

DATE : 12-27-19

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DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



DENR bullish on meeting biodiversity goals

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said it is optimistic in hitting all its 2019 targets of protecting the country's rich biological diversity, despite being preoccupied with the rehabilitation works in Manila Bay and Boracay.

In a statement on Thursday, Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu said that the DENR's Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) is expected to surpass its 2019 targets in the areas of cave assessment and issuance of wildlife permits as early as last October.

"This is palpable evidence that the DENR is not only focused in the rehabilitation of Manila Bay and Boracay, but also in the conservation of the country's flora and fauna," Cimatu said.

He said the DENR never missed out in fully enforcing Republic Act 9147 or the "Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001," which aims to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity, and regulate the collection and trade of wildlife species.

As of October this year, the BMB has assessed 52 caves or equivalent to

137 percent of the annual target of 38.

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

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

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

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

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

EIREENE JAIREE GOMEZ



DENR to hit biodiversity conservation targets

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is on track to achieve all its 2019 goals in terms of biodiversity conservation as the agency was able to do its job of protecting the country's rich biological diversity.

Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu reported that the DENR, through its Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), said the agency has surpassed its targets in the areas of cave assessment and issuance of wildlife permits as early as last October despite also being busy with the rehabilitation works in Manila Bay and Boracay.

"This is palpable evidence that the DENR is not only focused in the rehabilitation of Manila Bay and Boracay, but also in the conservation of the country's flora and fauna," Cimatu said.

He added that the DENR never wavered in fully enforcing Republic Act 9147, or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001, which aims to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity, and regulate the collection and trade of wildlife species.

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TIO @tribunephil_3na



DENR meets biodiversity targets

THE Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) said it has surpassed its 2019 targets for biodiversity preservation.

Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) exceeded its targets for cave assessment and the issuance of wildlife permits as early as October.

"This is palpable evidence that the DENR is not only focused on the rehabilitation of Manila Bay and Boracay, but also in the conservation of the country's flora and fauna," he said in a statement.

The DENR noted that the BMB assessed 52 caves, compared to its annual target of 38. It has also issued 7,926 various permits for handling, collecting, exporting and farming wildlife, against the target of 4,026.

The bureau's Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal

Wildlife (Task Force POGI) also confiscated 72 animals and 15.6 kilograms of agarwood. This task force includes personnel from the BMB, the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), and the Philippine National Police (PNP).

It also maintained 42 wildlife rescue centers, 89% more than the target, and 384 ecotourism facilities, 98% more than the target, across the country.

Republic Act No. 9147, or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Preservation Act, charges the department with conserving and protecting "the country's wildlife resources and their habitats for sustainability," as well as to promote ecological balance and improve biological diversity, and to regulate the collection and trade of wildlife. — **Vincent Mariel P. Galang**



DENR maabot ang 2019 biodiversity conservation target

Positibo ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na maabot nito ang 2019 biodiversity conservation target para mabigyan ng proteksiyon ang mayamang biological diversity ng bansa sa kabila ng sabay-sabay na isinasagawang rehabilitasyon sa Manila Bay at Boracay Island.

Sinabi ni Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu na sa pamamagitan ng Biodiversity

Management Bureau (BMB) ay maaabot ng DENR ang layunin nito sa 2019 partikular na sa biodiversity conservation kung saan ay nalampasan nito ang target sa larangan ng "cave assessment" at pagpapalabas ng wildlife permit sa buwan pa lang ng Oktubre.

"This is palpable evidence that the DENR is not only focused in the rehabilitation of Manila Bay and Boracay, but also in the conservation of

the country's flora and fauna," sabi ni Cimatu.

Aniya, hindi tumitigil ang DENR sa pagpapatupad ng Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001.

Layunin ng batas na ito na mapangalagaan at maprotektahan ang wildlife species at ang kanilang tirahan para magkaroon ng 'ecological balance' at mapalakas ang biological diversity.

Nitong nakalipas na Ok-

tubre, ang BMB ay nakapagsuri ng 52 kuweba o mas mataas ng 137% sa taunang target na 38.

Sa pamamagitan naman ng Philippine Operation Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife o Task Force POGI ay nakakumpiska ang ahensiya ng 72 na iba't ibang uri ng wildlife species at 15.6 kilograms ng agarwood (*Aquilaria spp.*) sa magkakahiwalay na operasyon sa bansa. **(Riz Dominguez)**



DENR nalagpasan ang target sa cave assessment at wildlife permits

NALAGPASAN ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang mga target nito sa larangan ng cave assessment at issuance ng wildlife permits, Oktubre pa lamang.

"This is palpable evidence that the DENR is not only focused in the rehabilitation of Manila Bay and Boracay, but also in the conservation of the country's flora and fauna," sinabi ni DENR Secretary Roy Cimatu.

Sinabi niya na patuloy ang pagpapatupad ng DENR ng Republic Act 9147, o mas kilala bilang Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001.

Nilalayon ng batas na i-observe at protektahan ang wildlife species at ang kanilang habitats para maitaguyod ang ecological balance at mapabuti ang biological diversity, at ma-regulate ang pangongolekta at pagkakatagal sa wildlife species.

Sa tala nitong Oktubre, in-assess ng BMB ang 52 kuweba o katumbas ng 137 porsiyento ng annual target na 38.

Sa pamamagitan ng Philippine Operations Group on Ivory and Illegal Wildlife (Task Force POGI), nakumpiska rin ng BMB ang kabuuang 72 ulo ng iba't ibang wildlife species, at 15.6 kilo ng agarwood (*Aquilaria spp.*) sa magkakaibang operasyon sa bansa.

Ang Task Force POGI ay isang composite team ng wildlife enforcers mula sa iba't ibang ahensiya kabilang na ang BMB, National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), at Philippine National Police.

Nag-isyu ang BMB ng kabuuang 7,926 wildlife permits, gaya ng gratuitous, wildlife farm, wildlife local transport, wildlife collector, import, export at re-export permits, gayundin ng certificates of wildlife registration, nalagpasan ang target na 4,026 ng 197 porsiyento.

Ang mataas na accomplishment ay iniugnay sa paglabs ng permits batay sa demand, paliwanag ng BMB.

Ngayong 2019, pinanindigan ng BMB ng 42 wildlife rescue centers at 384 ecotourism facilities nationwide, natamo ang 89 porsiyento at 98 porsiyento, ayon sa pagkakasunod, ng mga target.

Ellalyn De Vera-Ruiz



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DENR nagpaalala sa lilikhaing basura sa pagpasok ng bagong taon

Hinimok ni Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu ang mga Pilipino na tumulong bawasan ang negatibong epekto ng holiday season sa kapaligiran laluna sa pagsalubong sa bagong taon.

