

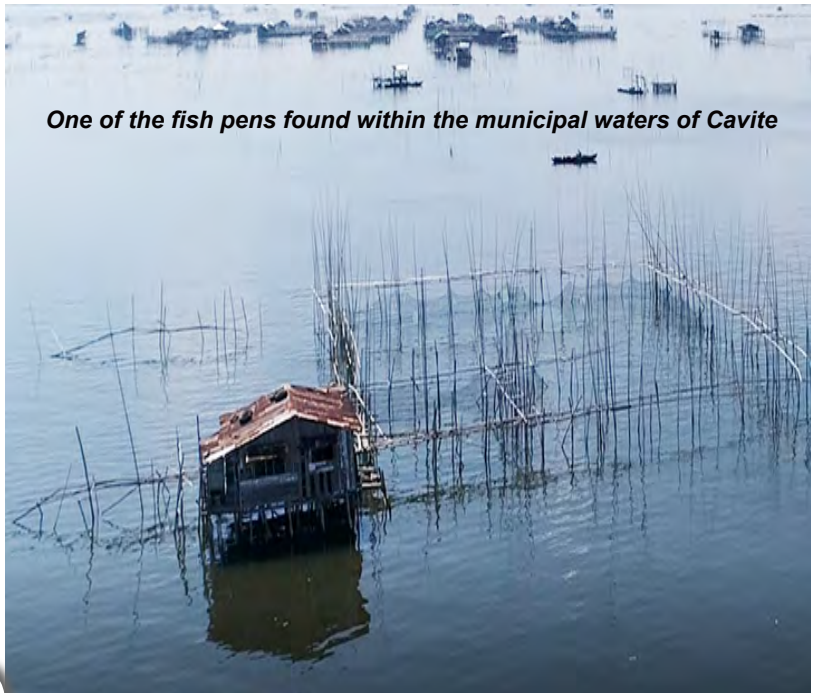
HANEP

Basahin Mo Ito!

Taon 6 Blg. 19

Setyembre 13-19, 2021

P10.00



One of the fish pens found within the municipal waters of Cavite



One of the fish cages found within the municipal waters of Cavite

SMALL-SCALE FISHER FOLK TO BENEFIT MOST FROM DISMANTLING OF ILLEGAL FISH CAGES, PENS IN CAVITE - DENR p.2

COMELEC VOTER'S REGISTRATION AT SM CITY BACOOOR

SM CITY BACOOOR, CAVITE – SM City Bacoor recently opened its door as one of the venues for voter's registration in partnership with Commission on Elections (COMELEC), after the latter officially teamed up with SM Supermalls to provide voters with safer, more accessible and convenient registration venues amidst the pandemic. COMELEC has opened satellite registration centers in SM Supermalls nationwide after signing a Memorandum of Agreement last August 27, 2021 at SM Mall of Asia. COMELEC is targeting an average of 300 registrations at SM City Bacoor per day, to help achieve more registrations before the national deadline on September 30, 2021. However, for the health and safety of the public, the daily allowable registration limit shall be followed as well as the safety protocols ruled out by the IATF, with the help of the mall's safety officers and Bacoor City PNP.



ACCEPTING ADS, PLEASE CALL : 0977-7844136/ 0968-7122927

SMALL-SCALE FISHER FOLK TO BENEFIT MOST FROM DISMANTLING OF ILLEGAL FISH CAGES, PENS IN CAVITE - DENR

“Small and marginalized fisherfolk will benefit the most in the dismantling of the illegal fishing structures in Manila Bay area”, Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) CALABARZON Regional Executive Director and Manila Bay Site Coordinating and Management Office (MBSMO)-4 Regional Coordinator, Nilo B. Tadoria said.

“Kapag equal na ang access sa dagat, magbe-benefit talaga sila doon”, DENR CALABARZON MBSMO-4 Deputy Regional Coordinator, Cynthia N. Rozaldo backed Tadoria’s statement, explaining that the local small-scale fisherfolk will be affected positively once the illegal fish cages, fish pens, and baklad are removed from the waters of Cavite City, Kawit and Noveleta, Cavite. She said most of the illegal fishing structures installed in the said areas are owned by big industries. “There are spaces in between fish cages and pens, however, the chances for our small fisherfolk to catch fishes within those areas are little as most fishes are already trapped in the said fishing structures,” she explained. “The only places where small fisherfolk could have a good catch are in farther areas where big fishing structures are no longer present. It would cost them some gasoline going back and forth,” she emphasized.

She said the fisherfolk which may be greatly affected by the demolition are those hired by big companies to work at the said illegal fishing structures. “Fixed lang ang sweldo nila. Mas malaki sana ang kikitain nila kung sarili nila ang business ng pangang-isda,” she stressed.

She said the regional department requested the Department of Social Welfare and Development to check if the affected fisherfolk are already recipients of exist-

ing livelihood programs. She also mentioned that the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources was already tapped to provide technical assistance to the tahanan operators with permits for them to shift to long-line method, a more environment-friendly way of shellfish growing.

On August 24, 2021, billboards notifying the public regarding the dismantling of illegal aquaculture structures within Bacoor Bay were installed at conspicuous places in Cavite City, Noveleta, and Kawit, Cavite. In the said notice to public, the owners of the said illegal structures were advised to self-demolish before September 7, 2021, otherwise, the Manila Bay Inter-Agency Task Force will do the demolition by that date. Per data from the respective local government units, there are 271 illegal aquaculture structures in Cavite City, 97 in Kawit, and 2 in Noveleta for dismantling. Rozaldo stressed that one of the objectives of their action plan for the dismantling of all illegal aquaculture structures within the waters of Cavite City, Kawit and Noveleta is to increase the fish catch of marginalized fisherfolk.

The DENR CALABARZON MBSMO-4 will hold a meeting with the local government units, Philippine Coast Guard, Philippine National Police-Maritime Group, Department of Public Works and Highways, and Philippine Navy on September 8, 2021 to finalize the composition of the teams which will undertake the actual marking of illegal structures for demolition and to discuss the schedule for the said activity.

Early in July 2021, Environment Secretary Roy A. Cimatu directed DENR CALABARZON to regulate illegal fishing structures along Manila Bay and its tributaries. The said instruction was in view of the huge amount of bamboo poles from fish pens, fish

Mayor ng Tanza, nagpositibo sa COVID-19

KINUMPIRMA ni Tanza Mayor Yuri Pacumio na siya ay nagpositibo sa COVID-19.

Sa isang opisyal na pahayag noong Setyembre 1, siniguro ni Pacumio sa kanyang mga kababayan sa siya ay walang nararamdamang sintomas ng nasabing sakit, at magpapatuloy ang serbisyo ng lokal na pamahalaan. Batay sa pinakahuling tala

ng Provincial Health Office, sumampa na sa halos 5,000 ang bilang ng ga kumpirmadong kaso sa naturang bayan buhat nang magsimula ang buwan.

Dahil dito, iniulat din ng lokal na pamahalaan na puno na ang mga ospital sa kanilang bayan dahil sa dami ng aktibong kaso ng COVID-19, maging sa mga karatig bayan nito. | **Ruel Francisco**

Special passport appointment system for active OFWs launched

MANILA—The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) on Wednesday launched a special online appointment system for active overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) at its Robinsons Galleria consular office in Ortigas.

In an advisory, the agency said eligible passport applicants must present a valid working visa or re-entry visa for land-based OFWs or a valid seaman’s book with arrival stamped not more than 364 days from the date of application for seafarers.

“As the dedicated passport OFW renewal center, and in line with the demand for passport appointment slots by OFWs during the pandemic, a dedicated Online Appointment System for Active OFWs was created to address this need,” the advisory read.

The applicants must also submit any of the follow-

ing:

- Valid Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) E-card;
- Latest overseas employment certificate receipt; and
- Latest OFW information sheet from the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration

Active OFWs may book their appointments through www.passport.gov.ph by selecting the DFA NCR Central site (Robinsons Galleria-Active OFW Lane).

Passport applicants who do not qualify as active OFWs, meanwhile, are reminded to book an appointment at other sites to avoid inconvenience.

