waste generated in Metro Manila in the first half of 2019 was pegged at over 66,000 cubic meters, surpassing the year's target of 58,112.31 cubic meters.

"If we continue to act only for our independent interests, continue to spoil our water bodies and fail to responsibly manage our wastes, we will not be able to sustain our efforts on this campaign," Cimatu said.









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ENR appeals for concerted fforts to solve garbage crisis

By ELLALYN DE VERA-RUIZ

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) appealed for concerted efforts by all stakeholders to

effectively solve the garbage crisis, particularly in Metro Manila.

"Solid waste management is not the government's responsibility alone, it is everyone's business," DENR Undersec-

retary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGUs) Concerns Benny Antiporda said.

Secretary Roy Cimatu earlier declared the country, particularly Metro Manila,

"in the middle of a garbage crisis."

Cimatu's declaration comes amid government efforts to revive the heavily polluted Manila Bay, which is the repository of trash and untreated sewage from households and businesses in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

"We shouldn't wait for the time when there are more trash than fish in the ocean," Antiporda, who also chairs the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC), said.

Cimatu said Metro Manila with a total population of about 12.8 million has a target waste generation of 58,112.31 cubic meters for 2019.

But as of the first quarter of the year alone, Metro Manila has already produced 34,574.77 cubic meters or 59.45 percent of the total target.

By the second quarter, estimated waste generation reached 32,221.17 cubic meters, amounting to another 55.45 percent of total.

"The target waste generation baseline for 2019 of 58,112.31 cubic meters has already been surpassed," Cimatu said. Antiporda pointed out the crucial role played by LGUs in solid waste management, having been tasked to ensure proper waste segregation and disposal under Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

The law requires LGUs to come up with their respective 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) and convert open dumpsites into sanitary landfills, Antiporda noted.

He said the NSWMC had fast-tracked the approval of SWMPs of hundreds of LGUs nationwide, while the DENR shut down some open dumpsites and filed criminal and administrative charges against local officials allowing the operation of these dumpsites that pose serious threat to the environment and public health.

The DENR official said that citizens could also help in solving the garbage problem by observing proper waste segregation and disposal, and not throwing rubbish anywhere.

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People must help gov't solve garbage problem – DENR

By Rio N. Araja and Macon Ramos-Araneta

GOVERNMENT alone cannot solve the country's garbage crisis, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources said on Sunday.

"Solid waste management is not the government's responsibility alone. It is everyone's business," Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units Concerns Benny Antiporda said.

He called for concerted efforts from the public as well as from all stakeholders to address the problem.

Without a concerted effort, the garbage situation threatens to get worse, he said.

"We shouldn't wait for the time when there are more trash than fish in the ocean," he added.

Antiporda is the agency's National Solid Waste Management Commission chairperson.

Secretary Roy Cimatu has declared that the country, particularly Metro Manila, "is in the middle of a garbage crisis."

His declaration came amid government efforts to revive the heavily-polluted Manila Bay, the repository of trash and untreated sewage from households and businesses in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

Antiporda said local governments play a crucial role in solid waste management, having been tasked to ensure proper waste segregation and disposal under Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

The law requires the LGUs to come up with a 10-year solid waste management plan and convert open dumps into sanitary landfills.

Antiporda said the citizens could also help in solving the garbage woes by observing proper waste segregation and disposal, and not throwing rubbish anywhere.

"If we do not properly manage our waste, it can end up in drains and rivers, and eventually makes its way to the sea," he said.







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12-09-19



Carbage out The garbage problem has been mounting continuously without end, according to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources which urged the public to do their part in responsible disposal.

Garbage problem everybody's business DENR

Efforts to rehabilitate Manila Bay would be futile if there is no effective implementation of solid waste management in the localities surrounding the historic water body

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) reiterated that the country's perennial garbage problem is not just for the government to solve but should be everyone's business.

This was emphasized by DENR Undersecretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGU) Concerns Benny Antiporda after Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu declared that the country, particularly Metro Manila, "is in the middle of a garbage crisis."

"Solid waste management is not the government's responsibility alone, it is everyone's business,' said Antiporda, who also chairs the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC).

Cimatu's declaration came amid government efforts to revive the heavily-polluted Manila Bay, which has become a repository of trash and untreated sewage from households and businesses in Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

Antiporda pointed out that efforts to rehabilitate Manila Bay would be futile if there is no effective implementation of solid waste management in the localities surrounding the historic water body.

He added that LGU play a crucial role in solid waste management as these are tasked to ensure proper waste segregation and disposal under Republic Act 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000.

The law also requires LGU to come up with respective 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) to convert open dumpsites into sanitary landfills.

Antiporda said the NSWMC had already fast-tracked the approval of SWMPs of hundreds of LGU nationwide, while the DENR shut down some open dumpsites and filed criminal and administrative charges against local officials allowing the operation of these dumpsites that pose serious threats to the environment and public health.

Rules on operating waste-to-energy facilities released

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has issued guidelines on the establishment and operation of waste-to-energy (WTE) facilities for the treatment of municipal solid waste (MSW) in the country.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu in a statement said with these guidelines, government will be able to pilot WTE method without violating the Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999.

Under the guidelines embodied in DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2019-21 that was signed by the official last November 26, there will be environmentally-sound evaluation, establishment, operation and decommissioning or closure of WTE technologies for MSW management.

WTE is the energy recovered from waste by processing non-recyclable waste materials to produce heat, electricity or fuel while MSW is the waste produced from activities within local government units, which include a combination of residential, commercial, institutional and industrial trash and street litters.

The DENR is looking at WTE as a cleaner and more sustainable alternative to the traditional sanitary landfill, which is the waste disposal method allowed under the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000, citing the country's growing



CIMATU

garbage problems.

Cimatu also assured the WTE guidelines will "adhere to the policy of the government to ensure the protection of public health and environment" as it will also be complying with Presidential Decree 1586-Establishing an Environmental Impact Assessment System; emission standards as contained in the Clean Air Act; effluent standards as contained in the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004; and regulation on the use and disposal of hazardous substances and waste as stipulated in the Toxic Substances and Hazardous and Nuclear Waste Act of 1990.

The DENK such move is crucial especially since Metro Manila generates about .56,000 cubic meters of trash per day and several power generation companies have already expressed interest to put up more WTE facilities.









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12-09-19

DATE

DENR: Solid waste mgmt. everyone's business

By CORY MARTINEZ

TIME and again, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) reiterated its call

(DENR) reiterated its call for concerted efforts by all stakeholders and citizens in solving the country's perennial garbage problems.

Benny Antiporda, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) under secretary for Solid Waste Management and Local Government Units (LGU) Concerns, made the appeal anew as he stressed that

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the government could not do it alone in solving the mounting garbage prob-

lems.
"Solid waste management is not the government's responsibility alone, it is everyone's business," said Antiporda.

Antiporda, who also chairs the National Solid

chairs the National Solid Waste Management Commission (NSWMC), issued the appeal after DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu declared that the country, particularly Metro Manila, "is in the middle of a garbage crisis."

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Cimatu's declaration
comes amid government
efforts to revive the heavily

polluted Manila Bay, which is the repository of trash and untreated sewage from households and businesses in Metro Ma-

nila and nearby provinces. Without concerted ef-Without concerned c. forts, Antiporda said the situation threatens to worse. "We get worse. "We shouldn't wait for the

shouldn't wait for the time when there are more trash than fish in the ocean," he said.

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The law requires LGUs to come up with their respective 10-year Solid Waste Management Plan (SWMP) and convert open dumpsites into sanitary landfills, Antiporda noted.

He said the NSWMC had fast-tracked the ap-proval of SWMPs of hun-dreds of LGUs nationwide, while the DENR shut down some open dumpsites and filed criminal and administrative charges against local officials allowing the operation of these dumpsites that pose serious threat to the environment and public health.







12-09-19

DATE

Boracay task force extension soug

DENR chief says bills to create permanent body to manage Aklan resort island still pending in Congress

By Nestor P. Burgos Jr. @inquirervisayas

ILOILO CITY-The interagency task force leading the rehabilitation of Boracay Island may ask President Duterte to extend its two-year mandate beyond May next year while bills on the creation of a development authority for the resort island in Aklan province remain pending in Congress.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, in a statement, said the Boracay Inter-Agency Task Force (BIATF) might ask for an extension of Executive Order No. 53 which created the task force on May 8, 2018.

The task force is led by Cimatu as head of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and cochaired by Secretaries Eduardo Año of the Department of the Interior and Local Government and Bernadette Romulo-Puyat of the Department of Tourism. It is also composed of several other agencies and local governments with jurisdiction over the island in Malay town, Aklan,

The task force led the closure of the island to tourists for six months last year, from April 26 to Oct. 25, and in implementing laws and regulations especially those related to the environment.

Cimatu noted that the creation of the proposed Boracay Island Development Authority,



ROAD WORK Upgrading of Boracay's road network is expected to be completed by next year as the government pursues rehabilitation activities on the resort island in Malay, Aklan. - PHOTO COURTESY OF BORACAY REHABILITATION CONTINUES

a body that would be tasked to permanently manage the island, is pending in Congress.

Sustainability

Sen. Franklin Drilon has refiled a bill in the Senate for the creation of a Boracay Development Authority while Aklan Rep. Teodorico Haresco Jr. has authored a related bill for a Boracay Island Council in the House of Representatives.

Many Boracay residents and business owners have been clamoring for the creation of a semiautonomous body that will remove the 1,032-hectare island from the sole jurisdiction of local government units to ensure Boracay's sustainability.

The body under the pending bills will have a similar composition with the BIATF and will have supervisory, management and regulatory powers.

Several key projects, including the completion of the island's sewage system, will be finished after the mandate of the BIATF ends in May. The rehabilitation of key road sections is set to be completed by the middle of next year.

Natividad Bernardino, general manager of the Boracay Inter-Agency Rehabilitation Management Group, reported during a meeting of the task force that the rehabilitation was "on track" and their twoyear targets would be met "if everything goes on smoothly."

Bernardino, in the DENR statement, said 67 percent of 339 commercial and residential structures along the beachfront were already compliant with the "25 + 5-meter" shoreline easement rule.

Decongestion

She said there had also been strict observance with the the island's maximum carrying capacity of 19,215 tourists at any given time.

Average daily tourist arrivals from October last year to November this year was 5,639, according to Bernardino's report.

But Bernardino said congestion remained a concern.

The island's population of around 56,000 has grown significantly due to, among others, the relocation of construction and other workers on the island with their families. INOV





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12-09-19

Acting On The Garbage Crisis

Secretary Cimatu

rightly pointed out the

need to modernize the

systems.

inefficient and outdated

solid waste management



THE Stratbase Pilipinas Conference held recently saw a rare assembly of government, big industry leaders and environmental advocacy groups working towards a convergence of initiatives and strategies to solve what the Department of Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy A. Cimatu called a "garbage crisis."