Sinabi ni Cimatu na bagama't ang panahong ito ang pinakamasayang pagdiriwang sa buong taon, hindi ito sang-ayon para sa kapaligiran dahil sa dulot nitong tambak na basura mula sa maraming mga patitipon.

Unang sinabi ni Cimatu na ang basurang nalikha sa Metro Manila sa unang kalahating bahagi ng 2019 na umabot na sa mahigit 66,000 cubic meters ay lampas na sa annual target na 58,112.31 cubic meters.

Inirekomenda ni Cimatu ang pag-iwas sa paggamit ng mga paputok na may malaking pinsala sa kapaligiran at sa mga tao.

Sa mga salu-salo, mainam anya ang paggamit ng mga plato at kubyertos na nahuhugasan sa halip na paper plates, at plastic cups, spoons at forks at para maiwasan ang sobrang pagkain, bumili o magluto lamang ng sapat at siguraduhin na mas marami ang gulay kaysa karne.

Sinabi ni Cimatu na ang karne ay may mas mataas na carbon footprint per calorie kung ikukumpara sa grain o vegetable products. (*Angie dela Cruz*)



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REMIND CITIZENS TO DISPOSE OF TRASH PROPERLY

THIS a rejoinder to "Practice 5 Rs to help the environment" (Letters, 12/17/19) by Pamela I. Claveria, MD.

During an evening walk-athon from my house in San Francisco del Monte Quezon City to the Roxas Boulevard Service Road in late December two years ago, I passed by the Luneta Park in Manila. Upon reaching the wide open space directly in front of Jose Rizal's monument, my heart sank. There was trash everywhere—empty water bottles and tetra packs, plastic cups,

candy wrappers, paper and plastic bags, plastic forks and spoons, barbecue sticks, used tissue paper, food containers and boxes, etc. Obviously, these were thrown or left behind by the park's visitors that day. The mere sight was disheartening, diminishing whatever holiday cheer I was feeling at that time.

I suggest to local government units and park managers that they set up public address systems in public parks and places (like Luneta, the Quezon Memorial Circle, etc.)

to blare out a brief but clear recorded announcement every 15 or 20 minutes urging everyone to pick up after themselves. Perhaps this is what a lot of holiday park-goers need to be reminded of—that they also have a responsibility to maintain the cleanliness of the premises, whether they are there to have a picnic or just to stroll around.

CLAUDE LUCAS DE CASTRO
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Truckloads of garbage collected at Rizal Park after Christmas

By Joel dela Torre

AN environment advocate yesterday said irresponsible littering acts should not be repeated on New Year's eve and during the upcoming vigil of the Translacion of the Black Nazarene on January 9 after truckloads of garbage were left by thousands of merry-makers in Rizal Park on Christmas Eve.

According to EcoWaste Coalition, like in the previous celebrations, these persistent littering by park visitors had again

shown no respect for the iconic place and to Mother Nature.

"While we thank the park maintenance workers for diligently sweeping up after the visitors, we despise the brazen littering by some uncaring people because this is not an OK thing to do," said Jove Benosa, campaigner for Zero Waste and EcoWaste Coalition.

He stressed that the Rizal Park was a picture of dumping place with plastic bags, bottles, cups and cutlery,

paper and Styrofoam food containers, and picnic were all over the place after the Christmas revelry.

"Litter is not only unsightly, but also unhygienic and polluting. Litter attracts flies and rats and causes the spread of diseases, while creating rotting smell from food waste. Litter, especially single-use plastic bags, can be blown or washed into waterways and the oceans, harming aquatic life," he said.

He cited RA 9003 or the Ecological Solid Waste

Management Act that bans littering and violators can be fined from P300 to P1,000 or asked to render one to 15-day community service or be required to pay the fine.

Manila City Ordinance 7866 prohibits and penalizes illegal disposal of garbage with a fine of P3,000 and/or imprisonment of 30 days or both upon the order of the court.

The EcoWaste Coalition is hopeful Filipinos who will go to Rizal Park to celebrate the New Year

or participate in the overnight vigil for the Black Nazarene, will be more considerate and responsible and in leaving the park with trash.

"Let's all cooperate in protecting Rizal Park and other green spaces from turning into virtual dumps by sticking with the eco-mantra 'take nothing but pictures, leave nothing but memories, kill nothing but time' and by just simply being respectful to fellow visitors and to Mother Earth," Benosa said.



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Zero food waste tinulak ni Lapid

Itinulak ni Senador Lito Lapid ang panukala para ipatupad ang sistema ng redistribution at recycling ng pagkain upang matiyak ang food security sa mga kapos-palad.

Sa Senate Bill No. 1242 na may titulong "Zero Food Waste Act", layon nito na itatag ang food banks, isang non-profit o charitable organization na mamamahagi ng pagkain sa mga mahihirap.

Ayon kay Lapid, dapat magkaroon ng polisiya sa food security sa pamamagitan ng pagtatag at pagmamantine ng epektibong regulatory system sa pagkain upang matugunan ang pangangailangan ng mga Pinoy, lalo na ang mahihirap.

Layon din ng panukala na ipamulat sa publiko ang epekto ng pagsasayang ng pagkain.

Sa ilalim ng panukala, ang National Nutrition Council, sa pakikipagtulungan sa Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Education (DepEd), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Health (DOH) at iba pang ahensiya ng gobyerno at local government unit ay kailangang magsagawa ng National Zero Food Waste Campaign upang mapalawak ang kamalayan sa kahihinatnan ng food waste.

Inaatasan din ang DepEd na isama sa education curriculum ang materyales tungkol sa food waste situation sa loob at labas ng bansa at kung paano mababawasan ang nasasayang na pagkain.



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Breaking bad habits

During Christmas, one of the most popular venues for family

outings is Rizal Park in Manila. And a common aftermath of such gatherings is the mountain of garbage left in the park.

So this year before Christmas, environmental groups together with the Manila city government and the National Parks Development Committee reminded people to take their garbage with them and dispose of the trash properly.

Typhoon Ursula dumped heavy rains in Metro Manila on Christmas Day, and by afternoon, the crowds had disappeared from Rizal Park. And yet Manila city officials reported that from Christmas Eve until yesterday morning, at least 60 metric tons of garbage were hauled from the park, with the bulk of 51 tons piling up from noon of Dec. 25.

City officials said this was way above the volume of garbage collected last year from the park during the same period. And the city is expecting more trash during the New Year's revelry.

This highlights one of the biggest factors behind the garbage problem in the country: bad habits. Public awareness of the importance of proper waste disposal is abysmal.