“Unqualified or incomplete applications will not be accommodated, and any fees paid will be forfeited,” the DFA said. **(PNA)**

2 bebot, 14 pa; tiklo sa ‘bato’

LABING ANIM na hinihinang tulak kabilang ang dalawang babae ang inaresto ng Cavite Police sa isinagawang buy bust operation sa magkakahiwalay na lugar sa lalawigan. Sa ulat ng Cavite Police Provincial Office, isinagawa ang buy bust operation

cages, and baklads/sapras, which were washed from Cavite waters into the shore of Manila Bay due to the recent southwest monsoon. **PR**

2 kawatan, swak sa kulungan

SWAK sa kulungan ang dalawang lalaki matapos pasukin ang bahay ng 75-anyos na senior citizen at tangayin ang tinatayang P50K cash sa Bacoor City, Cavite.

Kasong robbery hold-up, attempted homicide at trespass to dwelling ang kinaharap ng mga suspek na sina Joseph Aguilar, 30; at Joseph Christian Gerdez, 35.

Kinilala ang biktima na si Dominador Pahanel, negosyante, ng Block 1 Lot 1 Rofill Village, Brgy San Nicolas 1, Bacoor City. Sa ulat ni PSSgt Albert Badoocdoc ng Bacoor City Police Station, dakong alasak 3:00 ng hapon ay pinasok

ng mga suspek na kapwa may dalang patalim ang bahay ng biktima at nagdeklara ng hold up.

Tinutukan ng patalim ng isa sa suspek ang biktima habang ang kasama nito ay nilimas ang P50,000 cash saka mabilis na sumibad sakay ng isang motorsiklo. Pero napuna ito ng isa sa residente sa lugar na tila may nagaganap sa bahay ng negosyante at nakita ang paglabas ng dalawang suspek kaya humingi ng police assistance na nagresulta sa pagkakaarresto sa mga suspek. Hindi naman nabangggit kung narekober sa mga suspek ang tinangay na pera. **GENE ADSUARA**

DICT eyes opening of Covid-19 vax portal in October

MANILA – The VaxCertPH portal -- the country’s digital documentation system that would handle the issuance of Covid-19 vaccination certificates -- may be opened to the public in October, an official of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) said on Tuesday.

In a virtual Palace briefing, DICT Undersecretary Emmanuel “Manny” Caintic said the portal was soft-launched in the National Capital Region (NCR) and Baguio City on Monday.

While the VaxCertPH system is ready, he said a soft launch was necessary to help local government units (LGU) complete their vaccination data and rectify necessary information.

“Binibigyan namin nang sapat na panahon para makita namin iyong response noong mga LGU, kung kumusta ang kanilang pag-unlock noong mga requests for data rectification (We’re giving enough time to see the response of LGUs, how they are unlocking requests for data rectification),” Caintic said.

He noted that the Philippines is one of the first countries to develop a World Health Organization (WHO)-compliant vaccination data system.

“Niru-rollout pa lang din sa ibang mga bansa ang pagsunod noong kanilang standard. Tayo po sa Pilipinas isa tayo sa mga nauuna. So hintay-hintay lang po konti (Other countries are still rolling out compliance with the standard. The Philippines we’re one of the first. So, let’s wait a little),” Caintic said.

Aside from being vaccinated in the NCR or Baguio City, he said overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) and those headed overseas are currently being priori-

tized for enrolment in the system.

“Inaasahan po namin na sa mga susunod na mga araw o linggo ay bubuksan na po ito sa lahat ng mga Pilipino sa buong bansa at maaari rin po itong gamitin sa iba pang mga bagay maliban sa international travel (We are expecting in the coming days or weeks that this will be opened to all Filipinos and can be used in other things aside from international travel),” Caintic said. To date, he said only those who have completed their Covid-19 vaccination at least 14 days ago may access the system in compliance with the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) Resolution No. 120 that only after 14 days from completing their vaccination are individuals considered as fully vaccinated.

“Ibig sabihin, hindi po makakapag-generate sa ngayon ng taong kulang pa ang bakuna at nabigyan less than 14 days ago (What this means is, right now it won’t be generated for those who have not completed their jabs or have completed it less than 14 days ago),” Caintic said.

He noted that the vaccine certificate is not an immunization passport nor a valid ID and that it would need to be presented with a passport or any other identification and a Bureau of Quarantine (BOQ)-issued yellow card if they are headed for a country that requires it.

A vaccination certificate issued through VaxCertPH would contain an individual’s personal information, vaccination data from the Vaccine Information Management System (VIMS) database, and protected with a QR verification system in addition to other security measures. **(PNA)**

5M COVID-19 VACCINE DOSES ASSURED FOR CAVITE PROVINCE

Trece Martires, Cavite (PIA) – Governor Jonvic Remulla disclosed in his Facebook post of the provision of five (5) million doses of CoViD-19 vaccines from the national government in support to the province's bid to achieve herd immunity.

This was assured thru the firm commitment of Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) Chief Implementer Secretary Vince Dizon with expected arrival of the vaccines of different brands or manufacturers of at least a million doses starting this month and shall be sent progressively from October to December 2021 said Remulla.

He added that final delivery confirmation is yet to be set after the conclusion of the meeting to be conducted with the Cavite LGU heads.

These vaccines would address the CoViD-19 surge

that the province is currently facing caused by the Delta variant which according to reports from the Department of Health is observed to be the predominant strain.

The governor said that the rate of transmission is alarming with infection happening within the family.

"It spares no one and victims are from 8 months to 99 years old," stated Remulla.

Meanwhile, the governor reminded his constituents that continued precaution thru self-discipline, strengthening of the immune system, and adherence to COVID preventive measures is the responsible thing to do until everyone receives the CoViD-19 vaccine jabs and the province reach the goal of herd immunity. **(Ruel Francisco/Jonvic Remulla FB page)**

DOST agency wins foreclosure case vs. loan grantee

MANILA – The Technology Application and Promotion Institute (TAPI), a line agency of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), has won its case involving foreclosure proceedings over a bad loan.

In a recently released 12-page decision written by Associate Justice Florencio Mamauag Jr., the appellate court's 17th Division denied for lack of merit the suit filed by Jesselito Baring arising from a loan he obtained through the Investor's Financing Fund which was approved by TAPI, an agency created in 1987 with the primary responsibility to implement Republic Act 7459, or the Inventors and Invention Incentives Act of the Philippines.

Following the agency's approval, the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) in 2001

granted a PHP4-million loan for Baring's project called Rotating Biological Contractor with the loan payable in three years.

Baring mortgaged his building, along with machinery and vehicles owned by his company, JV Baring Consultants and Allied Services.

He later entered into an agreement to restructure the loan after the firm faced hard times.

In 2007, DBP sent two notices for him to settle his obligations.

A year later, DBP and TAPI entered into a deed of assignment where the bank assigned to the agency all its rights in the loan and mortgage contract of Baring.

In 2013, the loan ballooned to PHP10.329 million, prompting the Office of the Solicitor General to issue a final demand letter.

A complaint for foreclosure

USAP LANG

JUNE BILLONES
0968-7122927

UTANG NA LOOB PA KAY DUQUE?

UMPUKAN ng ating tropang lansangan at siyempre may mga napapagkukuwentuhan.

Hindi dahil tropang kalye lamang ay non-sense ang takbo ng kwentuhan nila.

Usap lang sila subalit sadyang mayroong 'laman' ang kanilang pinagkukuwentuhan.

Saludo talaga si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte kay Department of Health Secretary Francisco Duque III.

Alam ng ating tropang kalye ang rason kung bakit nagpupugay si Digong sa kalihim.

Kasi nga raw ay higit na nakararami ang gumaling matapos tamaan ng COVID-19.

Lagpas na sa dalawang milyong bilang ng mga nagkaroon ng COVID-19 sa bansa.

Sa naturang kabuuang bilang ay mistulang palubag loob para kay Duterte ang napakaraming gumaling.

Almost two million daw kasi ang gumaling at sinusulat ito ay nasa mahigit 1.8 million na.

Pagpapatunay daw ito na

maayos o mahusay ang response ng ating mga health workers.

Sabi tuloy ng tropang lansangan ay parang utang na loob pa natin kay Duque ang sitwasyon.

Gayunman sa takbo ng kanilang usap ay higit na umiiral ang galit kay Digong.

Kasi nga naman ay bakit kailangang purihin itong si Duque gayong batid naman nila ang tunay na kaganapan o nangyayari sa bansa ngayong panahon ng pandemiya.

Kung higit na nakakarami ang gumagaling ay hindi si Duque ang dapat purihin.