To put in perspective, according to DENR figures, Metro Manila's population of around 12.8 million is estimated to generate 59,112 cubic meters for 2019 but already reached 34,574 or 59 percent in the first quarter of the year alone. The

quarter, garbage total volume already surpassed annual baseline volume for the

Secretary rightly Cimatu pointed out need the modernize inefficient the outdated and waste management

systems, develop and enhance the policy approaches for plastic waste management and a holistic or balanced approach to policy interventions.

Senator Cynthia Villar as chairperson Committee Senate the Environment and Natural Resources echoed Cimatu's call for collaboration between government and the private sector. She affirmed the need to shift to the circular model of keeping resources in circulation for as long as possible to get the maximum value and encouraging the creation of new products out of waste materials. She also mentioned that the 2020 budget has provisions to create plastic recycling facilities in all provinces and cities.

Responding to the government's thrust to prevent further environmental degradation, some of the country's industry leaders shared their global and local initiatives and environmental commitments and vowed to support an all sector strategy for responsible environmental stewardship.

Coca-Cola Philippines Manager and President Winn Everhart presented their "World Without Waste" global initiative. Aligned with the circular model, the company aims to collect and recycle every bottle or can sold by 2030. This not just a campaign but a brick and mortar commitment to build a P1-billion PET bottle recycling facility that would substantially help reduce the waste leakage in the Mega Manila area. This can spark the growth of a recycling industry that will potentially create new economic opportunities beyond addressing the plastic problem.

As an example, the Blastik project of the Coca-Cola Foundation is a "full circle collection and recycling program" ongoing in 13 provinces: Bataan, Cavite, Albay, Baler, Palawan, Siargao, Davao, Boracay, La union, Negros Occidental, Marinduque, Sarangani and Metro Manila. Several NGOs have also partnered to implement this program.

Unilever Philippines chairman, Mr. Benjie Yap, presented its Zero Waste to Nature (ZWN) program and discussed the company's "ambitious new commitments to collect and process more than it sells and halve use of virgin plastic." This initiative commits to produce 100 percent reusable, recyclable and compostable packaging by 2025 and to invest in proving and sharing a technical solution to recycle sachets with the industry.

The strategy deploys a three-pronged framework of: 1) Less Plastic using lighter, stronger and better materials which have lower environmental impact, 2) Better Plastic to eliminate problematic and unnecessary plastics with recyclable





STORY

DATE

12 - 09 - 19

materials and more recyclable content, and 3) No Plastic by using materials and new packaging formats.

Local programs now being implemented by Unilever are: the "Misis now Walastik" Program which collects postconsumer sachet waste in over 300 communities across Metro Manila through a product exchange incentive program; the "Kole Kilo Kita para sa Walastik na Maynila"-an incentivized collection program for flexible plastic waste under the "May Pera sa Basura" project of Manila Mayor Isko Moreno Domagoso; the Office and Factory Solid Waste Management Program to eliminate waste generated at the source or recycled off-site at DENR accredited waste haulers; Packaging Innovations to make materials easier to recycle and alternative packaging through research partnerships;

> Alternative Delivery Systems piloted in three high-traffic malls as the "All Things Refillery' Hair which company intends to scale pending FDA guidelines; and Multi-sectoral Partnerships to develop and implement programs towards 'Zero Waste."

From the public utilities

sustainability strategies were discussed by Maynilad's president and CEO Ramoncito Fernandez. He pointed out the two major sources of pollution in waterways leading to Manila Bay being human waste from open defecation or poorly-constructed/-managed septic tank systems coming from 89 percent of the total number of barangays in the metropolis and illegal discharges form 63 commercial and industrial establishments found directly draining untreated wastewater.

Based on the original timeline approved by the MWSS, Maynilad plans to implement the following: four sewerage projects from 2018 to 2022 to reach 47 percent coverage by 2021; 11 projects from 2023 to 2027 to reach 68 percent; 12 projects from 2028 to 2032 to reach 87 percent; and four projects between 2033 and 2037 to get 100 percent coverage by the end of the concession period.

Fernandez also cited serious obstacles created by the five-year timeline ordered by the Supreme Court decision such as the land that needs to be expropriated to build the facilities, the huge traffic jams caused by road closures to finish laying 450 kilometers of sewer lines, and abrupt

tariff adjustments.

Maynilad's sustainability strategies highlighted were the "Sining Ipo" an award winning program for the Dumagat Tribe; "Plant for Life" that has so far planted 800,000 trees and mangroves in the Ipo Laguna Lake and Malabon Watersheds, and the Coastal areas of Manila Bay; the "Daloy Dunong" education program that teaches children and parents about water sanitation and environmental protection; and the Non-Revenue Water (NRW) Program wherein over 2,300 kilometers of old pipes were replaced and 360,000 leaks repaired resulting in the recovery of 700 million liters over the last 12 years. An estimated P40.7 billion has been spent in the NRW Program.

Stratbase Group Managing Director and CEO, Prof. Dindo Manhit said, "A smarter approach other than the traditional regulatory tools imposing bans or taxes is to focus on instilling discipline for consumers to responsibly dispose of trash in parallel with enabling policies that encourage new innovations for packaging materials and waste

management systems."

He stressed that, "Stewardship of the environment should be everybody's concern. The task to protect and preserve the environment is not just the government's business, it's everybody's business."



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A-10

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Thousands of Manila businesses face closure over garbage crisis

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12-09-19

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Pasaway sa basura, sampolan na!

NAHAHARAP na ang Pinas sa 'garbage crisis'.

Ito ang pag-amin ng pamunuan ng Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR).

Kasi nga marami pa rin sa mga Pinoy ang pasaway, lalo na kung ang pag-uusapan ay ang kanilang mga kalat at basura

Aminado ang DENR na hindi epektibo ang mga isinasagawang clean-up drive partikular nga sa rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay.

Hindi nga ba't maraming grupo at sektor pa ang nakiisa sa naturang proyekto na halos nagbabantay at linggu-linggong

nakikiisa sa isinasagawang paglilinis dito, pero hindi kinaya dahil sa maraming balasubas na pinalilipad ang kanilang mga basura.

Maglilinis nga naman, pero ilang araw lang nandyan na naman ang sangkaterbang basura.

Ibig sabihin hindi natututo ang marami nating kababayan, hindi nakikiisa at mistulang binabalewala na ang epekto nang walang pakundangang pagtatapon ng basura sa kung saansaan na lamang.

Kapag bumaha magrereklamo, hindi naiisip na isa siya sa dahilan nang matinding pagbabaha.

Ang mga basurang itinapon sa kung saan na lamang, ayun bumara sa mga daluyan ng

Ilan lang yata kasi, o baka nga wala pang kinakasuhan o sinasampolan sa pagtatapon ng (Sundan sa page 5)

RESPONDE... Mula page 4

basura sa hindi tamang lugar.

Dapat maging mahigpit dito ang mga lokal na pamahalaan

na pamahalaan.
Sa pamamagitan ng
kanilang mga matinding
ordinansa ukol dito at ang
pagpapataw ng kaparu-

sahan sa mga lumalabag ipakita ang ngipin ng batas para madala.

Dahil nga sa krisis na kinakaharap, sa susunod na taon hihigpitan na lalo ang paggamit ng mga plastic na nakikitang siyang nagbabara sa mga daluyan ng tubig kaya nakakaranas ng matinding pagbaha sa maraming lugar partikular sa Metro Manila.

Pero, ang pangunahing dahilan dito ay ang kawalang disiplina at pagiging pasaway ng marami nating kababayan.

Lagi na lang isipin, ang basurang itinapon mo sa kung saan-saan lang, babalik at babalik

Baka nga makita mo nasa loob pa ng bahay mo!

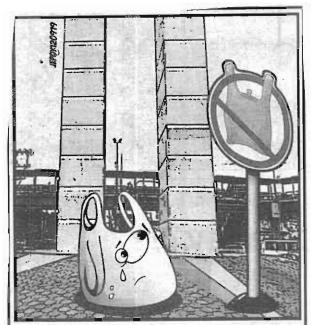




12-09-19

PAGE 1/

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Plastics, bawal na sa QC

NG Quezon City ang unang lungsod sa Metro A Manila na nagpasa ng ordinansa na nagbabawal sa single-use plastics. Sa susunod na taon, epektibo na ang batas. Hindi na papayagan ang paggamit ng plastics at kabilang dito ang mga supot at shopping bags na ginagamit sa mga supermarket. Sabi ni QC Mayor Joy Belmonte, kabilang din sa ipagbabawal ay paggamit ng utensils na gawa sa plastic, katulad ng mga straws, folls at wrappers ng pagkain. Ayon kay Belmonte, dalawang ordinansa ang ipinasa noong nakaraang Oktubre na nagbabawal sa single-use plastics. Magsisimula umano ang ban sa Pebrero 2020.

Maganda ang hakbang na ito ng Quezon City. Ka-ilangan ay may isang lungsod na manguna para ipagbawal ang single-use plastics. Kung walang magsisimula, patuloy ang paggami ng plastics at wala nang katapusan ang pagbaha sa Metro Manila at pagkasira ng kapaligiran. Lahat ng mga plastics na iti-napon, kabilang ang sachet ng 3-in-1 coffee, catsup shampoo, toothpaste at marami pa ay bumabara sa mga drainage at tumatagal doon dahil hindi nabubulok ang mga ito. Forever ang problema sa mga single-use plastics. Napakamakabuluhan ang hakbang na ito ni Belmonte. Dito magsisimula ang paglaya ng lungsod sa paggamit ng plastic, na napatunayang banta sa pagkasira ng kapaligiran. Nararapat gaya-hin ng iba pang lungsod ang sisimulang pakikipag-laban ng QC sa single-use plastics. Ayon sa environmental groups tinatayang 59.7

bilyong sachets ang umaapaw sa mga estero sa Metro Manila. Malulunod ang mga residente sa basurang plastic sachets. Hindi lamang pagbaha ang dulot ng mga basurang plastic kundi banta rin ang mga ito sa buhay ng mga lamandagat. Dahil sa maling pagtatapon ng basurang plastic, humahantong sa dagat at nakakain ng mga balyena. Ilang balyena na ang sumadsad sa dalampasigan at namatay. Nang buksan ang kanilang tiyan, nakita sa bituka ang mga plastic na basura na kanilang ikinamatay.

Magkaroon ng ordinansa ang bawat lungsod na nagbabawal sa single-use plastic. Tularan ang QC. Magkaisa para maisalba ang kapaligiran. Ito rua ang simula para maging plastic-free ang bansa.



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PAGE 1/



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12-09-19

Water firms get ultimatum

he DoJ, Office of the Solicitor General, Department of Finance and many other agencies have drawn up a number of steps to address this roblem

Water firms get ultimatum

Francis T. Wakefield and Hananeel Bordey

ribunephl_FTW @tribunephl_hana

The Palace is gung-ho about filing charges against ficials of water concessionaires Maynilad Water rvices Inc. and Manila Water Co. Inc. if provisions in eir contracts that are disadvantageous to government main, presidential spokesman and chief legal counsel

Turn to page A2

From page A1

Salvador Panelo said yesterday.