Filipinos generally keep their homes clean, but think nothing of

EDITORIAL

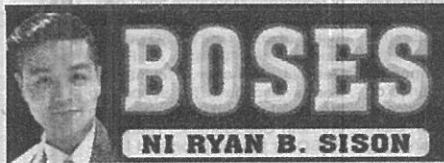
discarding trash everywhere else. This not-in-my-backyard

mindset is often compounded by the lack of garbage receptacles in public places as well as inefficient garbage collection systems.

Garbage is dumped anywhere, including in waterways, with the litterbugs thinking the trash would be washed away, never mind where, as long as it is far from their homes. The filthy habits cover all types of solid garbage – not just plastic but also metal, glass, paper, wood and pathological waste.

Those tasked to clean up Manila Bay have lamented that despite all their earnest efforts in recent months, tons of garbage continue to turn up in the water. Solid waste also continues to clutter street drains, aggravating flooding.

Can filthy habits be broken? New Year's resolutions won't be enough. The importance of proper garbage disposal must be inculcated in Filipinos at a young age, in schools and perhaps in community-based programs. This must be complemented by efficient waste management by the government as well as proper enforcement of laws against littering and improper waste disposal. With sustained effort on multiple fronts, it is possible to break bad habits.



Pasyalan, 'wag gawing malaking basurahan tuwing Pasko at Bagong Taon

NAGING tradisyon na ng ilang pamilyang Pinoy ang magdiwang ng Noche Buena at salubungin ang Pasko kasama ang pamilya sa mga pasyalan tulad ng Luneta sa Maynila at Quezon Memorial Circle sa Quezon City.

Kaya tulad ng inaasahan, sandamakmak na pamilya ang nagtungo sa mga nabanggit na pasyalan bitbit ang kanilang mga handa para pagsalu-saluhan.

Kaya para hindi na mag-uwi ng hugasin o maruruming kagamitan ay styro, plastic spoon and forks ang kanilang nagiging takbuan.

'Yun nga lang, pagkatapos ng salu-salo at kasiyahan, tila nakakalimutan ng ilan ang panawagan na iuwi rin kung ano ang dinala.

Sa kabila ng mga paulit-ulit na paalala, batay sa mga ulat, nagkalat ang mga styro, plastic bottle at utensil na senyales na hindi pa rin uso

ang reusable na kagamitan sa pagkain. May mga basurahan naman sa paligid at may nakalagay pang 'nabubulok' at 'hindi nabubulok', pero walang nage-segregate.

Gayundin, hindi na natapos ang mga park cleaner sa kalilinis ng mga basurang kinatamaran dalhin ng mga pumunta sa pasyalan.

Ayon sa MMDA, noong nakaraang taon, lagpas 10,000 ang nagbisperas ng Pasko sa Luneta at ngayong taon, lagpas 100 vendors naman ang pinayagang magbenta ngayong Kapaskuhan, pero nilinaw ng pinuno ng mga vendor na kaisa sila sa kalinisan.

Sa Quezon Memorial Circle naman, bagama't, naisilid na sa mga garbage bag ang mga basura, may ilan pa ring tila tinamad nang magbitbit ng kanilang kalat kaya iniwan na lang ang mga ito sa daanan.

Paliwanag ng grupong EcoWaste Coalition, hindi kailangang palalain ng selebrasyon ang problema sa basura.

Kung magkukusa sa pagse-segregate, pagre-reuse, pagre-recycle at composting, maging bahagi tayo ng solusyon at hindi ng problema.

Halimbawa, ang hindi na pagbalot sa mga regalo, pagtatabi ng mga balot ng regalo na natanggap upang makabawas sa mga packaging material na itinatapon lang, bukod pa sa iginigiit nilang bawasan na ang paggamit ng single-use plastics.

Wala namang masamang magsaya kasama ang pamilya, pero sana, 'wag nating isantabi ang mga problema. Kung kaya naman nating mag-recycle, gawin na natin ito hangga't may panahon pa.

Kung gusto n'yong mamasyal kasama ang inyong pamilya, 'wag kalimutang bitbitin ang disiplina.

Gayundin, 'wag tayong maging sakit ng ulo ng pamahalaan na makikita nating nagsisikap na maresolba ang problema sa basura.

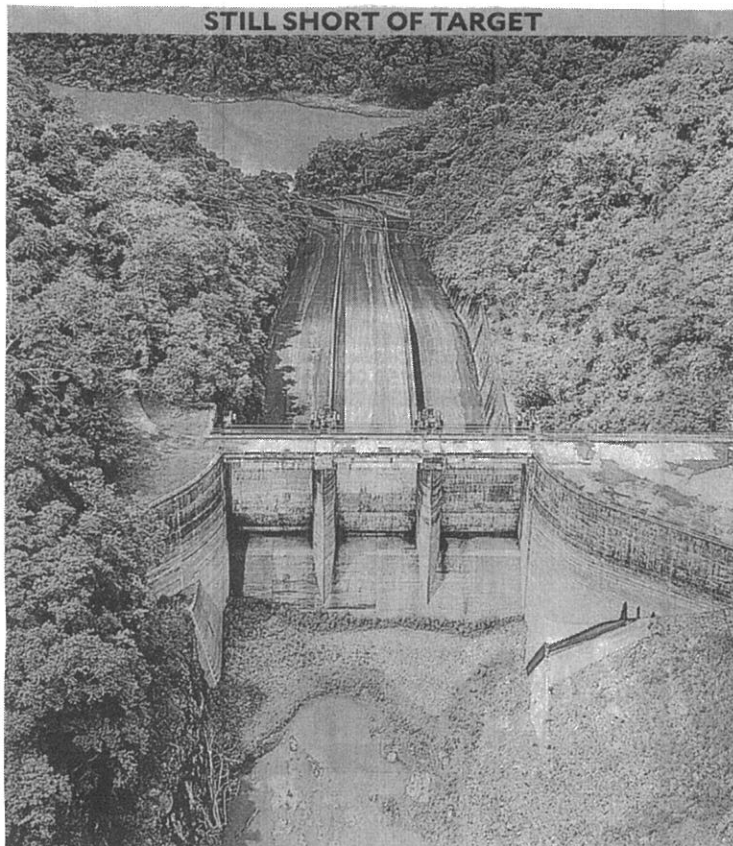


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STILL SHORT OF TARGET



MAJOR WATERSHED The water level at Angat Dam slightly increased on Thursday due to rains dumped by Typhoon "Ursula." —GRIG C. MONTEGRANDE

RAINS FROM 'URSULA' UP ANGAT DAM WATER LEVEL

CITY OF MALOLOS—The water level at Angat Dam in Bulacan province has risen to almost a meter due to rains dumped by Typhoon "Ursula" (international name: Phanfone) in the area.