Sa halip ay ang Panginoon ang kailangang purihin dahil Diyos naman ang may kagustuhan o gumawa at gagawa ng paraan para sa mga gumaling at gagaling pa.

Naniniwala rin ang tropang lansangan na ang sino mang gumawa ng kalokohan at kasamaan ngayong pandemiya ay hindi makakaligtas sa Diyos.

was filed by TAPI a year later before the Makati Regional Trial Court Branch 66) while Baring filed a motion to dismiss, claiming the agency "has no legal capacity to sue" and "has no cause of action against him".

He argued that DBP -- not TAPI -- is the proper party to sue.

Baring's motion was turned down by the Makati court, prompting him to elevate it to the CA.

In denying Baring's suit

for lack of merit, the CA said "the trial court did not abuse nor exceeded the exercise of its jurisdiction when it denied the petitioner's (Baring's) motion to dismiss" and said that following the deed of assignment, TAPI acquired the rights and interests of DBP in the loan including the right to sue.

"As the assignee, TAPI has the legal capacity to bring the suit in its own name against the petitioner," the CA ruled. **(PNA)**

EDITORIAL

Mapayapang eleksiyon?

SA susunod na buwan ang paghahain ng certificate of candidacy ng mga tatakbo sa iba't ibang posisyon para sa halalan sa susunod na taon.

Kaya naman hangad ng Philippine National Police ang total crackdown laban sa mga private armed groups.

Malakikasingpektong naturang pribadong grupo sa 2022 local at national elections.

Sa direktiba ni PNP chief Police General Guillermo Lorenzo T Eleazar ay nakasaad ang paghihigpit ng lahat ng opisyal o commander sa paglaban sa nasabing grupo upang hindi mananaig ang karahasan sa panahon ng halalan simula sa COC filling hanggang sa pagdedeklara sa lahat ng nanalo sa eleksiyon.

Nagbigay naman ng pagtitiyak ang pamunuan ng PNP na hindi ito mananaig at magtatagumpay bagkus ay iiral ang mapayapang eleksiyon.

ADVERTISING RATES

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LEGAL NOTICES - - - P160/col.cm



ROMEO S. SANTOS

Publisher/editor-in-chief

Ang 'HANEP Basahin Mo Ito!' ay inilalathala tuwing lunes sa HANEP Publication na may tanggapan sa B10 L9 The Veraneo Brgy. Sebastian Kawit, Cavite

Contact#: 0977-7844136/09687122927

Email: ronejed@yahoo.com

haneppublication@yahoo.com

PAUNAWA: Sariling pananaw o opinyon ng mga kolumnista ang nilalaman ng kanilang mga artikulo kaya wala pong kinalaman at pananagutan dito ang pamunuan ng publication

Member: Publishers Association of the Philippines, Inc.



AUTONOMOUS PAO CAN REJECT CASES BASED ON 'SOUND DISCRETION'

MANILA – The Court of Appeals (CA) has dismissed a suit filed by a man against the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) for refusing to take up his case as it has no jurisdiction over the complaint.

The CA's 17th Division ruled that petitioner Mariano Flores, who sued lawyers Mona Lissa Monje-Viray and Florante Natividad of PAO Urdaneta City, was mistaken in taking the alleged snub to the courts and should have instead appealed the rejection before Malacañang.

In a five-page resolution dated Aug. 17 written by Associate Justice Florencio Mamaug Jr. and recently made available online, the CA also noted that Flores was informed by PAO on March 11, 2021 that he was denied legal assistance "due to his refusal to adhere to the public attorney's advice and assessment of his case".

The CA did not mention what case Flores took to PAO. "In this case, the denial of the PAO legal assistance to the petitioner has already been affirmed and petitioner has no other remedy but to appeal to the Office of the President, where he may seek recourse if he strongly believes that the withdrawal of the PAO in representing his cause is not within the ambit of the PAO operations manual," the tribunal said.

Under the Revised PAO Operations Manual, a public attorney may withdraw representation on justifiable instances in such situations as when the client is not qualified for PAO services including when the client's income or resources improve, no longer qualifies for continued assistance or the allegation of indigency is false; when despite proper advise from the PAO, a client cannot be restrained from doing things which a lawyer cannot do; or when the client insists in having control of the trial and strategy in procedure which would tend to result in harm to the interest of the client. The CA added that PAO as the principal law office of

the government in extending free legal assistance to indigent persons in criminal, civil, labor, administrative and other quasi-judicial cases, is an independent and autonomous office.

"As such, the Court will not interfere in matters which are addressed to the sound discretion of the PAO in the discharge of its mandate to render free of charge, legal representation, assistance and counseling to indigent persons," the CA said. (PNA)

Hontiveros, isiniwalat ang ugnayan ni Duterte sa pugante ng Pharmally

INIHAYAG ni Senador Risa Hontiveros na nagkaroon ng direktang pakikipag-ugnayan sa Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte sa puganteng si Huang Wen Lei, chairman ng Pharmally International, na siyang mother company ng local firm na Pharmally Pharmaceutical.

Nakakuha ang Pharmally ng higit sa P8.6 bilyon halaga ng mga kontrata para magsuplay ng mga produktong pangkalusugan at pangmedikal.

Ibinahagi ng senador ang isang 2017 article mula sa pahayagan na nakabase sa Taiwan na China Times tungkol sa pagpupulong sa pagitan ng Huang Wen Lei at Duterte sa Davao. "May ibang special friendship nanaman ba? Kasi noong 2019 lang nag-integrate ng Pharmally sa Pilipinas. Pero nang nagka-COVID noong 2020 ay nasa Pharmally agad na ibinigay ang kontrata. Ito ay nakikipag-ugnay sa ito kung bakit napakabili ng transaksyon ng Pharmally sa gitna ng pandemya?" dagdag pa ni Hontiveros.

Ang salin sa Ingles ng artikulo sa China Times ay nagsasaad: "Huang Wen Lei and entrepreneurial shareholder Wang Mingliang and other core executives visited the Philippines. Duterte made special arrangements" at sila ay nag-meet sa "Davao Hall and invited the director of Drug Administration and the Deputy Minister of Health to attend the meeting." Dagdag pa sa artikulo na magkakaroon di umano

DOF Awards Certificate of Recognition to BOC and 9 Regulatory Agencies for TRADENET Onboarding

THE Bureau of Customs was recently awarded a Certificate of Recognition from Department of Finance Undersecretary and National Single Window – Steering Committee (NSWSC) Alternate Chairperson Gil S. Beltran to acknowledge the successful onboarding of the electronic Certificate of Origin (e-CO) in the TRADENET.gov.ph platform. The Certificate was presented during the 3rd National Single Window -

Technical Working Group (NSW-TWG) Virtual Meeting held on 31 August 2021. The issuance of the electronic Certificate of Origins (e-COs) using the TRADENET.gov.ph platform is being implemented in all ports and supports of entry in compliance with Customs Memorandum Order No. CMO 15-2019. All e-COs issued by the system are automatically transmitted to ASEAN through the ASEAN Single Window (ASW) System. During the Virtual Awarding Ceremony, nine (9) Trade Regulatory Government Agencies (TRGAs) were also given recognition for their successful onboarding in the new NSW system. These TRGAs include: Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), National Tobacco Administration (NTA), Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), Bureau of Agriculture and Fisheries Standards (BAFS), Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA), Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA), DTI – Export Marketing Bureau (DTI-EMB), Optical Media Board (OMB), National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS).

NSW-TWG Chairperson and Customs Commissioner Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero expressed his gratitude to the TRGAs for their support and cooperation in fulfilling their commitments to onboard in the TRADENET System and for serving as good examples for the remaining TRGAs to follow.

He also expressed his gratitude to the DOF TRADENET Project Management Office (TPMO) for being instrumental to these achievements. The BOC, together with DOF and the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA), aims to onboard at least 18 TRGAs in the new NSW System this year. **PR**

sa Senado. Huwag nyang gawing hobby na ipagtanggol ang Pharmally sa mga press briefings nya," pagtatapos ni Hontiveros. **PR**

1 patay, 6 sugatan sa karambola ng 10 sasakyan

PATAY ang isang nagbisekleta habang pawang sugatan ang anim na iba na driver at angkas ng motorsiklo nang nabangga ng Mitsubishi GLX habang nakatigil ang mga ito sa kalsada sa Imus City, Cavite.