In a radio interview, Panelo said it would be up to the Department of Justice (DoJ) to pinpoint to the water concessionaires the provisions in the contracts that are considered onerous and should be removed.

DoJ spokesman Undersecretary Markk Perete said legal steps will be resorted to if "illegal" and "onerous" provisions in the concession agreements are not revised or removed.

In a television interview, Perete said officials of the water firms have agreed to sit down and discuss with government the provisions in the contracts that the President considered onerous.

"The DoJ, Office of the Solicitor General, Department of Finance and many other agencies have drawn up a number of steps to address this problem," he said.

"If negotiations fail, the government is also ready with measures in court or outside the court," he added.

Options ready

An international tribunal based in Singapore recently ordered the Philippine government to pay Maynilad Water Services Inc. P3.424 billion in revenue losses from unimplemented rate adjustments.

The Chief Executive on Thursday continued his criticism of the concession agreements that the government entered with Maynilad and Manila Water during the administration of former President Fidel V. Ramos.

The President assailed the arbitration rulings and said the government would not pay P11 billion in total claims from both concessionaires.

Justice Secretary Menardo Guevarra said the onerous provisions were the reasons why the government was ordered to compensate the water firms. The President maintained that the people behind the contracts should be held liable for economic sabotage.

Perete on Sunday said that according to DoJ evaluation, such a provision contravenes Republic Act 6234, or the law that created the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System. It stated that only the MWSS board of trustees can set water rates.

At the same time, only the National Water Resources Board can determine whether the water rates that the MWSS has set were reasonable.

Raps under review

The possible filing of charges, including economic sabotage, is still subject to DoJ study.

"Not yet, that's still being studied by the DoJ," Panelo said.

When asked if the Duterte administration is willing to settle with the water concessionaires, Panelo said everything should be threshed out first.

Sen. Christopher Lawrence "Bong" Go asked the water companies to fulfill their obligations fairly and stop passing the cost in solving the problems to consumers.

In a statement, Go said Maynilad and Manila Water should follow what is stipulated in their contracts with government.

"The Filipinos are carrying the burden. We are facing problems in our water supply in Manila yet they add to the burden of the consumers. Filipinos own the water they distribute. It's just that they are the ones who won the service contract. That contract should be fair to each Filipino," Go said in Filipino.

"It should be fixed first. The government and the private contractors will talk. The two will have negotiations. They will

be discussing terms on how they will fix what the President was reacting to," Panelo said.

On the comments made by San Beda Graduate School of Law Dean Fr. Ranhilio Ronquillo that President Duterte has basis to rescind the agreement but cannot do so arbitrarily and that the cancellation of the contracts should undergo court process, Panelo clarified that the Chief Executive didn't say anything about rescinding it arbitrarily.

"What was said was for them to fix the contract because it is wrong. There should be talks. If they agree, there's no problem. If not, then a case should be filed," Panelo said.

Everything possible

On the matter concerning the appeal made by the Metropolitan





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Waterworks Sewerage System for both Maynilad and Manila Water to defer their respective water rate increases by 1 January, Panelo said everything is possible.

"There should he talks, defer the rate increases if they are not ready to implement these," he added.

Panelo previously stated that government will not pay Maynilad and Manila Water despite an order from a Singapore-based arbitration court to pay the two water concessionaires P3.6 billion and, P7.4 billion, respectively, as compensation for losses or damages.

He made the remark after the Chief Executive expressed outrage over the decision of the Permanent Court of Arbitration in Singapore, which directs the government of the Philippines to pay Manila Water billions of pesos for suspending water rate increases that occurred prior to his assumption to the presidency.

In an interview over radio station DZXL, Panelo said the President's order is not to pay it due to the fact that the contracts entered into by the government with the water concessionaires were "onerous."

He added that the President is also reviewing other contracts that might have been disadvantageous with government.

"Many, every contract which involve public service he will look at it," he said.

Panelo added one of the provisions that the DoJ saw as disadvantageous to the government is that if the water concessionaires went bankrupt or loses money, it is stated that government will pay them.





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P22 billion for Baguio water treatment rehab

By Aldwin Quitasol

BAGUIO CITY — At least P22 billion is needed for the planned rehabilitation of the city's water and wastewater treatment plants to significantly reduce the volume of pollutants in its different river systems, based on the estimation of the Japan International Cooperating Agency.

Baguio City Mayor Benjamin Magalong said that given this estimate to fund these projects, the city government is compelled to avail of grants and soft loans offered by the different local and international financial lending institutions such as the Asian Development Bank (ADB), which expressed its intent to help the city in this endeavor.

The ADB, which will hold its annual board meeting in the city by the first or second quarter next year, will be looking into the needs of the city and assess its capacity to pay the soft loans it may provide for specific environment projects and programs.

Magalong added that while the city government would be able to access at least P2 billion in grants from other government agencies, the balance P20 billion required to bankroll the full project will still have to be taken from loans based on debt-to-equity ratio from the city's capacity and ability to pay back the borrowed money.

The proposed projects include the rehabilitation and expansion of the 32-year old Baguio sewerage treatment plant, the put-up of a sewerage treatment plant for the city's abattoir and public market, the construction of additional sewerage treatment plants along strategic areas in the Galiano, Bued and Ambalanga rivers and the inter-connection of all residential and commercial structures to the established sewerage treatment plants.

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Gov't to lose billions due to water pacts

By HECTOR LAWAS

JUSTICE Secretary Menardo Guevarra has reiterated that the government could lose billions of pesos to Maynilad and Manila Water because of two disadvantageous provisions in its 22-year-old agreements with the water concessionaires.

Guevarra issued the statement as a Singapore-based arbitration panel ordered the government to pay Manila Water P7.39 billion in years' worth of losses due to the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewran waterworks and sew-erage System's reduction of water rates instead of an approval of their proposed rate hikes, while Maynilad was awarded a P3.424-bil-lion rembursement in 2017.

He disclosed that these two provisions were the

reason why the government was ordered by the arbitration court to pay the water concessionaires hefty

amount. These are also the most notable among a dozen provisions that the DOJ deemed "onerous or disadvantageous to the gov-emment and the consum-ing public when it reviewed

Ing public when it reviewed the agreements upon orders by President Rodrigo Duterte," Guevarra said. Also, he revealed that the President has asked the Department of Justice to come up with an "integrated solution" on the MWSS 1997 concession agree-1997 concession agree-ments with water conces-sionaires Maynilad and Manila Water.

"Our legal remedies are not mutually exclusive. The OSG (Office of the So-licitor General) is contemplating judicial remedies



Guevarra

here and/or abroad. Some members of the Cabinet want an overhaul of the existing concession agree-ments. Others are thinking of more drastic actions. PRRD has asked the DOJ to come up with an integrated solution. (That) we'll do," Guevarra said.





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<u>BONG GO:</u> Water concession accords should be fair to Filipinos

SENATOR Christopher Lawrence "Bong" Go said that water concessionaires Maynilad and Manila Water in Metro Manila should fulfill their obligations to the Filipino people.

This comes after a Singapore-based Permanent Court of Arbitration ordered the Philippine government to pay P7.39 billion in compensation to water concessionaire Manila Water after the government rejected water rate increases since 2015.

"Tubig natin 'yun. Tubig ng Pilipino 'yun tapos tayo ang pinagbabayad ng taxes, hindi naman po maayos. Kung ipinangako nila sa contract, dapat nilang tuparin at huwag nilang ipasa 'yung hirap o burden sa mga tao," Go said during an interview, lamenting the poorservice quality that the concessionaires provide.

President Rodrigo Duterte has also expressed his anger on the decision, threatening to file charges against the private water concessionaires. The Department of Justice (DOJ) has also revealed alleged onerous provisions deemed disadvantageous to the public.

Expressing his frustration, Gosaid, "Naghihirap na nga 'yung mga Pilipino, hirap pa tayo sa tubig sa Maynila tapos papahirapan niyo pa. Pagmamay-ari ng bawat Pilipino 'yung tubig na kanilang dini-distribute. Nagkahan lang sila ang nanalo ng kontrata. Dapat 'yung kontrata ay maging patas sa bawat Pilipino."

"'Wag pahirapan ang mga kababayan natin at huwag gisahin sa sarili nilang mantika ang ating mga kababayan," he add-



A young boy shows respect to Sen. Bong Go after the lawmaker visited and gave aid to victims of Typhoon Tisoy in Daraga, Albay and Gubat, Sorsogon.

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Meanwhile, during the visit to the typhoon victims in Gubat, Sorsogon, Go distributed relief and financial assistance to around 200 affected families who are still reeling from the disaster. The senator also said he will provide uniforms and other school supplies to students who lost theirs during the storm.

As for victims with medical conditions that require aspecialist, Gosaid he is willing to bring them to Manila and have them checked.

Different government agencies were also present during the visit. Representatives from the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the local Social Welfare and Development of fice, Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and the National Housing Authority (NHA) assessed the situation of the

victims to provide them with appropriate assistance.

"May programa tayo sa gobyerno. Nandito ang iba't ibang mga ahensya para magbigay ng assistance. Iba't ibang ahensya ng gobyerno, tulung-tulong tayo para makaahon kangad sila," Go said, adding that those who need to rebuild their homes may seek help from the NHA.

To promote preparedness and mitigate risks caused by natural disasters, Go also said that he has filed Senate Bill (SB) No. 205 or the "Department of Disaster Resilience Act of 2019" which proposes for the creation of a Department of Disaster Resilience, "an empowered, highly specialized department with clear unity of command and primarily responsible in ensuring safe, adaptive and disaster-resilient communities."

Before his visit to Gubat, Sorsogon, the senator also went to Daraga, Albay to extend similar assistance to typhoon victims in the province.

"Kahit saang sulok po ng Pilipinas, pupuntahan ko po kayo hanggang sa makakaya ko para magbigay ng tufong at magiwan ng ngiti sa oras ng inyong pagdadalamhati," Go told the victims, explaining that he regularly visits victims of calamities to listen to their concerns and provide solutions to their daily struggles.



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192-09-19

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HUWAG ahirapan ang mga kabab_jan natin at hu-wag gisahin sa sarili nilang mantika ang ating mga kababayan."