But the record of 199.72 meters above sea level at 8 a.m. on Thursday was still short of the 212-masl target that would ensure sufficient water supply to Metro Manila residents and Central Luzon farmers.

Thursday's mark was slightly higher than the 198.90-masl level at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, data from the provincial disaster risk reduction and management office (PDRRMO) showed.

Liz Mungcal, head of the Bulacan PDRRMO, said they expected the dam's stock to rise due to intermittent light rains spread out over the reservoir.

Continuous rains within three to four days usually increase the dam level by a meter, she said.

The dam's elevation had risen to more than 10 meters since Nov. 29 when it was at 188.82

masl, which was near the operating norm of 180 masl.

On Dec. 2, the elevation rose to 189.05 masl but it dropped to 188.97 masl at 8 a.m. on Dec. 3, before rising to 189.35 masl at 5 p.m. on the same day.

Rains dumped by Typhoon "Tisoy" (international name: Kammuri) on Dec. 4 increased the dam's elevation by more than 3 m at 194.14 masl.

Earlier, Bulacan Gov. Daniel Fernando had asked Bulakenyos to implore divine intervention so that rains would fill the dam reservoir and reach its normal elevation at 210 masl.

The National Water Resources Board usually cuts the water supply to the National Irrigation Authority for the irrigation requirements of farmers in Bulacan and Pampanga when the dam level goes below 180 masl.

More than 90 percent of Metro Manila's water needs are sourced from Angat Dam while some 25,000 farmers depend on its water for their irrigation.

—CARMELA REYES-ESTROPE INQ



Finally, Angat water level rises

By RAMON EFREN LAZARO

MALOLOS – The rains spawned by Typhoon Ursula in the past three days have raised the water level of Angat Dam by more than a meter.

Records of the provincial disaster risk reduction and management office of Bulacan showed that water elevation at Angat Dam on Tuesday morning was at 198.71 meters. It

rose to 198.80 on Wednesday and to 199.72 meters yesterday for a total of 1.01 meters.

The water elevation of the dam as of yesterday morning was 19.72 meters above its minimum operating level of 180 meters, but still 12.28 meters below its ideal 212-meter

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end-of-year water level.

David Sevillo Jr., executive director of the National Water Resources Board (NWRB), told **The STAR** that for January, the board approved a 40-cubic meter per second (cms) allocation – from its normal 46 cms water allocation – for the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS).

It also allocated 10 cms for the irrigation supply to Bulacan and some parts of Pampanga's farmlands. The normal allocation to these areas is 30 cms.

The NWRB is closely monitoring the end-of-year elevation of Angat Dam and will modify its water allocations if water elevation improves, Sevillo added.

The water coming from Angat Dam supplies more than 90 percent of Metro Manila's

domestic water use and irrigates more than 17,000 hectares of farmlands in Bulacan and more than 9,000 hectares in Pampanga.

Early this year, the dam's water level went below its critical level of 160 meters, forcing the NWRB to cut the water allocation for Metro Manila's domestic use to only 36 cms from its normal 46 cms water allocation.

The cut in water allocation for Metro Manila's domestic water use forced MWSS's two water concessionaires to enforce rotational water service interruptions to its customers.

The NWRB also suspended the irrigation allocation for Bulacan and some parts of Pampanga's farmlands when its water elevation dived down below minimum operation level of 180 meters.



Tubig sa Angat dam umakyat sa 199-meter level

DAHIL sa ulan na ib-
inuhos ng bagyong Ur-
sula ay umabot na sa
199-meter level ang antas
ng tubig sa Angat dam.

Sa datos ng Hydrology Di-
vision ng Pagasa, nasa 199.40
metro ang water level ng dam
alas-6 ng umaga kahapon.

Mas mataas ito sa
198.80 metro na antas ng
tubig na naitala kamaka-
lawa, pero malayo pa sa
212 metro na normal
high water level ng dam.

Tumaas din ang water
level ng Ipo dam at La
Mesa dam na nasa 101.09

metro at 77.60 metro.

Nadagdagan din ang
antas ng tubig sa Binga at
Caliraya dams.

Nabawasan naman
ang water level ng Am-
buklao, San Roque, Pant-
abangan at Magat dams.

— *Radyo Inquirer*



Cost recovery and the water contracts

Over the holidays, I have been exchanging notes with a former official in government who had intimate knowledge of how the water contracts took form. Being retired, he prefers to live in simple anonymity. But I want to share some important points he made.

First of all, there are two basic ingredients to pricing PPP projects: "Cost recovery" and "reasonable returns". While it is possible these ingredients (the cost and the returns) may be prone to abuse by unscrupulous businesses, government is expected to put in the necessary safeguards and preventive measures to minimize abuse.

DEMAND AND SUPPLY



BOO CHANCO

Operating on the assumption that we have those "guardrails" in place, these basic ingredients must be clearly defined in a "Terms of Reference" (TOR), which will be the basis for the businesses to price the service.

As an aside, to give some clarification to a controversial issue in the water concessionaire contracts, the TOR stipulated that the taxes will be shouldered by government

so the bidders did not include them in their pricing. Not to favor anybody but probably because in the end, cost recovery requires that that cost be included in the price which will result in higher and "unpopular" water rates which government probably wanted to avoid.

Another important element of the TOR is "risk allocation" which also has a significant bearing on the cost. There is a tendency of government contract administrators with strong protective legal background to assign all the risks of the contract to the contractor or service provider. This has resulted in many serious bidders to avoid bidding for such government contracts.

Risk assessment and proper assignment of risks seems to be challenging to government contract administrators. For example, the recent inclination to eliminate the usual clauses related to the disposition of MAGA conditions.

This bureaucratic tendency is contrary to the proven WB formula for risk assignment - "The various risks in a contract should be assigned to the party who can best manage a particular risk and for those risks which are not clear-cut, there should be a mechanism for the two parties to arrive at a mutually advantageous win-win solution to address the problem."

Probably because of a reasonably well-designed TOR, recall that the eventual bids for the two concessions were initial water rates that were significantly lower than the MWSS basic rate of P8/cum at the time.

To address changes in the business environment and to respond to future investment requirements and water rates setting, a five year "rate rebasing" scheme was put in place. This is the responsibility of an internal regulatory body within MWSS, but subject to the final decision of the MWSS Board.

Admittedly, there may have been some issues, not with the underlying principle of the process, but possible manipulation of the data and results which escaped proper supervision, sometimes referred to as "regulatory capture"

Note that, as designed in the TOR, the concessionaires were just "operators" of MWSS who was still the "public utility" company subject to the review of the NWRB which assumed the powers of the defunct Public Service Commission.