Isinugod pa sa Medical Center Imus si Valentin Escoto, 45, subalit indineklarang dead on arrival, habang sa Ospital ng Imus dinala sina Jessrill Tanap Rimando, 28, at angkas nitong si Nikka Lumampo, 25; mag-asawang Jeffrey at Meladie Sardane; motorcycle rider na si Ariel Francisco Simbulan, 55; ang sakay sa Honda BRV na minamaneho ni Jonar Lumang na si Joyce Rebita Sancho.

Sa ulat ni PSSgt John Carlo Punzalan, ng Imus City Police Station, dakong alas-7:30 Linggo ng umaga naganap ang insidente kung saan nakatop position ang lahat ng mga sasakyan ng mga biktima patungo sa direksiyon ng Dasmariñas City sa kahabaan ng Aguinaldo Highway, Brgy Anabu, 2

Imus City, at nabangga ng minamanehong Mitsubishi GLX na may plakang NQU 7917 ni Leovino Mancilla Jr, 60, ang puwitan bahagi ng jeepney ni Reynaldo Layba, 55.

Dahil dito, umikot pakanan ang Mitsubishi Wagob at aksidenteng bumangga sa isang kongretong poste ng kalsada habang patuloy na umandar at nasagi ang bisekleta ni Escoto at nasagi rin ang minamanehong Honda BRV ni Jomar Lumang, 28; at nabangga naman ang kasunod na motorsiklong Honda 125 na minamaneho ni Jeffrey Sardane na nasa outer lane, kasunod ang Isuzu XT Wagon na minamaneho ni Rahyane Aquino, 28.

Dahil sa pagkakabanga ng mga sasakyan, umusad ang ibang sasakyan at nasagi rin ang motorsiklong Yamaha Mio ni John Kenneth Casapao, 30, na nasa gilid ng kalsada at nasagi naman ang Toyota Hi Ace van na minamaneho ni Federito Guna, 44.

Pawang nagtamo ng pinsala ang lahat ng sasakyan.

GENE ADSUARA

Babaing back ride, tigbak sa trak

NAHULOG mula sa pagkakaangkas at nagulungan ng trailer truck ang babae nang nawalan ng kontrol sa pagmamaneho ang rider na umiwas sa puno matapos na nag-overtake sa Silang, Cavite.

Namatay sa pinangyarihan ng insidente ang biktima na kinilala sa pangalang Angel, habang sugatan ng driver ng motorsiklo na si Daniel Karl Michael David, 22.

Kinilala naman ang driver ng trailer truck na si Domingo Quintal Jr., 43. Sa ulat ni Pat Menervin Castillo, ng Silang Police Station, kapwa binabagtas ng driver ng motorsiklo at trailer truck ang

kahabaan ng Aguinaldo Highway dakong alas-6:00 Linggo ng gabi patungo sa direksiyon ng Dasmariñas City kung saan nasa unahan ang trak.

Pagsapit sa Brgy Biga 1, ay tinangka ng rider na mag-overtake sa trailer truck gamit ang shoulder lane subalit nabulaga sa isang puno kaya umiwas pero nadulas dahil na upang tumalipon sila ng kanyang angkas.

Kasunod ay pumailalim sa kanang bahagi ng trailer truck at nagulungan ang katawan nito na nagresulta sa kanyang agarang kamatayan. **GENE ADSUARA**

Motorsiklo, sumalpok sa van

PATAY ang driver ng motorsiklo habang sugatan ang angkas nito nang sumalpok sa isang hi ace van sa palikong bahagi ng kalsada sa Carmona, Cavite. Sina Celso Valenzuela, 47, may-asawa, construction worker, ng Brgy San Francisco, Binan, Laguna, driver ng motorsiklong Rusi; at angkas nitong si John Paolo Palmares, 256, construction worker, ng Brgy Graceland, Binan, ay kapwa isinugod sa pagamutang Bayan ng Carmona subalit indineklarang dead on arrival si Valenzuela. Kinilala naman ang driver ng Hiace van na may plakang NAR 6018 na si Ju-

lius Bibay, 32, OFW, ng 1146 Lontoc Apartment Brgy 1, Carmona.

Sa ulat ni PSSgt Charles Virtudez, ng Carmona Police Station, alas-4:30 Linggo ng hapon naganap ang insidente kung saan minamaneho ni Bibay ang kanyang van at binabagtas ang kahabaan ng Governor's Drive sakop ng Mabuhay, patungo sa direksiyon ng GMA.

Pagsapit sa palikong bahagi ng kalsada ay bumulaga sa kanya ang motorsiklong Rusi na may kaangkas galang sa kabilang direksiyon at sumagi sa sasakyan. **GENE ADSUARA**

SECRETARY ANDANAR: PUBLIC INTEREST REMAINS AT THE CENTER OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS

MANILA - Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin Andanar on Wednesday assured that the interest of the majority remains the focus of all the efforts undertaken by the government.

He said this as he renewed calls for Filipinos' support as the country endeavors to address the impacts brought by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Let's follow the President because he knows what he is doing and as of now it is only the interest of the majority that we are concerned about. Kung ano ang maganda para sa nakarami ay yun po ang ating tutukan for the next 9 months [Let's follow the President because he knows what he is doing and as of now it is only the interest of the majority that we are concerned about. Whatever is good for the majority then that's what we will focus on for the next 9 months]," he said in an interview.

Secretary Andanar noted that preparations for the country to be able to bounce back to its days of progress are being laid down by the Duterte administration as it prepares to transition to the next Philippine president.

"Itong pandemic hindi naman matatapos agad. Malamang ay aabot ito sa halalan. So kapag umabot pa itong halalan bago na po ang pangulo. Kapag nagtransition kailangan po maayos na nakalatag ang ating recovery plan [This pandemic won't end right away. In fact, this might last until elec-

tions. Once the election period comes, we are expecting a new president. Prior to that transition, we should put in place our recovery plan]," he said.

He went on to say that a foundation for the working sectors should be put in place so that Filipino workers will still be able to compete in both international and local job markets while regaining the business sectors' confidence in investing across the country.

Legacy campaign: reporting, not propaganda

Secretary Andanar also mentioned the pilot legacy communications campaign of PCOO Duterte Legacy, which highlights the accomplishments of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte during his term. He said that this initiative sets a benchmark of good governance for succeeding administrations.

He stressed that the implementation of the Duterte Legacy campaign is a way of reporting to the public, rather than the claim of critics that it is propaganda.

"Hindi po propaganda yan. Hindi po fake news yan. Yung mga binanggit ko naman ay mararamdaman niyo, makikita, masasalat, mahahawakan. Hindi naman natin ugali ang magsinungaling, tayu ay nagrereport lamang [That is not propaganda. It is not in any way fake news. Those projects I have mentioned are tangible. You can feel, see, and touch them. We are not in the business of lying, we are only reporting]," he said.

No gov't fund used in PDP Laban convention; all health protocols followed

DILG Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya on Wednesday stressed that no government funds were used in the national convention of PDP Laban in San Fernando, Pampanga and that all applicable health protocols were complied with.

In an interview upon his arrival at the Laus Group Event Centre, the venue of the event, Malaya said that to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved, all participants are still required to undergo on-site antigen testing even if they have negative RT PCR result.

The antigen test is separate from the requirement for all participants to submit negative RT PCR test results taken not more than 48 hours from the day of the convention.

"The cost for the event including venue and food is paid for entirely by the party. The antigen testing is paid for by PDP Laban party. There are no government funds used for

the antigen testing," Malaya said.

He added that the RT PCR tests were paid for by the concerned individuals.

"For instance, I paid for my own RT PCR test," Malaya said.

Only around 400 delegates are expected to attend the convention in person, allowing for adequate space for social distancing as the venue can accommodate as many as 2,500 persons.

Under the omnibus guidelines of the Inter-Agency Task Force on the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF), mass gathering is allowed in a province under MGCQ subject to limitations on operational capacity of up to 50 percent.

Likewise, Malaya noted that members of the Presidential Security Group (PSG) are present in the event as part of their mandate to protect President Rodrigo Duterte, who is expected to grace the event.