Ito and naging panawagan ni Senator Christopher Lawrence "Bong" Go sa water concessionaires na Marifald at Manifa Water, taga-supplying tubig sa Metro Manila, sa pagsasabing maging tapat at dapat tupanin ng dalawang kompanya ang kani-lang obligasyon sa sambaya-

nang Filipino Ginawa ni Sen Go ang riesating redisyon has unding reging kautusaning Singapore-based Permanent Court of Auto-

tition sa gobyemo ng Pilipinas na bayaran ang P7.39 bilion bi-lang kompensasyon sa Manila iter dahil sa pagbasura ng namahalaan sa water rate in-Tubig natin yun Tubig ng

Plipino yun tapos tayo and pinagbabayad ng taxes, hindi naman po maayos. Yung canangako nila sa contract, capat ru-liang tubann at huwang nilang ipasa yung hirap sa mga lab." ani Go sa panayam kasabay ng pogratikos sa bagtak na kali-tad ng sartisyo ng dalawang

Main concessionaires. Galli na gailt maiong a Pamulong Pooligo Duterte sal raturang desistion kaya nagbanta siyang kakasuhan ang dalawand oriviale water concessio-

Ibinunyaging Department of Justice and urmandy mail o 'di katanggap-tanggap para sa pub-liko na probisyon sa kontrata .ng water concessionaires carrinakatali ang kamay ng gobyerno sa pagtalakda ng water 1919s. "Naghihiran na nga 'yung

mga Pilipino, hran pa tayo sa Ling sa Majurla tapos caninrapan nyo ca. Pagmamay-an ng bawat Pilipino 'yung tubig na kanilang dini-distribula. Nagka-taon ing sila ang narakong konthats. Depet yung kontrata ay

maging paras sa bawat Pilipino." anang disinayado na si Sen. Go neno makacanayam sa cina-

wa nyang padasta sa typhoon victims sa Gunat, Sorsogon. Namahan ang sanator ng relief at financial an sistance sa may 200 apektadong pamilya na hindi pa mikababangon sa kalamidad.

Kasama nn ni Sen. Go ang mga kinatawan ng Department of Social Welfare and Develop-ment, local Social Welfare and Development office. Department of Trade and Industry at National Housing Authority upang macrugay in ng ayuda at alamn kung ano pang mga kaukurang fulland and magain hilland maia

'May programa tayo sa gcoverno. Nanto ang ba't ibang ahensya cara magbigay ng assistance. Tulong-tulong layo para makaahon kaagad sila,

ayon kay Go.

Ang NHA, merchg progra-ina na magacigay ing housing malenals sa lahat ng mga totally damagad. Bibigyan lahat sila para maka pagpa ayo kaagad ng bahay, ar iya pa

Elago sa Gubat, Scrsagon, bin sita rin ng senacor at brigyan ng tulong ang mga binagyo sa Daraga. Albay.

REMATE NEWS TEAM









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Tubig sa Angat Dam umangat

TUMAAS ang lebel ng tubig sa Angat Dam kahapon da-

hil sa mga pag-uulan
Ayon sa hydrology division ng Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration, nasa 195.55 meters ang water level ng dam alas-6 ng umaga.

Bahagya itong tumaas kumpara sa naitalang 195.34 meters noong Sabado.

Nadagdagan din ang lebel ng tubig sa La Mesa, Ambuklao,

Binga at Pantabangan dams. Samantala, nabawasan naman ang water level sa Ipo, San Roque, Magat at Caliraya dams. -Radyo Inquirer









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12 - 09 - 19

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Legal action vs water concessionaires, ikakasa

NI BETH CAMIA

Mapupuwersang maghain ng legal action ang pamunuan ng Department of Justice laban sa dalawang water concessionaire kapag magmatigas na hindi alisin ang ilegal at onerous provisions sa kasunduan nito sa gobyerno.

Ito ang pahay ag ni DoJ Spokesperson Undersecretary Markk Perete kung saan kinumpirmang pumayag na ang Maynilad at Manila Water na makipagusap sa gobyerno ukol sa sinasabing 'disadvantageous provisions.'

"We hope rial it can be mutually agreed upon by the parties but otherwise... 'yung DOJ, OSG (Office of the Solicitor General), Department of Finance and many other agencies have drawn up a number of steps to take to address this problem," wika ni Perete.

"Whether any maging kakalabasan ay mag-agree' yung concessionaires doon sa removal ng provisions na ito, o kung hindi naman, meron din naman tayong pinaghahandaan in court or outside the court," dagdag pa ni Perete.

Matatandaang inusisa ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang ilang probinsyon sa kontrata na dehado ang pamahalaan tulad na lang ng kapag nangielam ang gobyerno sa pagpapatupad na water rates ay magbabayaci pa ito sa kung ano man ang magiging lugi ng kumpanya.

Paliwanagni Justice Secretary Menardo Guevarra, ang nasabing probisyon ang naging dahilan ng desisyon ng arbitration court sa Singapore na atasan ang gobyerno ng Pilipinas na magbayad ng P3.6 billion sa Maynilad at P7.4 billion sa Manila Water dahil sa lugi ng concessionaires dahil sa hindi pinatupad na rate adjustment.

Kahapon, binanggit ni Perete na Luse sa Doj evaluation na ang kahalintulad na probisyon ay labag sa Republic Act 6234, o batas na lumilikha ng Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System, dahil saad dito na ang MWSS board of trustees lamang ang maaring magpatupad ng water rates.

Ang National Water Resources Board naman ang inalasang magdedetermina kung nararapat ba ang ibababang water rates ng MWSS.

"'Yung usapan the last time was to re-negotiate these provisions. Kailangan pag-usapan ng mga concessionaires at ng gobyerno 'yung possibility of expunging sa concession agreement 'yung illegal and onerous provisions na nakapaloob doon," pahayag pa ni Prerete.

Pinalagan ng Pangulo ang desisyon at sinabi ng Malacanang na hindi sila magbabayad sa Maynilad at Manila THIE

12-09-19

DATE

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NAPIPINTONG WATER CRISIS' DAPAT SERYOSOHIN NG LOKAL NA PAMAHALAAN

kanilang mga mamamayan ng mga paghahanda para maiwasan o maibsan ang napipintong water crisis.

Sakit din kasi sa ulo ng mga Mayor ang kaliwa't kanang reklamo ng mga residente kapag walang sapat na suplay ng tubig. Kaya may mga contingencies na ang LGUs para makatugan sa problema

Mas mahirap kayang walang tubig kaysa kuryente. Iyong init puwedeng madaan sa pamamaypay pero ang lagkit ng katawan at pagbaho, ligo lang talaga ang solusyon.

Matapos mailunsad ang 'Oplan Tubigi dapat na magsagawa ng audir ang DILG at MMDA sa mga plano at kahandaan ng i.GUs saka-sakaling nandiyan na ang water crisis, dapat na may blue print na ang lahat para sa mga puwedeng gawin at matulungan ang mga kulang-kulang pa.

Payo natin sa mga nasa Metro Manila ngayong paparating na Summer, maige sigurong pagbakasyunin n'yo muna sa inyong mga lalawigan ang inyong mga anak ng kahit isang buwan para makabawas sa mga kokonsumo ng tubig sa Kamaynilaan. Magandang pagkakataon din para maka-bonding nila ang mga kamag-anakan sa probinsiya at magkaroon ng mga bagong kaibigan.

Isa pa, dapat naman na naikikilala ng inyong mga arak ang pinag-ugatan ng kani-kanilang mga magulang para



tuklasin ang sining, kultura at kalinangan nito para sa karagdagang kaalaman.

Pero pinakamabisa pa rin ang pagkakaroon ng disipiina sa paggamit ng tubig. Hindi porke't may malakas na tubig ngayon ay ubos-ubos biyaya na. Dapat matutunan ang paggamit at pag-ipon ng mga rain water, kellulad nitor g nagdaang Bagyong Tisoy, nagdulot ilo ng malalakas na pag-ulan.

Ang tubig ulan ay puwedeng gamitin na panghugas ng pinggan at iba pa, sa paglalaba, sa paglilinis ng bahay, pagdidilig ng mga hataman, pagpapaigo ng mga alagang hayop at ibaga. Siguruhin lamang na malinis ang alulod, mas maganda na palipasin muna ang ilang minuto bago saluhin ng drum o balde ang tubig-ulan na umaagos sa mga alulod ng bahay, kadalasan kasi ay may dumi ito ng pusa at daoa.

Seryosong banta sa lahat ng nasa Metro Manila ang napipintong kakulangan ng tubig ngayong tag-init, kaya dapat ay lubusan ang paghahanda ng lahat ng sektor at magsama-sama para sa problemang ito. Hindi ang isa't isa ang kalaban ratin dito kundiang natural na mainit na panahon at wala tayong panama sa kalasan.









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Nickel output to hit over 40 million WMT in 2020

BY EIREENE JAIREE GOMEZ

HE country's nickel output is seen to increase next year, reaching more than 40-million wet metric tons (WMT), the Philippine Nickel Industry Association (PNIA) said.

The improvement is attributed mainly to the Indonesian nickel ore export ban, as well as anticipated better prices for the commodity by 2020, PNIA President Dante Bravo told reporters in a press conference on Friday.

"You know when the price is a bit high, if you can make money you can go further, further distances to mine and that could increase the volume basically," he said.

"It's more than 40 million tons, I think," said Bravo, quickly adding that, "whether it will exceed 50 million tons, I doubt."

Citing the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (DENR) Mines and Geosciences Bureau, Bravo said that for this year, the country's nickel production would reach about 25 to 26-million dry metric tons (DMT) as compared to last year's 26-million DMT.

DMT is a term used to identify the volume of the total mined commodity after its moisture level content — at an inherent 35 percent — has been decreased.

A 'strong year' for nickel industry

Meanwhile, Bravo also said Indonesia's planned nickel ore export ban from 2020 to 2022 will likely increase demand for Philippine nickel ore. Currently, the Philippines is the second largest nickel producer in the world, next to Indonesia that exported 600,000 metric tons (MT) in 2018.

The nickel industry, he further said, was banking on the government's approval for suspended mines to resume operations.

"In Zambales, we hope that, because some of the mines have to resume operations, I think by next year, [W]e have four mines [and] they might start [their operations] [and] that would add up," he said.

"In Mindanao, we hope that some of the mines in Dinagat Islands will be able to operate, so that's going to add up also," Bravo added. The Philippine nickel mining sector has seen declining production over the past years as a result of ore-grade declines and the DENR banning and suspending open pit mining in the country.

PNIA Chairman Emeritus Clarence Pimentel Jr. said: "My outlook for the industry is very optimistic. Based on our mine planning, there's going to be a balance between market forces of prices and requirements. Altogether, I think we're looking at a strong year."

For 2020, the PNIA was considering the US-China trade war to be one of the major challenges for the Philippine nickel industry, according to Bravo. "[T]hat remains basically to be the main challenge, in terms of foreign exchange, economic growth, and going direct investments."



Business Insight



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PH nickel seen benefitting from exports ban

THE Philippine Nickel Industry Association remains optimistic its members can benefit from assured spike in nickel prices next year due to Indonesia's nickel ore exports ban.

"In terms of value, we think it would be higher this year for ore exports because of the reported Indonesian ore nickel ban... I am not sure in terms of percentage next year because it would depend basically on the prices particularly the lower grades because that is where the added volume will be coming from," Dante Bravo, the group's president, said.

"Insofar as medium and high grades, we have limited volume on that one so I don't think we can expect much volume from that," he added.