Most basic of the requirement was the limitation on the "returns" of the public utility against its assets, of MWSS's total assets, not the assets of the concessionaires. And because of the large assets of MWSS, the limitation on the "percent return" was never exceeded.

It was not all roses for the concessionaires (and maybe proof that the awards were not "lutong macao" or a "give-away"). While Manila Water was very successful, over seven years Maynilad was in financial distress as the Asian financial crisis set in.

Yes, there were some mismanagement on the part of Maynilad, but my source believes that part of their error was their failure to realize that the TOR was also defective on the matter concerning CERA.

Raffy Alunan mentioned that Maynilad was made responsible for paying about \$700 million of MWSS's \$800 million loans, Manila Water assumed only about \$100 million. Soon after the bidding and award in 1997 from a bid reference value of about P27:\$1 exchange rate, in about four years the exchange rate quickly moved up and ballooned eventually to about P52:\$1. You can imagine the impact on their cost.

Unfortunately, the Currency Exchange Rate Adjustment (CERA) formula in place in the contract, as recommended by IFC the financial consultant of MWSS, did not properly address those cost increase implications. Maynilad was losing P3 to P4 per cum of water sold, while Manila Water was actually still GAINING about P0.10 per cum from the CERA formula.

Under those conditions, former Manila Water executives looked like geniuses compared to the "bumbling" of the Maynilad executives. It is to the credit of Manila Water that those cost advantages were translated to significant improvements in their water distribution management resulting in NRW (non-revenue water) much less than 10 percent, beating even world class levels and translating into lower eventual water cost to the customers.

Eventually everybody realized that disparity and by the end of 2004, MWSS granted an increase in the Maynilad water rates so that by the end of 2005, Maynilad had a partial recovery of the total of about P7 billion lost from 1997-2004. Maynilad made a profit of P 2 billion.

That helped facilitate that "recovery and turn-around" of Maynilad from a company in the Rehabilitation Court. It made Maynilad an attractive viable business again.

The Lopez Group stepped out as agreed. The new Group led by DMCI and Metro Pacific won the bid to take over with a commitment to inject \$500 million into the business.

Today it looks like the principles of "cost recovery and reasonable returns" are under attack again and the financial sector and business are reacting with some panic! Hopefully they will not ban "cost recovery and reasonable returns" like they wanted to do with "typhoons" in the early days.

Boo Chanco's email address is bchanco@gmail.com. Follow him on Twitter @boochanco



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION GROUPS LAUD MOVE

FOR NOW, WHALE WATCHING, FEEDING STOPPED IN BOHOL TOWN

By **Leo Udtohan**
@leoudtohandINQ

TAGBILARAN CITY—The provincial government has stopped all whale watching activities in Lila town, Bohol province, pending the passage of an ordinance that would regulate them.

The drafting of the ordinance would be done in coordination with the concerned government agencies such as the Department of Tourism, the Bureau of Fish-

eries and Aquatic Resources and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to ensure that marine species were protected and the laws followed.

“We are not after the total ban of whale shark interaction but only on the ecological trapping of marine wildlife by provisioning and/or feeding and luring and other activities which will harm these marine mammals and which are in violation of the law,” said the executive order (EO) is-

sued on Dec. 23 and directed to Lila Mayor Arturo Piollo II.

Move welcomed

The move of the provincial government was lauded by environmental groups that opposed the whale shark feeding and watching as tourism attraction.

“This is an initial victory for us and the ‘balilan’ (whale sharks) in Bohol. We will continue monitoring as we await the EO’s enforcement by the

Lila government,” said Liza Macalandag of the Free the Whale Sharks Coalition-Bohol.

Jesse Vera Acebes of non-profit group Balyena at Lumba sa Pilipinas said they hoped that the Lila town government would be open to adopt a better ecotourism activity.

According to Nilo Ahat, provincial legal officer, the Lila government has not passed an ordinance that would have laid down the guidelines and rules

on whale shark interaction.

Ahat said the private operator of the whale shark activities in Lila did not even have a business permit but owned several boats that were used to ferry tourists who wished to interact with the mammals.

Gentle giants

Bohol has been recognized as one of the places in the world that is rich in marine resources. The presence of whale sharks in

the waters off Lila has enticed tourists to visit the town to interact with the whale sharks, also known as the “gentle giants.”

But the town’s whale shark feeding was met with protests from environmental groups that called it “an ecological trap” and “fake ecotourism.”

They said conditioning or feeding the whale sharks created negative effects on the mammals especially on their migration pattern. INQ



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ACROSS THE COUNTRY

Rescued hawksbill turtles released back to sea

DAGUPAN CITY – The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) will release back to the sea today two hawksbill turtles recently recovered in the waters off Pangasinan.

Westly Rosario, city BFAR center chief, told **The STAR** yesterday that the turtles, weighing 15 and 20 kilos, were recovered off the coasts of this city and San Fabian.

“They had wounds... we treated and took care of them for six months,” Rosario said.

He said 10,000 juvenile *ulang* and 10,000 saline tilapia would also be released to the sea.

– Eva Visperas



**Tanaw balik
sa dekada:**

Pagsagip sa kalikasan tinutukan

Iba't ibang istorya hinggil sa pag-
protekta sa kalikasan ang binalikan ng
Abante Tonite. Kabilang sa mga ito ay
hinggil sa pagkuha sa mga yamang ka-
likasan, pagpatay sa mga pomoprotekta
sa kagubatan at iba pang laban para pang-
galagaan ang kalikasan. Ilan sa mga ito
ang mga sumusunod:

P2B taklobo nasabat sa GenSan

Mahigit sa P2 bilyong halaga ng tak-
lobo ang nasabat ng pulisya sa Brgy. Ba-
wing sa General Santos City noong Ok-
tubre 2019. Isinagawa ang operasyon
matapos makatanggap ang pulisya ng
sumbong hinggil sa tone-toneladang tak-
lobo na nakatambak sa lugar, ayon na rin
sa National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
Davao Region.

Ang nasabing mga taklobo ay ibi-
nibenta umano sa halagang P5,000 kada
kilo. Ginagawa umano itong alahas ang
mga ito tulad ng perlas kung saan isa rin
umano ito sa mga sangkap sa paggawa ng
cosmetic products.



Giyera para sa Manila Bay

Setyembre 30, 2017 pinaimbestigah-
an Department of Environment and Nat-
ural Resources (DENR) Secretary Roy
Cimatu ang pagtatapon ng bulto-bultong
basura sa Manila Bay na galing sa ma-
rine loading transfer station ng garbage
operator na Philippine Ecology Systems
Corp. (PHILECO) nang sumunod na bu-
wan ay tuluyang sinuspende ng kalihim
ang operasyon ng kompanya.