President Duterte has said

TOP 4 MOST WANTED SA CALABARZON, KALABOSO

KALABOSO ang 52-anyos na lalaki na tinaguriang top 4 most wanted person ng PRO4A (regional level) makaraang makalawit sa pinalakas na 'Oplan Saliksik at Pagtugis' ng mga tauhan ni MPD DD PBGen Leo Francisco katuwang ang PNP Intelligence Unit 4A RID4A, PIT Cavite at Carmona MPS sa tinutulongang bahay sa Building 17, Permanent Housing, Brgy. 128, Balut, Tondo, Manila.

Sa ikinasang 'Oplan Pagtugis' ng MPD na pinangunahan nina PMAJ Edward G. Samonte at PCPT Henry G. Navarro, ng S.M.a.R.T, ay nasakote ang subject ng operasyon na si Jesus Niones y Corduva, residente sa Brgy. Gregoria, GMA, Cavite.

Arestado sa bisa ng warrant of arrest si Niones sa kasong murder na kabilang sa talaan ng PRO4A regional most wanted person sa CALABARZON bilang Top 4.

Katuwang ng mga tauhan ni MPD S.Ma.R.T

PLTCOL Rosalino P. Ibay, Jr. ang PNP IG- RIU 4A at mga tauhan nina PRO4A RD PBGen Eliseo Cruz at PD PCOL Marlon Santos

mula sa Cavite PIT PEMS Jeffrey Atanacio, RID PRO4A, GMA MPS, Carmona MPS Cavite PPO, 3011 CIS, 301st SMG at 300th AISW - Philippine Air Force.

Kaugnay nito, pinuri ni NCRPO RD PMGEN Vicente Danao, Jr. ang matagumpay na operasyon ng MPD at ang maayos na pakikipagtulungan sa ibang PNP at law enforcement units upang mapalakas ang intelligence network laban sa most wanted person.

"Palakasin ang intelligence info net at ipagpatuloy ang target hardening upang matiyak ang seguridad, katiwasayan at kaayusan ng pamayanan gayunrin ang magandang kooperasyon at koordinasyon sa iba't ibang PNP unit at other law enforcement agencies para mas maging matagumpay ang ating kampanya at mga programa para sa kapakanan ng sambayanang Pilipino, serbisyong tama lang, tapat, may tapang at malasakit sa mamamayan, kudos sa pagtutulongan, keep it up Team MPD!," pahayag ng butihing RD Danao. (*Leonard basilio*)

Bakunahan sa DOLE

UMABOT sa higit 1,000 ang nabakunahan sa ikinasagang vaccination program ng Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

Ito'y para sa mga manggagawa mula sa sektor ng industriya kung saan sumalang dito ang mga constructions at production workers.

Nasa 1,100 ang target na mabakunahan kung saan inihayag ni Labor Secretary Silvestre Bello III na importanteng mabakunahan ang mga katulad nilang nasa sektor ng industriya.

Ito'y dahil sila ang isa mga dahilan para magpatuloy at lumago ang ating ekomomiya sa gitna ng COVID-19 pandemic. Ginanap ang bakunahan sa mismong tanggapan ng DOLE sa loob ng Intramuros, Maynila. (*Christian Heramis*)

RACE TO ZERO PROGRAM TO PROTECT ELIGIBLE MENDEZEÑOS

Trece Martires, Cavite (PIA) - The local government of Mendez-Nuñez launched the Race to Zero program that aims to vaccinate all eligible residents of the town in response to the recent surge in CoViD-19 cases within the locality alongside with the rest of the towns and cities in the province.

This is a four-pronged program which targets to bring down the number of Active cases and slow-down the rate of transmission.

The first prong, Vaccination Intensification is the gathering of data for the vaccinated and unvaccinated members of the household that requires Barangay Council members to conduct house-to-house distribution of forms.

The data shall also include the reason/reasons for not being vaccinated.

Disiplanong Aksyon, the second category of the program requires the practice of discipline for one's own safety as well as the safety

#PRCBKUNABUS: ADDED RELIEF TO LGUS' VACCINATION EFFORTS

Trece Martires, Cavite (PIA) - The #PRCBakunaBus, a mobile vaccination initiative of the Philippine Red Cross continued to roll out in different barangays in the cities and municipalities in the province thru the close coordination of the PRC-Cavite and the local government units.

On August 18, 2021, the Philippine Red Cross Cavite Chapter Health Services conducted a dry run of the Bakuna Bus in Cavite City where 63 persons, 60 of which were vaccinated with Sinovac and Janssen CoViD-19 vaccines.

In its rollout in the municipality of General Mariano Alvarez, no less than a hundred Overseas Filipino Workers, plus other members of the priority groups received their 1st vaccine jab from the 500 doses of Pfizer vaccine brought by the #PRCBakunaBus during the third week of August.

It also contributed to the vaccination efforts of the Bacoor City Government on August 24, 2021 that inoculated a total of 3,650 Bacooreños.

Imus City Mayor Emmanuel Maliksi was grateful for the vaccination activities brought by the #PRCBakunaBus that rolled into the city benefitting 500 residents of Primarosa Subdivision in Barangay Buhay

of their love ones.

For the third category, Malasakit sa Kapwa aims to raise the awareness of the residents as well as the visiting outsiders thru the posting of the list of Active cases in four public places in each barangay.

This measure will somehow make the residents or the outsiders to be cautious and to be reminded to stay home, and observe the minimum health standards.

There is no other more effective action in this health crisis than prayers.

This is the fourth prong of the program, Dalangin sa Panginoon as we all seek God's protection from this dreaded disease by continuously praying for healing of our community, our country, and for the whole of humanity.

Current CoViD-19 updates reported 198 Active cases recorded as of September 5, 2021. (*RF/LGU Mendez-Nuñez*)

na Tubig, and at Summerpointe Subdivision, Barangay Pasong Buaya 2 on Thursday, September 2, 2021 and in Legian 1 subdivision on September 6 for its 4th visit to the city.

According to Mayor Maliksi, the Bakuna Bus is an effective way of bringing the vaccine protection safely to the people of Imus.

In coordination with the LGU, Municipal Health Office and the Rotary Club of Carmona led by Mr. Patrick Doloroso who is also one of the PRC-Cavite Chapter's Board of Director, 500 1st doses of the Sinovac vaccine were administered at the Carmona State, Barangay Lantic on Friday, September 3, 2021.

According to the latest report from the Philippine Red Cross, the Bakuna Bus fleet now has 16 bus units to be deployed in different parts of the country with a high percentage of CoViD-19 cases or an increased rate of transmission.

Aside from the Bakuna bus, the Philippine Red Cross-Cavite chapter also conduct vaccination activities in vaccination sites to help increase the immunization rate of the province, and give the vaccine protection to as many people as possible amidst the alarming spread of the Delta variant. (*Ruel Francisco/PRC-Cavite chapter*)

DONATE-A-BOOK, SHARE THE JOY OF LEARNING AT THE SM STORE

SM shoppers can continue to share the joys of learning with children who need them most through The SM Store's Donate a Book campaign, which is now ongoing at select branches nationwide until September 30, 2021.

While face to face classes still have to resume, schooling certainly extends beyond the campus. And your donations will go a long way as these will be very helpful to distributed to partner public schools and libraries around the country. Here's how you can share your gift of knowledge:

- Visit the Donate a Book booths at participating branches of the SM Store at Metro Manila, North Luzon, South Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao.

- Donate new or pre-loved books. All books are very much welcome, especially storybooks, educational, and hobby books that can help spark a child's curiosity, imagination, and knowledge.

- Donate and match with Learning Is Fun (LIF) books that are available at The SM Store. LIF offers a wide range of books from toddlers to adult categories.



Kids from Balanga Elementary school are very happy to receive books donated by The SM Store during the recent Donate-a-Book campaign turn-over ceremony, held last 2019 in Balanga, Bataan.

such as activity books, early learning educational books, cookbooks, reference books, storybooks, Inspirational books, and game and toy books. Being the participating partner of the said campaign, the company will donate the same number of books sold during the program period.

- School supplies are welcome. you can also donate notebook packs of 6 and school sets that include a backpack, notebooks, rulers, and pens that are available at The SM Stationery section.

In exchange, shoppers will

receive 100 pesos discount coupon for every donation made.

The Donate-a-Book campaign began in 1998 as one of SM Foundation's groundbreaking mall-based programs. It has since been part of the SM Store's community programs since 2015, collecting and distributing almost 800,000 books and learning materials through the generosity of The SM Store customers.