Bravo said what could temper this benefit is the effects of the still unresolved trade war between the United States and China.

Earlier, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources said the Philippines will not imitate Indonesia's ore exports ban as its main concern at present is for mining companies to comply with environmental and social safeguards.

Indonesia will stop nickel ore exports starting next year as part of efforts to process more of its resources locally rather than ship its raw ores abroad for processing.

Nickel is used to produce stainless steel and batteries. The Philippines currently has 29 active nickel miners and two processing plants.

Nickel mining in the country ends during October when rains and strong winds affect operations, and resumes in March or April the following year.

Data from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau showed as of end-2018, direct shipping nickel ore and mixed nickel-cobalt sulfide contributed the most to the country's total metallic production value at 45.25 percent. From a total of P121.94 billion, the red metal's share was at P55.18 billion.

However, as of the first quarter of the year, the combined output of direct shipping nickel ore and mixed nickel-cobalt sulfide was only at the second spot with 36 percent share. Of the P27.47-billion total metallic production value for the period, earnings from nickel stood at P9.81 billion.









PAGE 1 STORY BANNER

ITORIAL CARIOO

12-09-19

DATE

PAGE 1



NICKEL ASIA SHINES IN NATIONAL MINE SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT AWARD: Nickel Asia Corporation subsidiaries took the spotlight in the recently-concluded 66th Annual National Mine Safety and Environment Conference in Baguio City, with one affiliate taking the most coveted Presidential Mineral industry Environmental Award. Cagdianao Mining Corp., based in Valencia, Dinagat Islands province, bagged the top Presidential award and the two highest safety performance awards – the safest surface mines and the overall safest mine operations. In photo executives and associates of Nickel Asia Corp. and its subsidiaries led by Cagdianao Mining Corp. whoop it up at the 66th ANMSEC after CMC bagged the Presidential award.

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PAGE 1/

Nickel exports seen rising next year

By LOUISE MAUREEN SIMEON

The Philippines is expected to see improvements in the out-bound shipment of nickel ore next year as the country benefits from the Indonesian ban on the export of the mineral.

The Philippine Nickel Industry Association (PNIA) said nickel direct shipping ore for 2020 will likely exceed the 39 wet metric tons (WMT) expected production for the year.

"It will be more than 40 million WMT, but whether it will exceed 50 million WMT, I doubt," PNIA president Dante Bravo said.

"Indonesian export ban is the major factor. It would also depend on prices particularly for the lower grade ores because that's where the added volume will be coming from," he added.

Indonesia's nickel ore export ban has created an opportunity for Philippine nickel miners to alleviate the impending supply shortfall in the ASEAN neighbor, the largest nickel producer globally.

Bravo said the industry is expecting more mines to resume operations next year to add to the increased inventory.

"In Zambales, some of the mines will resume operations by next year so we have four mines there and that would add up," Bravo said.

"Some of the mines in Dinagat Islands will also be able to operate," he said.

Approximately 90 percent of nickel export goes to China, while the remaining 10 percent goes to Japan.

Fitch Solutions Macro Research, a unit of Fitch Group, earlier said the Philippine nickel mining sector sees improved growth this year on the back of restarting nickel operations.

Fitch estimated that from 2016 to 2019, local production declined by an average of 22.7 percent as a result of former environment secretary Gina Lopez's closure and suspension orders on mines.

DATE

TITLE :

PAGE 1/

MGA PUTOL NA TROSO BUMAHA SA KALSADA NG ISABELA

MATAPOS humupa ang tubig-baha, malalaking troso naman na pinaniniwalaang pinutol ng mga illegal logger mula sa kabundukan, ang bumuha sa ilang kalsada sa Cagayan.

Nang mawala na ang baha ay tumambad sa mamamayan ng Sta. Praxedes ang kalsada na nahati sa apat na bahagi matapos sirain ng mga naglalakihang troso na inanod mula sa kabundukan ng nasabing bayan.

Ang mga nasabing troso ay pinaniniwalaang kagagawan ng patuloy na illegal logging sa Cagayan

Ayon kay Mayor Esterlina Aguinaldo, nahih rapan na sila maging ang Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) sa gnagawang clearing operations dahil habang isinusulat ito ay nakararanas pa sila ng panakanakang pag-ulan sa kanilang lugar.

Anang alkalde, nananatiling sarado ang kalsada papunta at palabas ng Ilocos kaya pinayuhan ang mga nagbabalak na pumunta sa lugar na pansamantala munang ipagpaliban ang kanilang pagbiyahe para hindi na dumagdag sa problema.

Nanawagan din si Aguinaldo sa punong bayan ng Pagudpud, Ilocos Norte na huwag munang magpapasok ng anomang uri sasakyan na magtutungo sa Cagayan.

Nabatid na maraming commuters na na-stranded ang nasa kanilang evacuation centers ngayon.

Magtutungo sana ang mga ito sa Ilocos Region.

Samantala, itinanggi ni Isabela Governor Rodolfo Albano, Jr. na talamak ang illegal logging sa Isabela.

Ito'y matapos lumabas sa social media na libong pinutol na kahoy ang sumira sa mga pananim na mais at palay, maging sa ilang tulay at kalsada sa probinsiya dulot ng malawakang pagbaha sa nakaraang pagbayo ng bagyong Tisoy.

Ayon sa gobernador, walang katotohanan ang mga impormasyon na galing umano sa mga illegal logging ang mga pinutol na kahoy mula sa bundok ng Sierra Madre at inanod papunta sa mga ba-

Ani Albano, pawang "dead woods" ang mga naglutangang punong kahoy mula sa bundok noong kasagsagan ng baha.

Dahll dito, hiniling niya sa DENR na suriin ang mga naanod na punong kahoy upang malaman kung mga illegal log nga ang mga ito.

JUN FUENTES



PAGKAHUPA ng malawak na baha sa Isabela at sa iba pang bayan sa Cagayan ay tumambad ang malalaking putol-putol na punong-kahoy sa mga kalsada at tulay sa lalawigan.







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12-09-19

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Deluge in December

work in Manila on weekdays and spend my weekends in Cagayan province where my wife and our son stay. Last Friday, I feared the cancellation of my flight because Northeastern Luzon had been pummeled by neavy rains for continuous days, even after Typhoon "Tisoy" had left the country. But the rain stopped momentarily that day, and our plane was cleared to fly.

As our plane descended for landing, I saw the extent of devastation from the air. The mighty Cagayan river had overflowed enormously, inundating communities in low-lying plains. I saw houses submerged with only their rooftops visible. What used to be expansive farmlands had turned into bodies of water.

From the Tuguegarao airport, I usually travel by car for an hour to reach my wife's hometown, Alcala. This time, my wife advised me that halfway through the land trip, I will have to board a hand tractor to traverse a flooded stretch of the highway. She will then use a boat to pick me up and we would navigate through areas that used to be cornfields and rice fields but which became extensions of the river.

As we motored, I saw ground-level scenes of devastation. In many areas, waist-deep floodwaters had entered houses situated along the road. Before, I could only see short portions of the Cagayan river because while both the river and the road snake together up to Aparri in the north, anywhere between several hundred meters and a few kilometers of farmlands separate the two, for the most part of their lengths. This time, however, floodwaters had engulfed the farmlands, extending up to the very edge of the highway.



FLEA MARKET OF IDEAS

JOEL RUIZ BUTUYAN

I was greatly bothered imagining the fate of the people living in the many barangays located on the other side of the river.

Residents who had abandoned their flooded homes sought shelter on higher ground by staying in tents by the roadsides. I also saw so many carabaos, cows, pigs and goats tied to roadside trees, electric posts and barriers.

I didn't reach Alcala that day because policemen stopped vehicles from traveling farther before I could arrive at our agreed meeting point. My wife also had to turn back because swirling waters and floating logs posed grave danger to their safety.

I went back to Tuguegarao and spent the night reading news and viewing online photos of the damage caused by the floods in the whole Cagayan Valley region. In Cagayan province, 18 towns were reportedly submerged in floodwaters, and in its capital city alone, Tuguegarao, 25 barangays were underwater. In the town of Alcala, 2,834 houses were submerged, and 10,102 residents were affected.

In Isabela province, 11 towns were severe-

ly affected by flooding, with Ilagan, the capital city, one of the worst-hit. Pictures show a portion of the river in Ilagan full of floating logs and forest debris, clearly showing that illegal logging is rampant in the Sierra Madre mountains.

The people of Cagayan Valley are used to natural calamities because the region is a regular path for strong typhoons that visit our country multiple times a year. The people of the region have developed the instinctive ability to stand up on their own, without waiting for outside help. As a result, the calamities in this region do not get much news coverage, and not a commensurate attention from national government relief operations, as compared to other regions which go through less devastating calamities.

This deluge in December is different from past floods in Cagayan, however. This is the first time that floodwaters made multiple areas of the national highway impassable, showing the enormous volume of the floodwaters. The extent of damage to houses, crops and livestock is huge. The government should mount massive relief operations.

One news item I read while stranded in Tuguegarao talked about predictions by climate scientists that coastal cities around the world like Metro Manila will be submerged by coastal flooding 30 years from now, as a result of climate change.

With the forces unleashed by the combined effects of climate change and the deforestation of our mountains, massive flooding has arrived 30 years ahead for the inland towns of Cagayan and Isabela.

Comments to fleamarketofideas@gmail.com







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12-09-19

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PAGE 1/

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'Malaysian breakthrough can help Phl fight dengue'

By DELON PORCALLA

The Philippines can learn a lot from Southeast Asian neighbor Malaysia, which has made an unprecedented move to help suppress – if not totally eradicate – the presence of the dreaded dengue virus, an administration lawmaker said yesterday.

"We understand that Malaysia has brought in the Wolbachia bacteria, which retards the dengue virus in the Aedes mosquito and lessens the risk of the disease getting passed on to humans," Anakalusugan partylist Rep. Mike Defensor said.

The vice chairman of the House of Representatives' committee on health pointed out that just like the Philippines, Malaysia is also dealing with a surge of the dengue virus.

Defensor said Malaysia has been "deploying new eggs" of the Aedes Wolbachia in "target areas to supplant some of the wild day-biting Aedes mosquito population carrying the dengue virus, in an aggressive bid to reduce human cases by 50 to 70 percent."

Kuala Lumpur listed a total 118,416 dengue cases from Jan. 1 to Nov. 27 – up by 70 percent – and 164 deaths, up by 39 percent.

In comparison, Manila's Department of Health recorded a total of 402,694 dengue cases from Jan. 1 to Nov. 16, up by 92 percent from the 209,335 listed in the same period last year.

The number of deaths also went up by 40 percent from 1,075 last year to 1,502 this

vear

"We have to review the National Dengue Prevention and Control Program, which clearly has been unsuccessful in reducing the overall burden of the disease," the former presidential chief of staff said.

Defensor pointed out that when the program was last updated, the Philippines had an annual average of only 185,008 dengue cases and 732 deaths over a five-year period.