Sinimulan naman noong Enero 2019
ang tinaguriang 'Battle for Manila Bay'.
Simula nito, nakapaglabas na ang DENR
ng higit 1,500 Notice of Violation sa
mga establisimiyentong lumabag sa mga
kautusang nangangalaga sa kalikasan, at
nakakolekta na rin ng 1.6 milyong kilo ng
basura mula sa mga cleanup activity.

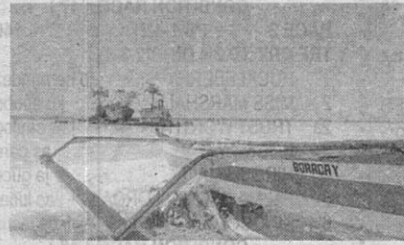
Inaasahang matatapos at maipa-

panumbalik ang kagandan ng Manila Bay
at magiging isang tourist destination ito
bago matapos ang term o panunungkulan
ng Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte.

Balik-alindog sa Boracay

Nagsimula noong Abril 26, 2018 ang
anim na buwang pagsara sa isla ng Bo-
racay para sumailalim sa rehabilitasyon,
makaraang tawagin ito ni Pangulong
Duterte na 'cesspool'.

Natuklasan dito na galing sa mga ini-
doro ng ilang lumabag na establisimyen-
to ang dumi na dumadaloy diretso sa
karagatang nilalanguan ng mga turis-
tang nagbabakasyon sa isla.



Byebye basura ng Canada

Sa pagitan ng Hunyo 2013 hanggang
Enero 2014 dinala sa bansa ang nasa 50
container van na dineklarang naglala-
man lamang ng mga recyclable plastic,
ngunit nang buksan ng Bureau of Cus-
toms ay hindi lamang pala ito ang laman
nito kundi mayroon ding mga diaper at
iba pang household waste.

Noong Abril 2019 nang iutos ni Pa-
ngulong Duterte sa Canada na ibalik
ang basura at nagbanta pa ito na magde-
klara ng giyera laban sa nasabing ban-
sa kung hindi ito gagawin.

Mayo 31, 2019, anim na taon makalipas
ang pagdating ng mga container van, ibina-
lik na ang natenggang basura sa Canada.



Basura pa more mula sa SoKor

Hindi lamang imported na basura
mula sa Canada ang namerwisyo sa ban-
sa, nadiskubre din kasi ang tinatayang
1,400 toneladang basura na tinapon sa
pasilidad ng Verde Soko Philippines In-
dustrial Corp sa Tagoloan, Misamis Ori-
ental mula sa South Korea noong Hulyo
at Agosto 2018.

Nakawan sa Avilon Zoo

Umabot sa tinatayang P2 milyong
halaga ng mga hayop na inaalagan
sa Avilon Zoo sa Rodriguez, Rizal ang
ninakaw noong Agosto 19, 2018. Ba-
hagi ng conservation program ang mga
ninakaw na kabilang sa tinuturing na
malapit nang maubos na hayop, kabilang
sa mga ninakaw ay unggoy, ibon na nasa
mga hawla at hindi umano basta maku-
kuha kung hindi marunong mag-alaga ng
hayop.

Pagpatay sa forest ranger

Setyembre 27 2017 pinanukala ng
Armed Forces of the Philippines at Philip-
pine National Police na sanayin ang mga
forest ranger sa Palawan sa paggamit ng
baril, para proteksyonan ang sarili laban
sa mga illegal logger.



Ginawa ito matapos barilin at napa-
tay umano ng mga illegal loggers ang
barangay captain at miyembro ng El Ni-
do-Taytay Managed Resource Protected
Area board na si Ruben Arzaga, 49, ng El
Nido Palawan. Isa pang forest ranger na
si Lito Eyala, 23, ang napatay din umano
ng mga illegal loggers sa Palawan noong
2017.

Isa pang community environment and
natural resources officer na si Ronaldo
Corpuz ang napatay din sa Muñoz, Nue-
va Ecija noong Oktubre 2019.



INDONESIA'S EXPORT BAN

INDUSTRY SEES STRONGER DEMAND FOR NICKEL IN 2020

By Karl R. Ocampo
@kocampoINQ

Despite the decline in world prices, the value of the country's metallic production in the first nine months of the year rose by 6.5 percent to P99.58 billion from P93.48 billion a year ago.

The Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) said they were expecting sustained growth next year given Indonesia's ban on nickel ore export.

The robust performance of mixed nickel-cobalt sulfide

(MNCS) drove the positive industry-wide results, with yield of P47.36 billion during the period or 48 percent of the total value registered by the sector.

This despite the 1.24-percent slip in the average nickel price and the continuous nonproduction of a number of nickel mines in Zambales, Dinagat Island and Agusan del Norte.

Gold retained the second spot with P39.60 billion in revenue, while copper contributed 14 percent or P14.40 billion. The remaining 1 percent was

accounted for by silver and chromite.

Except for the precious yellow metal, prices of nickel, copper and silver all went down during the period. The nine-month average of copper and nickel declined by 9.45 percent and 1.31 percent, respectively.

However, things began to look up for nickel in the third quarter when nickel prices started to go up.

MGB said the nickel ore export ban in Indonesia, which was expected to take effect in January next year, was seen

boosting prices.

The new policy would naturally increase the demand for Philippine nickel ore, given that the country is the second largest nickel-producing country in the world right after Indonesia.

Both countries rely heavily on China, since it is the world's largest consumer of nickel, accounting for more than half of global consumption.

The Philippines alone exports 90 percent of its nickel ore to the Asian economic powerhouse. INQ



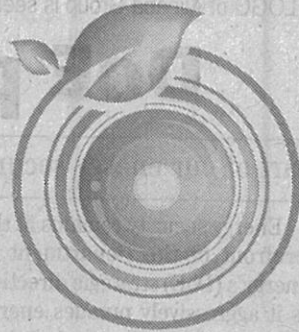
EcoVision film competition launched

Epson Philippines, in collaboration with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-EMB), announced recently the launch of the 2nd EcoVision Short Film Competition for university students.

This year, the EcoVision inter-school video-making contest aims to tap the creativity of university students in raising public understanding of environmental conservation through short documentaries. With the theme "Upcycling Heroes," entries must feature a Philippine-based organization or individual who champions or performs upcycling as a tool for environmental sustainability.

Upcycling, also known as creative reuse, is the process of transforming by-products, waste materials or unwanted products into new materials of better quality and environmental value.