Share the Joy of Learning and visit the Donate-a-Book kiosks at the participating branches of The SM Store nationwide.



Since 2015, The SM Store has collected and distributed over 800,000 books to public schools and libraries through the Donate-A-Book campaign. Pre-pandemic photo shows the turnover of the books and school supplies to the students of Balanga Elementary School in Balanga, Bataan. Here, Elena Almario and Marilyn Gerio of Dep Ed EPS 1, and Balanga Elementary School Principal IV Amelia Irieto receive the books from (from left) SM Foundation Head of School Building Team Juris Soliman, The SM Store North Luzon Zone Head Joseph Rosal, SM Retail SAVV Gilda Maguilar, and The SM Store Dlongapo Branch Manager Rosemarie Chua-Labrador.



These girls from Balanga Elementary School happily and excitedly show their brand new sets of school supplies courtesy of The SM Store's Donate-a-Book campaign.



Shoppers can share the gift of knowledge with less fortunate children through the Donate-a-Book campaign now ongoing at selected SM Stores nationwide until September 30.

New and gently used pre-loved books in all kinds are all welcome. Shoppers can also donate and match with Learning is Fun (LIF) books, as well as SM Stationery section's learning materials, and in exchange, shoppers will receive 100 pesos discount coupon for every donation made.

HOME AT KULTURA



Inspired by nature and crafted by local artisans for your home: seagrass pendant light, acacia wood dining accessories and multi-functional handwoven baskets used as tray, storage and planters from Kultura.



Enjoy your next cup of coffee or tea with these acacia mugs. Each one is expertly carved by skilled woodworkers from Pampanga, making them even more special.



Create rustic tablescapes at home with acacia dinnerware and help support the Pampangueño artisans behind them.



Beautifully grained coco wood tray skillfully made by local craftsmen.



Handwoven by a small community in La Union, these eco-friendly and durable rattan baskets are versatile pieces you can use to organize or decorate your home.



Eco-friendly and versatile, these handwoven nito baskets from Ibayay, Aklan are great additions to your home.



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Eco-friendly and versatile, these handwoven nito baskets from Ibayay, Aklan are great additions to your home.

Handcrafted baskets by the local artisans of Bicol and La Union... elegant dinnerware by the master wood workers of Pampanga... and exquisite nito baskets that celebrate the unique art form of the Mangyan of Mindoro.

Gifts from Philippine fields and forests- bamboo, acacia, abaca, rattan, and nito -are transformed into creative pieces in Kultura's latest houseware collection, adding warmth and lightness to your home décor.

This comes at a time when natural materials like rattan and wicker are having their moment as a major interior design trend. And innovative global furniture companies are reinventing these in new ways – think IKEA's rattan pouf, West Elm's luxurious accent chairs, H & M's bounty of baskets. Suddenly, homespun is hot, folklore is fun, traditional is trending, and rustic makes raves.

Get ready to weave Kultura's natural wonders into your home.

- With their intricate weaves, textures and natural beauty, Kultura's multi-functional baskets will elevate any space. Whether used as storage solutions, planters and décor, these baskets' neutral colors can easily blend and will add warmth in any space.

- Stylish acacia wood dining accessories, on the other hand, with make your tables more inviting. Handcrafted trays made out of coco wood, capiz and mahogany also highlight great entertaining with style.

- There are also gifts from our coastal waters - hanging seagrass accents that can be used as pendant lights for your dining area. Flourishing in underwater meadows that resemble grassy fields, seagrass or water hyacinth have an artisanal aesthetic and have been trending because of their durability.

Let's Support Local together! Kultura's products for the home are handcrafted by artisanal communities all over the Philippines. Customers can now buy these well-loved home items without needing to travel to these places. Help preserve crafts and traditions and sustain these communities by providing them with opportunities for livelihood.

The Home Collection is available at Kultura Stores. You can also shop thru our website: www.kulturafilipino.com or thru Call to Deliver 0917-5174096. Kultura ships here and abroad.



PINAKAMAHUSAY NA MGA PARALYMPIAN SA BUONG MUNDO

Upang maging karapat-dapat at makilahok sa Paralympics ay isang malaking karangalan sa sarili nito. "Ilang araw bago ang pag-alis ng Team Philippines, ilang mga opisyal at atleta ang nagpositibo sa Covid-19, kasama ang tatlong pambato ng bansa sa Palaro - para sa powerlifter Achelle Guion, para taekwondo jin Allain Ganapin, at para discus thrower na si Jeanette Aceveda na pawang humihila mula sa kanilang mga kaganapan matapos na positibo ang pagsubok para sa coronavirus.

Sa kabila ng mga walang katapusang hamon at hadlang na kinakaharap ng aming delegasyon, ang tatlong natitirang Paralympians sa Jerrold Mangliwan ng para athletics, at para swimmers na sina Ernie Gawilan at Gary Bejino ay tumayo na may pagmamalaki at mahusay na nakipaglaban laban sa mga kampeon mula sa kani-kanilang palakasan.

Si Mangliwan ay sumulong sa finals ng kanyang tatlong mga kaganapan. Inilagay niya ang pang-lima at ginawang pinakamahasay ang kanyang bagong personal sa men's 400 metro T52 race finals at sinira din ang kanyang sariling pinakamagandang oras sa men's 1500m T52 na kompetisyon.

Si Gawilan ay naglagay ng pang-anim sa men's 400m freestyle S7 event at naging kauna-unahang para sa manlalangoy ng Filipino na umabante sa Paralympics finals.

Si Bejino, sa kabilang banda, ay nagpakita rin ng malaking potensyal na dumating sa 2024 Paris Games sa kabila ng pagiging first-timer sa quadrennial meet.

"Sa kabila ng nangyari, ipinagamalaki namin ang mga bihirang Filipino Paralympian na ito. Pinasigla nila ang bansa sa kanilang mga nakamit. Sila ang ating mga bagong bayani ngayon na sa kabila ng kanilang mga kalagayan ay nakipaglaban nang maayos," Ramirez said.

Sinabi ni Ramirez sa harap ng pandemya, nagawang tumugon ng PSC sa mga alalahanin ng para atleta.



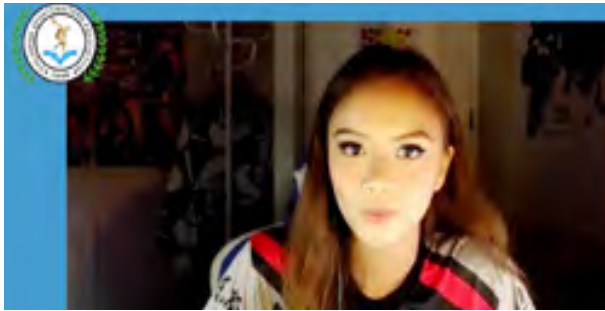
Noong Agosto 12, inihayag ni Ramirez na ang bawat para sa mga atleta, coach, at opisyal ay tatanggap ng PHP100,000 karagdagang travel allowance para sa Palaro. Sa pagsulong ng para sports, nanawagan si Ramirez para sa pagbabago at karagdagang pag-unlad ng pagkakakilanlan ng talento para sa mga atleta. "Kasama ang Philippine Paralympic Committee, inaasahan naming makahanap ng mga venue ng pagsasanay para sa aming mga para-atleta sa pambansang pool," aniya. "Ang mga sakripisyo at katatagan ng mga para-atleta na ito ay hindi maihahambing. Susuportahan namin sila sa anumang paraan na makakaya namin."



TOPS GROUP PHOTO

PINALIWANAG ni NCFP CEO GM Jayson Gonzales sa pagdalo sa TOPS Usapang Sports via zoom online ang naging kaganapan kaugnay sa international chess tournament online kung saan ay sunuspande ang Philippine Chess team dahil sa pagkakamaling naganap. Idinagdag nito na kasalukuyan nang umapela sa FIDE ang nasabing grupo. Kasama sa larawan sina DR. Jay Adalem Secretary General Philippine Handball Federation, Janelle Mae Frayna - Philippine First Women Grandmaster, TOPS President Ed Andaya maging ang mga membro. (RGN)

FILIPINA KART RACER TATLONG BESES NA KAMPEON SA MACAO GRAND FRIX



KART RACER

Ang batang Filipina kart racer na 3 ulit na nag kampeon sa Macao Grand Frix na si Bianca Bustamante na nagbahagi ng pahayag sa online Weekly PSA Forum kung saan nakatakdang umalis upang lumahok sa FIA Girls sa Track Rising Stars sa sikat na Circuit Paul Ricard track sa Marseille. (RGN)

Ang isang 16-taong-gulang na Filipina kart racer ay lalabas upang gumawa ng higit pang mga ulo sa international circuit.