"It is very likely that mosquitos are breeding at alarming rates due to harsh climate

change," said Defensor, who was secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources during the time of former president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

A Georgetown University

Medical Center study previously warned that "as many as a billion people could be newly exposed to disease-carrying mosquitoes by the end of the century because of global warming."









PAGE 1

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PAGE 1/

92-09-19

Climate change subject urged

By CHARISSA M. LUCI-ATIENZA

Believing that climate change is an "inter-generational" problem, Quezon City Rep. Precious Hipolito-Castelo said it is about time for the Department of Education (DepEd) to make mandatory a subject or course in climate change education for senior high school students.

"The consequences of climate change are inter-generational. Being an "intergenerational" problem, it is incumbent upon every Filipino to have the intergenerational responsibility to find solutions that will mitigate, if not totally eradicate, the looming effects of climate change." Hipplito-Castelo said.

climate change," Hipolito-Castelo said.

The former Quezon City councilor filed House Bill No. 5549 or the proposed Climate Change Education Act of 2019 to inculcate climate change awareness among the youth.

Hipolito-Castelo, vice chairperson of the House Committee on Interparliamentary Relations and Diplomacy, noted that the United Nations emphasized the importance of climate change education,



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Reversing soil erosion a must – UN

By Elmer N. Manuel @tribunephl_lmer

Although soils are essential for human wellbeing and the sustainability of life on the planet, they are threatened on all continents by natural erosion, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) said on World Soil Day, calling for their protection.

Healthy soils are the basis for healthy habitats for all living beings — they provide food, clean water, raw materials and various ecosystem services. But salinity, acidification and loss of biodiversity are just some of the threats that soils are currently facing.

This year's World Soil Day commemoration focuses on reversing soil erosion for our future.

"We are celebrating a treasure beneath our feet which hosts a quarter of the planet's biodiversity and provides about 95 percent of our food," said Eduardo Mansur, FAO's Director of the Land and Water Division.

Unsustainable agriculture practices and other improper land use changes, such as illegal deforestation, can accelerate erosion up to a thousand times, according to FAO.

Soil erosion affects soil health and productivity by removing the highly fertile topsoil and exposing the remaining soil as it decreases agricultural productivity, degrades ecosystem functions and amplifies hydrogeological risk, such as landslides or floods.

"Soil erosion can also cause significant losses in biodiversity, damage to urban and rural infrastructure and, in severe cases, lead to displacement of human populations," Mansur explained.

FAO spelled out that by 2050, it may reduce up to 10 percent of crop yields, which is equivalent to removing millions of hectares of land from crop production.

"We must stop soil erosion to save our future," stressed Mansur. "It takes up to 1,000 years to form

one centimeter of top soil, but this one centimeter can be lost with just one heavy rainfall if soil cover is not protected."



Business Insight





12 - 09 - 19

With climate discontent rising, scientists warn of social 'tipping point'

MADRID. - With young climate activists taking to the streets of Madrid on Friday, the UN climate chief and a leading scientist warned of a growing risk of social unrest as the effects of a warming world worsen inequality and poverty worldwide.

Speaking on the sidelines of a UN climate summit in the Spanish capital, they said governments were so far failing to meet growing public demands for urgent action to halt rising global temperatures and curb the damage as extreme weather intensifies and melting ide pushes up sea-levels. "It's clear -, and this is very painful to recognize - that the political leadership in the world is lagging behind the sentiments among youth (as well as) the state of science and even what business leadership thinks,' said Johan Rockström, director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research.

Speaking to journalists on Friday in Madrid, Swedish teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg said the global movement she inspired, of students skipping school on Fridays to demand their governments tackle climate change, had raised public awareness over the past 18 months.

"But basically nothing has happened. The climate crisis is still being ignored by those in power," she said, pointing to still-rising planet-warming emissions.

She said she hoped the Madrid conference would "lead to something concrete".

"We cannot afford any more days going by without real action," she said, adding that people were already "suffering and dying from the climate and ecological emergency".

'SOCIAL UNREST'

Rockström, as part of an international team of scientists, highlighted how the world may be nearing a "social tipping point" on climate change that could bring about rapid and exponential changes in behavior, lifestyles and technologies.

An analysis published on Friday, entitled "10 New Insights in Climate Science 2019," noted that public opinion polls indicate an increasing number of citizens in a range of countries are seriously concerned about climate change.

Meanwhile, recent large-scale civil protests are getting close to a size where social scientists predict governments could be forced into action, according to the analysis put together by several climate research organizations.

In September, at the time of a UN climate action summit in New York, more than 7 million people turned out in cities worldwide to call for renewed political efforts to limit global warming to a lower agreed goal of 1.5 degrees Celsius.

UN climate chief Patricia Espinosa acknowledged on Friday that the world is "not where we need to be", with global average temperatures currently on track for a rise of 3 degrees or more above pre-industrial times.

The new analysis warned that failure to address and adapt to climate change would have disastrous consequences for hundreds of millions of people, mainly the very poorest, who are most vulnerable to climate-related disasters like floods and drought.

Espinosa, a former diplomat for Mexico, warned that climate change, as a "threat multiplier" would deepen problems of social inequality and poverty around the world.

"It is really an issue that is very closely related to the wellbeing of societies, and in that regard you can understand that it is very likely to create social unrest," she said in response to a question from the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Globally, there is widespread dissatisfaction with institutions and systems, she noted.

Protests - sometimes violent have erupted from France to Chile in the past year, often provoked by a perceived political insensitivity to ordinary people's struggles for

That struggle is also hampered by environmental degradation, analysts said.

Addressing climate change is

"one way" to work on those problems, Espinosa said.

MORAL PRESSURE?

At the UN conference, young climate activists staged a "Fridays for Future" sit-in to show their unhappiness with the slow pace of political action. They were joined by their figurehead Thunberg, who was mobbed by the media.

Rockström noted that, according to social scientists, when roughly 3.5% of a nation's population joins "civil and non-violent uprisings" it can be enough to force change, even in a dictatorship.

In Germany, numbers at the climate demonstrations on Sept. 20 were estimated at nearly 2% of the population, and in New Zealand at 3.5%, he said.

"If you start seeing an uprising ... there will be an enormous pressure for the political leadership to step up and start acting," he said - though he noted it "can also be quite challenging along the way".

He questioned whether, at some point, it would start to become morally unacceptable to cause people's deaths with car exhaust, as happened with cigarette smoking.

In New Delhi, at some times of the year, young people are inhaling toxic pollution equivalent to smoking 10 cigarettes a day, killing over 7,000 people a year in the city, he noted. - Reuters









12-09-19

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Climate change ang pinakamalaking banta sa kalusugan ng mundo

NG Climate change ang pinakamalaking banta sa pandaigdigang kalusugan sa ika-21 siglo, ayon sa World Health Organization (WHO).

Sa ulat na lumabas kamakailan, sinabi ng WHO na tungkulin ng mga health professional na protektahan ang mga tao mula sa epekto ng klima, paglaganap ng nakahahawang mga sakit, at ang epekto ng malnutrisyon gayundin kung paano lulunasan ang mga taong apektado ng sakit na cancer at ng iba pang mga 'di- nakahahawang sakit na dulot ng polusyon sa kalikasan.

Layunin ng ulat na maitaas at maipalaganap ang kaalaman hinggil sa epekto sa kalusugan ng climate change.

Nanawagan din ang WHO sa global health community na tumulong sa panawagan para sa isang malakas, matatag at epektibong kasunduan hinggil sa problema sa pagbabago ng klima.

Hangad ng kasunduang ito na mabawasan ang climate change at mapaganda ang kalusugan sa mundo, kabilang ang pagbaba ng bilang ng mga kaso ng pagkamatay mula sa sakit na cancer at respiratory at cardiovas cular na sakit na dulot ng polusyon sa hangin.

Tuon din ng kasunduan na makapag-ambag sa pagpapaunlad at implementasyon ng mga panuntunan sa paglilimita sa climate change at protektahan ang bansa, komunidad at lugar ng trabaho.

Anadolu/PNA









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Guarding Puerto Galera's marine resources

Hailed as one of the country's top diving spots, Puerto Galera is regarded by conservationists as the "center of the center of marine biodiversity" with its remarkable aquatic life in the heart of the world's "Coral Triangle" in Southeast Asia. Its bay is sanctuary to 152 coral species, over 180 species of nudibranches and 19 mangrove species, as well as nine out of the world's 16 seagrass species.

seagrass species.

The resort town in Oriental Mindoro was named in 1973 as a UNESCO Man and Biosphere Reserve and inducted in 2005 into the Most Beautiful Bays of the World Club, a 27-nation UNESCO-sanctioned Parisbased non-government orga-

nization.

It is for this reason that Metro Pacific Investments Corp. and the Municipal Government of Puerto Galera recently launched the Marine Protection, Inspection and Conservation (MPIC) Guardians Program as part of the conglomerate's decade-old private-public partnership.

Nine fishermen and Bantay Dagat members from the local government unit committed themselves in protecting, inspecting, and conserving both marine and coastal life under Shore It Up, the environmental flagship program of MPIC.

The newly inducted MPIC Guardians underwent two phases of training sessions in

preparation for their environmental deputization, which included an open water scuba diving certification.

Based on memorandum of understanding with Puerto Galera, Metro Pacific has committed P1.5 million over three years to provide the local Bantay Dagat with the technical knowhow through scuba diving training, uniforms and equipment such as global positioning system (GPS) trackers, GoPro Hero 7s, two-way radios, and search lights, to better protect the town's aquatic resources.

"The Marine Protection, Inspection and Conservation Guardians of Puerto Galera will pioneer the alliance of Marine Guardians patrolling

the Verde Island Passage with other key areas like Marinduque, Tingloy, and Mabini in Batangas," says president of Metro Pacific Investments Foundation Inc. Melody del Rosario, who presided over the launch.

She added that the 10year old Shore It Up program looks forward to more years in championing nature, anchored on a shared vision in the pursuit of environmental sustainability.

Puerto Galera vice mayor Marlon Lopez expressed its thanks to the conglomerate chaired by Manuel V. Pangilinan for partnering with the municipal government in this environmental endeavor.

"We are grateful that they



MPIC Puerto Galera marine guardians

were given the opportunity to be responsible for protecting marine and coastal life, because that is what Puerto Galera can be proud of," he said.



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Youth propose transformative actions at school

biodiversity forum

PLANT a tree, reduce plastic use, and raise awareness among communities on the importance of biodiversity.

These are the transformative actions students aged 14 to 16 suggested at a recent school biodiversity forum at Liceo de Los Baños in Laguna.

The students suggested both individual and community actions.

With access to information and knowledge on biodiversity, the students also acknowledged their potential to raise awareness among communities on the importance of biodiversity in providing food, shelter, livelihood, among others, and the need to protect it.

Asean Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) Public Relations Specialist Niña Calleja encouraged the youth to follow through with their proposed actions.