Epson seeks to promote the practice of upcycling as a way of strengthening anew its commitment to the environment, which is manifested not just through its reliable and energy-efficient products but also its active



ecovision
SHORT FILM COMPETITION

participation in encouraging the public to become more aware of pressing ecological issues.

"It is our honor to once again partner with DENR-EMB for the second year of the EcoVision Short Film Competition. With the help of the upcycling heroes who will be featured in the students' entries, we want to inspire the public into action and let them know that there are different ways to become more active in advocating for the conservation of the environment," said Donna

Ferro, brand and communications head of Epson Philippines.

The EcoVision short film competition is open to all students at any year level and degree or course from colleges and universities in NCR, Region III and Region IVA during the period of the competition.

To join, all qualified entrants must download, fill out and submit the accomplished form along with attachments to epson.ecovision@gmail.com. Each documentary entry must have a minimum running time of five minutes to a maximum of 15 minutes and should feature a Philippine-based organization, group, or individual who champions upcycling for a more sustainable Philippines.

Ten documentaries will be chosen as the finalists of the competition and will serve as informative materials for the Environmental Education and Information Division (EEID) of DENR-EMB. EEID's mission is to advance environmental education in the Philippines and disseminate environmental information to the DENR-EMB regional offices and the general public.

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STORY BANNER
STORY EDITORIAL CARTOON

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YEARENDER

By JESS DIAZ

The controversial pork barrel funds issue continues to haunt the House of Representatives.

Six years after the Supreme Court (SC) declared the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) illegal, the House is still hounded by allegations of pork barrel in the national budget.

Just as in previous years, 2019 again saw Congress in a defensive stance while performing its "power of the purse" mandate or its

constitutional duty to decide how the government will spend its budget for the succeeding year.

After the House recently ratified the P4-trillion budget for 2020, which reflected the amount proposed by the executive department in the National Expenditure Program, with several realignments by both houses and in the bicameral conference committee, Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano and other House leaders said the outlay does not have any pork

House still under shadow of 'pork'

barrel or "parked" funds.

But Sen. Panfilo Lacson claimed otherwise, insisting there are pork barrel funds in the ratified version of the budget.

Lacson has alleged that House members realigned P16 billion to fund their pet projects under the proposed 2020 budget.

The senator claimed that the P16 billion was part of the P95.3 billion in appropriations under the 2019 budget of the Department

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House From Page 1

of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), which was vetoed by President Duterte when he signed the 2019 budget law in April.

The P95.3 billion worth of projects were "not within the programmed priorities," he insinuated.

The House denied this. "There is no pork barrel in this budget as defined by the Supreme Court," Cayetano declared at a press conference last Monday.

"Anything can be used for corruption but Congress made sure that there will be no projects that are prone to corruption like lump sums at the discretion of lawmakers," he said.

Davao City Rep. Isidro Ungab, chairman of the committee on appropriations, expressed support for the Speaker's position.

"The 2020 budget is pork-free... Attempts to label it pork-ridden by constantly redefining pork is unfair and misleading," he said.

Ungab also rebutted Lacson's claim, saying the "process and the product observed utmost transparency" and that senators also realigned funds "based on national priorities and recommendations of government agencies."

Deputy Speaker and Mandaluyong City Rep. Neptali Gonzales II also denied Lacson's allegation.

"We strictly followed the decision of the Supreme Court declaring the PDAF as illegal and prohibiting post-budget enactment identification of projects," he pointed out.

Gonzales explained that they have also been complying with the prohibition on post-enactment insertions in the budget.

Another House leader, Deputy Speaker and Cavite 3rd district Rep. Jesus Crispin Remulla, also scoffed at Lacson's insinuations.

He said the 2020 budget does not have any pork barrel as defined in the SC ruling.

He stressed that lawmakers no longer have discretionary funds in their legislative districts - unlike in the previous congresses when the pork barrel system was still allowed and the

to use funds in lump sums.

"There is no violation of the 2013 Supreme Court ruling because the funds are now with the implementing agencies. We followed the law, the Constitution and jurisprudence," Remulla pointed out.

Lacson earlier claimed that the House version of the 2020 budget included P20 billion in parked funds that were actually lump-sum allocations, which the high court had also declared a violation of the 1987 Constitution.

He specifically cited P10.4 billion worth of questionable projects stashed in the DPWH and another P4 billion hidden under the "Other Financial Assistance to LGUs (local government units)" in the budget of the Department of the Interior and Local Government.

It was later clarified, however, that such allocations were not lump sums after the agencies gave detailed items and projects for such appropriations.

Lacson had also accused House leaders in the 18th Congress of planning to allocate P1.5 billion each for their districts - an allegation he later took back after failing to prove it. Cayetano also slammed the senator for "rumor mongering."

900 bills processed

Meanwhile, Majority Leader and Leyte Rep. Martin Romualdez said the House processed a total of 900 measures since the 18th Congress convened on July 22, churning out an average of 28 bills per day during the entire 32 session days.

"In just 32 session days, we were able to steer the approval of 175 legislative measures," Romualdez said, noting that the chamber received a total of 6,562 measures and 186 committee reports.

Bills approved on third and final reading were those amending the Foreign Investment Act of 1991, the Passive Income and Financial Intermediary Taxation Act and the Corporate Income Tax and Incentive Rationalization Act.

These bills are important parcels of the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program aimed at helping the Duterte administration reach the 'A' credit rating goal.

The administration is embarking on P8 billion infra-

structure projects, completion of which could go beyond 2022.

It was such achievement, lawmakers believe, that boosted the approval and trust ratings of the House and Cayetano, based on the latest Pulse Asia survey.

Deputy Speaker and Camarines Sur 2nd district Rep. LRay Villafuerte said the very high approval rating has inspired the House to work even harder in passing legislative measures that will benefit the people.

"It's an honor to be part of this 18th Congress. The highest ever trust and approval ratings inspire us to be more productive," he said.

Cayetano's high ratings came after the country's successful hosting of the 30th Southeast Asian Games where he served as chairman of the Philippine SEA Games Organizing Committee.

Looking forward, House leaders are confident that the chamber will continue to perform well in 2020 and maintain its very high public satisfaction rating.

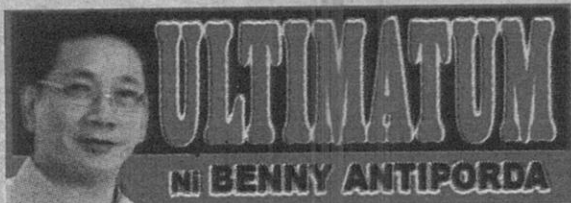
"2020 represents perfect vision... What we can do is focus on things that matter - education, health, peace and order, defense and sports," Villafuerte stressed.