Si Bianca Bustamante, na karera mula noong siya ay limang taon, ay malapit nang umalis para sa France upang sumali sa FIA Girls sa Track Rising Stars sa sikat na Circuit Paul Ricard track na malapit sa Marseille.

Siya lang ang magiging Asyano sa 14 na babaeng driver sa nakatatandang kategorya. Saklaw nito ang tatlong araw na shootout sa Oktubre 21 hanggang 23. Ang nangungunang walong junior at senior finishers ay susulong sa magkakahiwalay na mga kampeon ng pagsasanay para sa karting at F4.

Pagkatapos ang nangungunang apat sa bawat pangkat ay makakapasok sa prestihiyosong Ferrari Driver Academy. Ang nakataya sa kampong iyon ay isang puwang sa panahon ng International Karting na may buong suporta mula kay Ferrari.

"Ito ay isang pangarap na natupad. Pinagsikapan ko talaga ito, "sinabi ni Bustamante sa online na Philippine Sportswriters Association Forum ng Martes.

Si Bustamante, na tumanggap ng isport dahil kasama ang kanyang ama, ay nagsabing inihahanda na niya ang kanyang sarili sa pag-iisip at pisikal pagkatapos na iginawad sa puwang. Hangga't pinapayagan ang mga quarantine na protokol, nagsasanay siya sa Clark International Circuit.

"Medyo mahirap (pandemya) pero talagang pinaghahandaan ko talaga. Nag-eensayo ako sa buong buhay ko, "sabi ng batang karter na nangangarap na maging isang F1 racer balang araw. Siya ang namumuno sa Pilipinas Driver of the Year sa Karting.

Ang pagsali sa Bustamante sa forum na ipinakitang San Miguel Corporation (SMC), MILO® Philippines, Amelie Hotel Manila, Braska Restaurant, at ang Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) ay ang kanyang manager na nakabase sa Hong Kong, si Daryl O'Young ng Craft Bambu. Karera (CBR).

"Si Bianca ay naghahanda para sa sandaling ito. Ito ay isang maikling programa kung kaya't kailangan niyang patunayan ang kanyang sarili nang mabilis, "sabi ni Young, na nag-aalaga ng karera sa karera ni Bustamante pati na rin ang pagpapalakas ng kanyang pangkalahatang imahe.

"Siya ay magiging isang mahusay na embahador para sa isport. Siya ay mapagpakumbaba at palabas at may maraming potensyal, "sabi ni O'Young, isang kampeon mismo ng kart racer, ng Bustamante, isang apat na beses na nagwagi sa China Grand Prix at three-time champion sa Macau GP.

CEBUANO PLAYER BUMIDA SA ARENA INTERNATIONAL MASTER NG WORLD CHESS FEDERATION (FIDE)

Bidang bida si United States-based Cebuano chess player Engr. Josito "Jojo" Clamor Dondon ang kanyang pangalan bilang kauna-unahang Arena International Master ng World Chess Federation (FIDE) mula Bantayan Island sa northern Cebu. Si Dondon tubong municipality ng Madridejos kung saan ang mga natives ay kilala sa tawag na Lawisanons ay opisyal ng nakamit ang AIM title matapos mabuwag ang 1900 barrier.

"Hard work, perseverance, & fair play paid off. Finally dream come true. Sure my parents up there are proud too. They were my first coach and manager. Thanks to my team Marlon Bernardino and Eden Diano" pagbabahagi ni Dondon na naka base sa McAllen, Texas sa kanyang facebook account.

Nito lamang nakaraang buwan ay si Dondon na miyembro ng United States Chess Federation (USCF) ay unang nakopo ang Arena Fide Master matapos matangap ang kanyang e-certificate duly signed ni FIDE President Arkady Dvorkovich ng Russia.

"This is a very emotional accomplishment for me. A very elusive quest came unexpectedly through the program of FIDE designed for strong-non titled/non-master players,"sambit ni Dondon. Bago ang pakikipagsapalaran sa Estados Unidos dalawang dekada na ang lumipas, si Dondon ay isa sa bigating player ng Cebu na maraming beses na ding nagkampeon.

Siya ay top board player ng Cebu Institute of Technology (now CIT-U) ng kanyang college days kung saan si Dondon ay dalawnag beses na nagkampeon sa Far East Bank and Trust Company (FEBTC) champion sa Central Visayas at Northern Mindanao noong 1997 at 1993, ayon sa pagkakasunod.

Noong 1997 ay tumapos siya ng first runner-up sa Mandaue Chess Open kung

saan ay tatlong three maseters ang kanyang tinalo ayon sa pagkakasunod ay sina NM Richard Bitoon (now a GM), IM Yves Ranola, at NM Carlito Lavega. Nang panahon ding yun ay sariwa pa si Bitoon sa kanyang stunning victory kay Asia's first GM Eugene Torre sa National Open sa Manila.

Pinangunahan din ni Dondon ang PAGCOR Cebu na empleyado siya ng nasabing kumpanya kung saan ay nagtala ito ng seven straight championships sa Government Corporation Athletic Association (GCAA) at sa Association of Regional and National Executives (ARENA) chess tilts mula 1995 at 2001.

Ang 55-year-old Dondon na licensed electronics and communications engineer ay active member at long-time supporter ng Cebu Executives and Professionals Chess Association (CEPCA).

Sa katunayan sa panahon ng pandemic nitong nakaraang taon ay tumulong si Dondon sa CEPCA para maging buhay ang Cebu chess scene sa pag suporta sa club's weekly online tournaments. Si Dondon ay nag ukit din ng history ng kanyang chess career sa US. Siya ang naghari sa Las Vegas at St. Louis noong 2004. Nang taong ding yun ay napanalunan nya ang \$10,000 ng magkampeon sa World Open U2000 sa Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Si Dondon ay matagal ng US Candidate Master simula pa noong 2012 kung saan nalaman nya lamang ay tatlong taon na nakalipas.

Ang maging full-fledged US Master ay isa sa maraming goals ni Dondon. "My target is to become a US Master right away after this pandemic when there is over the board tourneys already. Then I have to work also to become an IM or Arena GM. I hope to attain all of these in the future," pagtatapos ni Dondon. (Marlon Bernardino)



RAIN OR SHINE vs Ginebra

Ilan lamang sa maaksyong tagpo ng PBA Honda Philippine Cup 2021 na ginanap sa DHVSU Gym in Bacolor, Pampanga sa pagitan ng Ginebra at Rain or Shine kung saan nagwagi ang Gin Kings sa Elastopaint sa puntos na 83 - 77, (RGN)

PROPOSED 2022 BUDGET, PINABABALIK NI HONTIVEROS SA MALACANANG; PONDO PARA SA AYUDA, BENEPISYO NG HEALTH WORKERS, ISINULONG

Nanawagan si Senador Risa Hontiveros sa Malakanyang na amyenda-han ang isinumite nitong 2022 budget proposal sa Kongreso, na ayon sa Senadora ay bigong maglaan ng sapat na pondo sa mga 'essential item' na makakatulong sa matagumpay na pagharap ng bansa sa pandemya.

Sinabi ni Hontiveros na sa ipinanukalang 2022 National Expenditure Program (NEP), bigo ang Ehekutibo na maglaan ng pondo para sa mga benepisyo ng mga healthcare workers, ayuda para sa mga bagong mahirap na pamilya, service contracting, at ang paglagay lang sa vaccine booster shots sa ilalim ng 'unprogrammed appropriations'.

"Masyadong disconnected ang budget na ito sa realidad ng pandemiya. Mananatili pa ang banta ng COVID-19 sa susunod na isa o dalawang taon. Malacanang has to send an amendment and an addendum to the 2022 budget to make sure the relief and response are at a high level," ani Hontiveros.

Ayon sa Senador, hindi katanggap-tanggap na ang mga healthcare workers na nangunguna sa laban ng bansa kontra COVID-19 ay hindi pinaglaanan, kahit isang sentimo, para sa kanilang kapakanan.