"You, the youth, have so many reasons to participate in actions toward protecting biodiversity. You have a bigger stake in this, with more years ahead of you in this time of climate change and biodiversity loss," Calleja said.

. The school had invited ACB to hold the biodiversity forum.

Calleja talked about the richness of biodiversity in the Southeast Asian region and the Philippines. Despite occupying just 3 percent of the Earth's surface area, the region is home to 18 percent of all known plants and species.



SOME of the student participants and ACB guests at the biodiversity forum in Liceo de Los Baños, Laguna.

Meanwhile, the Philippines is one of the world's 18 mega-diverse countries, containing two-thirds of the Earth's biodiversity, and between 70 percent and 80 percent of the world's plant and animal species.

Calleja also spoke about the threats to biodiversity like pollution, climate change, and habitat destruction. She emphasized the need for both individual and coordinated actions to protect biodiversity, and elaborated on how these are interconnected.

"Your individual actions have a regional and global impact that affects all of us," Calleja said.

She added that coordinated regional actions are important as many environmental

issues go beyond nations' boundaries, like plastic pollution in the ocean.

She shared about the work of ACB in coordinating and facilitating the actions of Asean member-states in halting biodiversity loss in the region.

Meanwhile, ACB Executive Director Theresa Mundita Limlauded the students in their proposed actions for biodiversity, highlighting the role of the youth.

"With their boundless energy and enthusiasm, the youth have long been partners in biodiversity conservation," she sald. She cited as an example the youth who are engaged under the ACB's Asean Youth Biodiversity Programme (AYBP) in a one-year biodiversity

leadership programme.

Otheryouthunder the AYBP had internships at Asean Heritage Parks. AHPs are protected areas of high conservation importance. The AYBP is part of the European Union-financed project Biodiversity Conservation and Management of Protected Areas in Asean (BCAMP) being implemented by the ACB.

Lim also emphasized the importance of reaching out to different sectors and audiences with ACB's work. "We want to engage stakeholders across platforms, from high-level meetings at international stages to fora organized by schools and communities, like this school biodiversity forum," she said.

Two days before the school forum, Lim spoke at the 23rd Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice in Montreal, Canada, during the side event "Catalysing Regional Cooperation for the Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework."

She talked about the rich biodiversity in the Asean region and the need for regional and subregional cooperation in protecting biodiversity and in developing the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, a new paradigm to safeguard nature and its contributions to human well-being.

Around 500 participants representing 118 countries attended the five-day Montreal conference.



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12-09-19

LRWC ends talks with Galaxy, drops plans for Boracay casino

By Denise A. Valdez Reporter

LEISURE & Resorts World Corp. (LRWC) is dropping its plan to build a casino on its 23-hectare property in Boracay, as the company is no longer in talks with Galaxy Entertainment Group for the project.

In a chance interview last week, LRWC Acting Chairman Eusebio H. Tanco said the company is no longer looking at building a casino when asked by reporters for updates on the planned \$550-million integrated resort.

"Wala na... We are not looking at casino. But I'm keeping that piece of land," he said after the Philippine Stock Exchange Bell Awards 2020 press conference in Bonifacio Global City.

"I'll just hold on to that piece of land, but I'm not going to do a casino there. I'll just land-bank it," Mr. Tanco added LRWC bought the parcels of land in Boracay in 2017 for the planned million-dollar resort development. It was supposed to partner with Macau-based casino giant Galaxy Entertainment Group for the casino component of the resort.

"Wala na muna
[There are no more talks for now]. We'll just land-bank it, then we wait for opportunities," he said, referring to talks with Galaxy.

Mr. Tanco said LRWC will instead focus on retail and its core businesses in 2020.

"You have Shangri-La Mactan, they're doing very well without a casino. I have a joint venture with Ayala in Mactan, wala rin casino [there's also no casino]. We're building a huge resort complex without a casino. I'm not a casino guy kasi eh. Leave the casino to the casino players,"

he said, explaining LRWC's decision to withdraw the Boracay casino plan.

LRWC was initially planning to open the Boracay resort in 2021.

The project, however, encountered obstacles as the planned casino drew negative reactions

from various stakeholders including President Rodrigo R. Duterte.

With the suspension of the casino plan, Environment Undersecretary Benny D. Antiporda said the department is happy as Boracay is better off without the gambling facility.

"If indeed it is true that they will no longer push through with their casino project, we consider it a positive development, for in this administration we are really eager to convert Boracay Island into a family-oriented tourism area, not a party place to vices like gambling

and intoxicating drinking," he said in a text message on Sunday.

Meanwhile, Mr. Tanco said LRWC's is expecting to complete next month the redemption of all its preferred shares worth P1.65 billion.

"We have internal resources...
We should be able to redeem everything by January," he said.

The company told the stock exchange in October it was buying all its outstanding preferred shares where the redeemed shares "will be treated as Treasury Shares until and unless the shares are retired or reissued."

Once the transaction is completed the company's foreign ownership would go down to 18.37% from 18.43% as of end-September.

Earnings of LRWC was slashed to P23.56 million in the first nine months of 2019 from P266.04 million in the year prior due to a slowdown in its casino and online businesses.







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SM Prime to proceed with Pasay reclamation project



SM Prime will start reclaiming 360 hectares of land on Manila Bay.

SM Prime Holdings Inc. (SM Prime), one of the largest integrated property developers in Southeast Asia, has officially received from the City of Pasay the notice to proceed (NTP) for the 360-hectare reclamation project within the city's municipal waters.

This new reclamation project in Pasay City will be connected to the Mall of Asia (MoA) Complex, which is also a reclaimed-land project of both parties and turned into a vibrant business district featuring world-class mall, offices, residences, entertainment arena, 5-star hotel and convention center.

As the City's joint venture partner, SM Prime will undertake to develop the actual raw land reclamation and horizontal development works. The company has finalized selection of consultants and contractors from a roster of reputable companies with proven global reclamation and dredging experience to ensure proper and responsible implementation of the project.

"We have complied with all the requirements of national agencies and secured all the required permits and clearances to enable SM Prime to commence with the reclamation project. We expect thousands of job opportunities to be generated in the process, and to also contribute significantly to both local and national development," SM Prime president Jeffrey Lim said.

SM Prime remains committed to its role as a catalyst for economic growth, delivering innovative and sustainable lifestyle cities, thereby enriching the quality of life of millions.







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12 - 09 - 19

DATE

PAGE I/

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SM Prime tuloy ang Pasay reclamation project

NATANGGAP ng SM Prime Holdings Inc. (SM Prime) mula sa Pasay City ang notice to proceed project (NTP) para sa 360-ektaryang proyektong reclama-tion sa loob ng municipal waters.

Ang bagong recla-mation project sa Pasay ay konektado sa Mall of Asia (MOA) complex, na isa ring reclaimed-land project ng parehong grupo, at naging isang masigasig na distrito ng negosyo na nagtatam-pok ng world-class mall tanggapan, tirahan, entertainment arena, fivestar hotel, at convention

Bilang joint venture ng siyudad, gagawa ang SM Prime upang mabuo ang aktwal na raw land

reclamation at horizon-tal development works.
"We have complied with all the require-ments of national agen-cies and secured all the required permits and clearances to ena-ble SM Prime to com-mence with the recble SM Prime to commence with the reclamation project. We expect thousands of job opportunities to be generated in the process, and to also contribute significantly to both local and national development," pahayag ni SM Prime president Jeffrey Lim.

Isinapinal ng kompanya ang pagpili ng mga consultant at mga kontratista mula sa

kontratista mula sa isang roster ng mga respetadong kompanya na may napatunayan na



sa global reclamation at may karanasan sa pag-huhukay upang matiyak ang maayos at responsableng pagpapatupad ng

pleng pagpapatupad ng proyekto.

Ang SM Prime ay nananatiling nakatuon sa kanyang tungkulin bilang isang pangunahing katangian para sa paglago ng ekonomiya, na naghahatid ng mga makabago at napapanatiling pamumuhay na natiling pamumuhay na natiling pamumuhay na mating pamumuhay na mga lungsod, sa gayon ay nugpayaman sa ka-lidad ng buhay ng mil-yon-milyong mga tao. (Mina Aquino)



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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (632) 929-66-26 to 29 • (632) 929-62-52
Website: http://www.depr.gov.ph / E-mail: web@denr.gov.ph

December 02, 2019

DENR ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER No. 2019- 22

SUBJECT: ADOPTION OF THE FORESTRY INVESTMENT ROAD MAP (FIRM)

Pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 705 (Revised Forestry Code of the Philippines) as amended, Executive Order No. 318 (Promoting Sustainable Forest Management in the Philippines), Philippine Master Plan for Climate Resilient Forestry Development, and Republic Act No. 11032, Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018; and in support to attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals which balances the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, the Forestry Investment Road Map (FtRM) 2018-2028, attached hereto as Annex A, is hereby adopted.

The FIRM is the country's blueprint to encourage private sector investments in forestry. It will provide an avenue to haster the country's progress, and socio-economic development through the optimization and wise use of forestlands under the purview of sustainable forest management.

The FIRM sims to revitable forestry investments through local and foreign direct investments in an environmentally-sound, economically-viable and socially-responsible manner towards inclusive growth and sustainable development. It will also protoche guidelines on how industrial-level partnerships can be strengthened to transform the production forests into a significant contributor to the national economy.

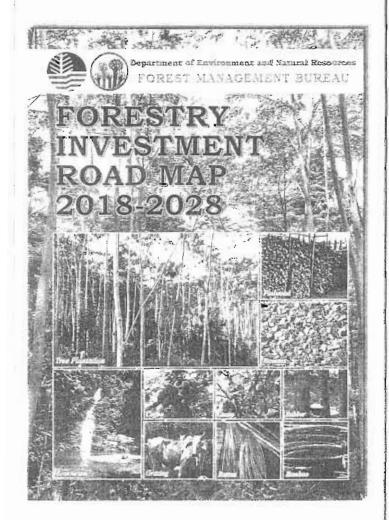
The DENR Regional Offices shall implement, monitor and submit the necessary report on FIRM accomplishments to the DENR Central Office copy furnished the Forest Management Bureau.

All Department Orders, Circulars, and other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby revised, repealed and/or modified accordingly

This Order shall take effect immediately

ROY A. CIMATU Secretary





^{*} The full text of the Forestry Investment Road Map 2018-2028 can be accessed through the official website of the Forest Management Bureau at https://forestry.denr.gov.ph.



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PT - Nov. 18, 25, Dec. 2, 0, 16 & 23, 2019



Poputations Planins
Kagawaran ng Kapalighan of Ukes Yamas
PANINANSANA PUNDNA REINYON
Landon, East Avenue, Librana, Langua

PAGBERENTA NG PAMPUBLIKONG LUPA

atherid na Dz ey ipśnego ekslocob bilang partursey na ang Department of Er-tens hastional Capital Region, Petrotts and Deods Section, sinistered as To der No. 38, 19 April 1990, ay magdisignoron ag bilans as <u>GENPAICR</u>, Wi-erstrus, Oliman, Ocusian City, as permanegation of iseng seeded belofus; montass no 500g6 sa Na-10 ng unsupa ng 24 MAR 2020, ag lug-haritaswaren ng mga samurasulose.