Albay Rep. Joey Salceda, chairman of the ways and means committee, vowed to sustain the House's commitment to funding the President's key infrastructure and human development priorities.

"As chair of the committee on ways and means, I have three goals that we need to achieve by 2022: A-level credit rating, eight percent GDP growth, widespread prosperity. We will work tirelessly to achieve these," he said in a statement last Monday.

Salceda said they would prioritize measures involving taxation on Philippine offshore gaming operations, Motor Vehicle Road Users' Tax, Mining Fiscal Regime and taxation on single-use plastics in 2020, which could raise at least P42 billion for the government.

"The committee also seeks to improve tax administration by studying structural reforms in the Bureau of Internal Revenue and the Bureau of Customs. We will likewise try to raise taxpayer morale by studying digital transformation of the revenue collection



ULTIMATUM NI BENNY ANTIPORDA

KAHIT papaano, masasabing naging masaya kaysa malungkot ang Pasko para sa higit na nakararami sa mahal kong Pinas.

Masaya dahil higit na nakararami ang hindi nagkasakit, walang gaanong disgrasya sa mga lansangan, walang gaanong patayan sanhi ng digmaan at terorismo, marami ang nagkikita-kita na magkakaibigan at magkakamag-anak at marami pang ibang mga kadahilanan.

Sa international, marami rin ang natuwa sa pagiging bahagi ng Pinas sa misa ni Pope Francis, kasama na ang panalangin nito para sa mga biktima ng bagyong Ursula.

At sa isang malaking katedral sa Milan, kantang Bisaya ang ginawang pang-ending ng misa.

Marami ring overseas Filipino worker ang natuwa na nadatnan nilang buo

ang kanilang mga pamilya, kasama ang bunga ng kanilang mga padala.

Malaki ang ibinawas ng droga na sumalanta sa mga pamilya-OFW na target talaga ng mga druglord at tulak dahil may pambili ang mga ito ng nakamamatay at nakabalih na droga.

Malungkot man na tingnan ang maraming barangay na halos walang Christmas tree o mga kumukuti-kutitap na ilaw o nagpapatok, masaya pa rin dahil marami ang lumabas upang mamasko at maghandog ng Pamasko, lalo na sa mga kapos talaga sa buhay.

Kaya ang bati natin, Merry Christmas sa lahat.

MALUPIT SI URSULA

Naging signal number 3 ang bagyong Ursula.

Dinaluhong nito ang malaking bahagi ng Kabisayaan at idinamay nito ang ilang lugar sa Mindanao, Kabikulan at Timog Katagalugan.

Nakikiramay tayo sa mga namatayan ng 16 miyembro

ng pamilya sa Iloilo, Eastern Samar, Leyte at iba pa.

Bukod sa kamatayan, binaklas din ni Ursula at itinulak sa mga evacuation center ang libo-libong mamamayan at sa mga center na lang dinama ng mga ito ang Kapaskuhan habang nakababad sa baha ang kanilang mga tahanan.

Umabot sa mahigit 25,000 ang stranded sa mga pantalan Bicol, Central Visayas, Eastern Visayas, Southern Tagalog, Northern Mindanao, Western Visayas at Southern Visayas.

Iba pa ang libo-libo ring stranded sa mga istasyon ng mga bus sa Metro Manila at iba pang lugar na naghihintay para makabiyahe pa rin tungo sa gusto nilang punta-han.

Ang pantalan ng Matnog ang pinakamatindi dahil napon dito ang mahigit sa 10,000 stranded.

Nagpapasalamat tayo ng malaki sa mga pamahalaang lokal na nag-aasikaso sa mga ito na talaga namang naka-uubos maging ng internal revenue allotment ng mga ito, bukod sa pag-deploy ng 24

CHRISTMAS MERRY KAHIIT 15+16 ANG PATAY SA LAMBANOG, BAGYO

oras na serbisyo ng mga tauhan nila para mabantayan ang mga stranded na pasahero.

Siyempre pa, kasama ang mga pulis at sundalo na nagbabantay.

Habang tinitipa natin ito, mga Bro, goodbye Philippines na si Ursula.

Sana naman, wala nang Ursula na darating pagsapit ng Bagong Taon.

LAMBANOG STYLE

Sinasabing umabot sa 15 ang namatay sa pag-inom ng lambanog.

Galing ang mga biktima sa mga lalawigan ng Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal at Quezon.

"Yung iba, mga Bro, ay itinakbo sa iba't ibang ospital gaya ng Rizal Medical Center, East Avenue Medical Center, Philippine General Hospital at ospital ng Research Institute for Tropical Medicine sa Muntinlupa.

Dati namang hindi nakamamatay ang lambanog maliban lang kung masobrahan ang pag-inom nito.

Namamatay ang iba noon dahil sa mga tagaan at barihan ng mga nalalasing.

Pero ngayon, may halonang malaking porsyento ng methanol na pinakasimpleng alcohol ngunit kaiba sa ethanol na alcohol ng alak.

Lahat naman ng tao ay may laman na methanol sa katawan dahil nakukuha ito sa hangin, halamang dagat, ilang prutas at kapaligiran.

Pero maliit lang na porsyento ang meron tayo.

Sinasabing pang-industriya ang methanol kaya gamit ito sa mga produktong panlinis sa kubeta, paggawing formalin sa mga puneraryang at iba pa.

Ngayon, mga Bro, hindi kaya galing sa mga bote o plastic na dating may lamang methanol ang pinanggalingan ng mga may methanol na lambanog at hindi nahugasan ang mga ito nang husto?

Lason nga ang aabutin natin diyan sa methanol kung ganito tayo nakaiinom ng methanol.

MAG-INGAT

May Pasko o wala, magandang mag-ingat lagi sa mga paparating na kalamidad at mga inumin.

Kabilang sa mga pinakapektibong pag-iingat para sa

buhay at ari-arian sa mga oras ng kalamidad gaya ng bagyo ang pagsubaybay sa mga anunsyo ng pamahalaan ukol dito.

Kapag kinakailangan ang pagbabakwit, sumunod tayo.

Hindi naman tayo pabayaan ng pamahalaan sa mga evacuation center at maganda rin kung magtulong-tulong tayo lahat para sa survival at iba pang layunin.

Itong lambanog, mura na malayo sa mga mamahaling alak.

At nakapagpapasaya naman talaga pero dapat talagang mag-ingat sa pag-inom.

Oo nga pala, dapat na rehistrado sa Food and Drug Administration ang mga produkto nating lambanog bago ibenta para maingatan ang mga kostumer at ang puhunan natin.

oOo

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