BILANDNS	PANGALAN NE APLIKANTE	BILANG HO LOTE/PLANO	SUKATING LOTE SA METRO KLAWADRANG	LUPA NIDA METRI METRI METAYADRADO	KABUUAHG HALAGANG EUPA	HALAGANG NEW ISTRACTION
IGPSA No. 007607-2049	AVALYN C. LANDICAN	Lot 13, Block 10 Phi-00 10088-1	60 stm.	Phys 40.00	Php. 8,400.00	80,000.00

Any miga bid ay dapat no selecto at tiapot issente sa nasalating Cibiasyon, mismo o bago sa Itinalague orea at perso sa Itana at minarkahan na "fict for Land Described in MSA/IGPSA No. 0076077-2019 Any mga Bid sa pagbil ay dispat issente sa pamanagitan ng pera, moreny orden, treasury warma sartipitaciong toeke, cabler's scheck o manager's check ng nagbasah-blaga ng harnigt hautulang's sampung porsiyento (10%) ng isinuntaing turing, Kung ang bumbin ay na lo basin nag karistan direpositong halaga bilang abok sa apagbil, ngarit natukay na ang pasabaratases na bodon, an katumbas na depositos pasabaratase nato ora nagbasahanan na direpositong halaga bilang abok sa apagbil, ngarit natukay na ang pasabaratases na bodon, an bubaba sa kabuwba sa pagbil kung kinakalangan.

ATTY: ALVEN JOSEPH Q. CONSTANTING Ohlef, Licenses Patients and George Division PT - Nov. J.B. 28, Dec. 2, 8, 18 & 22, 2019



me.



PAGE 1/

PAGEI

12-09-19

DATE

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 DENTRICA Licenses, Patents and Deeds Devianon, National Replace Corner, Deliman, College, Cluster Capital Ca

APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	LOT NO./ BLK NO./ PLAN NO.	AREA IN SQ.M	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	VALUE OF	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607- 1994	TRINIDAD C. CARMONA	Lot 28/ Blk.13 Psd- 00-036894	90 sq m.	Php140.00	Php 8,400.00	Php 300,000.00
	1.03				44)	

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the obove-mentioned Division on or effore the hour and date stated above and plainly marked. "Bid for Land Described in MSA/SA/IGPSA No. 00750-11945" Bids must be accompanied with cash, morrough, registry warrant, certified check, cashier's check or manager's check for a unit equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is withdrawn effect the highest beddes to determined, the corresponding deposit therefore shak 36 farfeited to the overnment. No bid shad be less than the apprecised value of the land. The right's reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines_

J . Nov. 18, 25 Dec. 2, 9, 16 .- 23, 2019



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

SALE OF PUBLIC LANDS

Notice is hereby given that the Cepartment of Environment and Natural Assources, National Capital Region, Patents and Deeds Section, in pursuance to Administrative Occer No. 38 dated 19 April 1990, will seel at DENRAGE, Licenses, Patents on Deeds Division, National Cooley Center, East Avenue, Dillings, Ocean City, through sealed bidding to the highest bodge at 10:00 A.M. on MAR 10, 2020, the stact of fairc situated in Brys. Western Blostan (Pignarsama), Taguig City which are specifically described below to wit:

	APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANY		AREA IN SQ.M.	APPRAISED VALUED PER SQ.M	TOTAL VALUE OF LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
1	GPSA NO. 007607- 870	VERMINA O. MCKENNA	Lot 16 8lock 1, Psd-00- 036894	#4- 14- 14- 14- 14- 14- 14- 14- 14- 14- 1	P140.00	P11.760.00	P2C0,000.00
							Distance of

Quezon City, Philippines______ ATTY ATVINIOSEPH G. CONSTANTINO OIC, Licenses, Patents and Deeds Division

PJ - Nov. 18, 25 Dec. 2, 9, 16 and 23, 2019



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Erwinonment and Natural Resources
MATIONAL 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 Resource. National Capital Region, Patents and Deeds Section, in pressures to Authinistration Order No. 38 dated 19 April 1990, will sell at DENR-NOR. Liepenses, Patents Design Division, National Coology Center, Piet Avenue, Diffman, Coepon, City, City sealed bidding to the highest bidder at 10:03 A.M. on 10 MAR 2020, the that of its Stuated. In Britz, Visafore, Bisstan (Pignagasma), Tagving City which are signalistic described below to with

APPLICATION NUMBER	NAME OF APPLICANT	PLAN NO.	SQ.M	PER SQ.M	LAND	TOTAL VALUE OF IMPROVEMENT
IGPSA NO. 007607- 2087	JOSIEMA L. FARNACIO	Lot 8, Block 2, Psd-00- 036894	116.90 sq.m.	Php140.00	Php 16,366.00	Php 3,800,000.00
		.53		N	Sind	

All bids must be sealed and submitted to the above-me before the hour and date stated above and plainly marked in MSA/SA/GPSA No. DOFF07-2987 Bids must be accompander, treasury warrant, certified check, cashier's check or sum equivalent to 10% of the bid. Then a bid is windrawn is determined, the corresponding deposit therefore sha government, No bid shall be less than the appraised value is reserved to reject any or all bids.

Quezon City, Philippines_

PJ - Nov. 18, 25 Dec. 2, 9, 18 and 23, 2019



DATE

12-09-19

NAGNGANGALIT ang ating Uzi makaraan nitong mabalitaan na pinagbabaril ng mga riding-in-tandem ang lalaki at babae na inagawan nila ng bag sa Quezon City nitong nagdaang araw.

Namatay ang lalaki samantalang nasa ospital pa sa tama ng mga bala ang babaeng kasama nito na siyang inagawan ng bag.

Naganap ang pangyayari sa kanto ng Panay Avenue at Scout Reyes sa Brgy. Paligsahan.

Ang lugar ay nasa pagitan ng Timog Avenue at Capitol Medical Center.

PUREGOLD

Kamakailan lang, sa kanto rin ng Scout Borromeo at Panay na naroroon ang Puregold, isang kasamahan nating reporter ang biglang inagawan din ng bag mismo sa parking area ng nasabing grocery store.

Anak ng tokwa, galing sa Puregold ang biktima na namili ng kanyang kailangan at nang mabuksan na ang driver's side at pasakay na ito, dito na hinablot ang kanyang bag na naglalaman ng nasa P100,000 na pampasahod sa kanyang mga empleyado.

Lumaban ang biktima ngunit hindi siya nanaig dahil babae at lalaki na may armas din ang umagaw ng kanyang bag

Nang mag-usisa sa laman ng CCTV ng Puregold ang biktima, hindi pala abot ng video ang parteng iyon ng parking lot kaya walang nakuhang video.

Kung gabi nangyari ang sa mag-partner na pinagbabaril, araw naman nang mangyari ang panghahablot ng armado sa bag ng kasamahan natin.

2 MOTORSIKLO

Dalawang motorsiklo na may tigdalawang sakay ang gumawa ng krimen.

Ayon sa mga saksi, kakain sana ang mga biktima sa isang restoran pero nagsasara na iyon kaya umalis na lang sila at maghanap ng makakainan sa ibang lugar.

Dito na sumulpot ang RIT at isinagawa ang krimen.

Tumakas ang mga



TAY TALAGANG

kriminal nang wala nang nakakilala sa kanila.

Malayang nagawa ang krimen dahil karaniwang walang gumagalang mga barangay tanod at pulis sa Panay Avenue sa disoras ng gabi.

May nakuha namang video ng CCTV sa lugar ngunit hindi pa natin alam kung bakit hindi nakaresponde ang mga opisyal ng barangay at barangay tanod sa lugar.

Karaniwan namang reklamo ng mga taga-barangay na hindi sila basta makapagresponde sa ganitong sitwasyon dahil batuta lamang din ang kanilang sandata.

CHECKPOINT

Dito natin nakikita ang kahinaan ng mga checkpoint ng mga pulis.

Karaniwang sa mga pangunahing lansangan isinasagawa ng checkpoint at nagiging dahilan pa nga ito ng mga trapik.

Ang pangunahing kalsada sa lugar na binabanggit natin ay ang Quezon Avenue na muja sa Welcome Rotunda hanggang sa Quezon Memorial Circle.

Hindi mangangahas na magdala ng baril ang mga RIT sa ganitong mga lugar.

Maliban lang kung ang mga RIT ay mga pulis o military kaya gaya ng 12 Pares noon na pawang mga pulis ang miyembro at mga nagdedeposito at nagwi-withdraw sa mga bangko ang tinatarget at pinapatay sa kalsada sabay agaw sa mga salapi ng mga biktima.

Pero wais ang mga RIT, dumaraan ang mga ito sa mga lugar na hindi pinupwestuhan ng mga parak.

Sa ibang salita, dapat na ang ronda at checkpoint ay isasali rin ang mga hindi tinataong lugar na karaniwang daanan ng mga RIT.

BITAY SA KALSADA

Sinasadya ng mga RIT ang estilong kung manlaban ang kanilang biktima ay pinapatay nila.

Hindi na mabilang sa daliri ang ganitong mga

Kahit hindi manlaban ang mga biktima, inuuna-han nilang barilin ang mga ito bago nila gawin ang gusto nilang pagnanakaw o panghoholdap at nagaganap ito sa mga holdapan sa mga bangko.

Nangangahulugan na halang ang kaluluwa

ng mga ito.

Kaya naman, kung matiyempuhan sila ng mga pulis, dapat na bitayin na lamang din sila sa mga lansangan.

Lalo na kung ayaw magpahuli ang mga ito at makipagbarilan.

Nakaiiyak isipin, sa maraming pagkakataon, na itinuturing pa silang inosente ng batas bago sila mahatulang nagka-

At marami ang mga pagkakataon na nakapagpipiyansa pa ang mga ito hanggang sa mapawalang-sala sila sa galing ng kanilang mga abogado o sa suhol sa mga kinauukulan.

BATAS SA BITAY DAPAT BUHAYIN

Kung ayaw ng mga taga-Human Rights na mabitay agad sa lansangan ang mga salarin na itinuturing nilang inosente hangga't hindi sila idiriedeklarang guilty ng Supreme Court, lalo na, dapat suportahan nila ang mga nakabinbing panukalang batas para sa parusang bitay Kamara at Senado.

Hindi sila dapat kontra nang kontra dahil para sa kapakanan ito ng taumbayan.

Ang bitay ang ganap na tatapos sa pagiging demonyo ng mga RIT at bumibiktima karaniwan sa mga inosenteng mamamayan at naghahapbuhay nang maayos para lang mabuhay.

Anomang reaksyon o reklamo, maaaring iparating sa 0922840-3333 o i-ernail sa bantiporda@ vahoo, com.