"Sa kabila ng kali-kaliwang panawagan at panaghyong at ating healthcare workers na maibigay na ang kanilang SRA, gaano kagarapal na sa budget sa susunod na taon ay ni singkong duling, walang inilaan para sa kanilang SRA, hazard pay, allowance sa meals, accommodations at transportation? Bigyan naman natin ng dignidad ang ating medical frontliners," ayon kay Hontiveros.

Kinuwestiyon din ng Senador ang kakulangan ng pondo para sa mga bagong mahihirap na pamilya na karapat-dapat na mapabilang sa Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) sa ilalim ng Department of

Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). "Marami ang mga pamilyang natulak sa kahirapan at pasok sa listahan ng DSWD na makatanggap ng conditional cash transfer pero bakit hindi ito nilagyan ng pondo? Hindi ba't kailangang-kailangan ngayon ng mapapagkunan ng mga pinakamahihirap na pamilyang Pinoy?," tanong niya.

Pati ang service contracting, aniya, ay hindi man lang pinaglaanan ng pondo, na siyang inasahang suporta ng mga operator ng private utility vehicles (PUVs) na patuloy na nawawalan ng sapat na kita dahil sa pisikal na distansya at limitadong mga ruta. Noon pa man ay nanawagan na si Hontiveros na bigyang-suporta ang service contracting upang mapagaan ang pagbiyahe ng commuters at bigyan ng hanapbuhay ang PUV drivers.

Ipinahayag din ni Hontiveros ang pagkadismaya na ang budget para sa booster shots ng bakuna ay inilagay lamang sa ilalim ng 'unprogrammed appropriations'. "Kung ikaw ba na nagbabudget para sa pamilya mo, syempre uunahin mo kung ano ang pinaka-kailangan. I am disappointed na ang booster shots, na napakahalaga para mailigtas ang buhay ng mga Pilipino, ay nasa bingit ng alanganin. Mayroon lang kung may kita o madadagdag ng utang ang gobyerno," aniya.

Idinagdag ni Hontiveros na walang karagdagang budget para sa Commission on Elections (COMELEC) para mapondohan nito ang pagboto sa new normal. "Wala ring inilaang extended voting hours at pagdadagdag ng clustered precincts para makaboto ang lahat ng qualified voters sa susunod na taon. Kailangang masiguradong walang voter disenfranchisement na maganap at mapreserba ang integridad ng ating halalan."

Ipinunto niya na dapat ba-

wasan ng Malakanyang ang budget ng ilang ahensya, gaya ng National Task Force to end Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) na lumobo ang budget ng 57%, at ng mga infrastructure budget na dapat aniya ay babaan at tiyakin na laman na mayroong mga multi-year obligation authorities (MYOA) na gagastusan ang mga connective network infrastructure mula 2023 hanggang sa mga susunod na taon.

"As far as we all are concerned, we demand a budget that will effectively address the demands of the time. Common sense dapat na ang priority ay ang magliligtas ang buhay at kabuhayan ng ating mga kababayan," ayon kay Hontiveros.

"Hindi pwedeng sa gitna ng mga bagong variant ng COVID, ay wala kang budget para sa benepisyo ng health workers, walang ayuda, walang nakalaan para sa booster shot ng bakuna na magbibigay-proteksyon laban sa nakamamatay na virus. Kapag ganito ang proposal, dapat i-return to sender para ayusin," pagtatapos niya. **PR**

DOT, partner agencies boost promotion of Filipino food experience

MANILA – Several government agencies have partnered to boost the promotion of Filipino culinary traditions in the years to come through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) signed Wednesday.

Through the MOU, the Department of Tourism (DOT), together with the Department of Agriculture (DA), National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), and the Philippine Culinary Heritage Movement (PCHM) will drive up appreciation and preservation of Filipino culinary traditions to ensure transmission to future generations.

The DOT said the document would also infuse food tourism in the country's annual celebration of Filipino food every April and support food tourism stakeholders such as farmers and agri-communities. "As we look forward to every annual celebration of Filipino Food Month, we

Duterte admin enacts reforms to provide better life for Filipinos

MANILA – The Duterte administration accomplished several reforms that took decades to be enacted that helped the country attain its lowest poverty rate in 2018 and will pave the way for the achievement of its 2040 vision, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) said.

In his presentation during the Talk to the People of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte that aired Wednesday, Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Karl Kendrick Chua highlighted five of NEDA's top contributions since 2016 to help provide a better life for all Filipinos.

These are strong economic management, the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys) or national ID program, the Rice Tariffication Law (RTL), the infrastructure program, and the Ease of Doing Business Law.

The NEDA chief said that in the first four years of the administration, the Philippines recorded a strong economic growth performance averaging 6.6 percent from 2016 to 2019, the lowest unemployment (5.3 percent), and underemployment (14.8 percent) rates in January 2020. In addition, Chua said that in 2018, the Philippines recorded the lowest poverty rate (16.7 percent) in the country's history.

"Ang ating pangako na maingat ang anim na milyong Pilipino mula sa kahirapan ay nakamit po natin noong 2018, four years ahead of our schedule. Kasi ang una pong naisip po natin ay maaabot yan sa 2022. Pero dahil po sa mga reporma natin, four years ahead of schedule po tayu. (Our promise of lifting 6 million Filipinos out of poverty was achieved in 2018, four years ahead of sched-

ule. We initially targeted to achieve this by 2022, but due to our country's commitment to push for the needed reforms, we achieved this four years ahead of schedule)," Chua said.

Among these reforms are the national ID program and the RTL.

The national ID program was first attempted in 1973 and was finally enacted 45 years later in August 2018.

It provides all Filipinos with a unique proof of identity to facilitate financial inclusion and the more efficient provision of key services.

As of Sept. 3, 2021, 41.9 million Filipinos have registered for step 1 or the demographic data collection.

Of this, 28.6 million have registered for step 2 or the biometrics capture and 5.2 million individuals have applied for a bank account, while 1.5 million Filipinos have already received their identification cards or PhilID.

The national ID may also be used in the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) vaccine rollout and distribution of emergency subsidies.

Signed into law by President Rodrigo R. Duterte in August 2018, Republic Act 11055, or the Philippine Identification System Act, aims to establish a single national ID for all Filipinos and resident aliens.

The national ID shall be a valid proof of identity that shall be a means of simplifying public and private transactions, enrollment in schools, and the opening of bank accounts.

It also seeks to boost efficiency, especially in dealing with government services where people will only need to present one ID during transactions.

The RTL was only legislated

in 2019 or 32 years later since it was first attempted in 1987. The reform helped lower rice prices due to more open importation and increased farmer productivity due to the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund.

"From a peak of 45 pesos per kilo bago po maipasa ang RTL, naibaba po natin ito hanggang 37 pesos per kilo. At tuloy-tuloy po, nakikita namin, ang potensyal ng pagbaba ng presyo ng bigas para matulungan ang bawat Pilipino. (From a peak of 45 pesos per kilo before RTL, we were able to lower rice prices to as low as 37 pesos per kilo. We see the potential of continuous lowering of rice prices to help every Filipino)," Chua said.

Moreover, under the Duterte administration, infrastructure spending tripled and created millions of jobs, contributing to the lowest unemployment and poverty rates before the pandemic.

During the administration, the NEDA Investment Coordination Committee approved 79 major infrastructure projects amounting to PHP3.9 trillion. These projects are expected to generate 6 million jobs over the construction period and reduce the Filipinos' travel time, by 41 percent, and transport costs, by PHP43 billion annually.

Meanwhile, with the implementation of the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018, the Philippines' global ranking in ease of doing business improved by 29 notches from 2019 to 2020, the largest improvement in recent history.

Chua said attaining the country's economic growth targets in 2021 and 2022 remains encouraging and NEDA will continue to pursue economic reforms to attract more investments and create more and better jobs.

"Mayroon po tayong naititirang economic reforms na na-certify niyo na po as urgent. Ito po ang mga Public Service Act, Retail Trade Liberalization Act, at Foreign Investment Act. At ang layunin nito ay maka-attract po tayu ng mas maraming investment. Para sa mga ordinaryong Pilipino, ito po 'yong paglikha po natin ng mas marami at mas mabuting trabaho. (We have remaining reforms that have been certified as urgent. These are the amendments to the Public Service Act, Retail Trade Liberalization Act, and Foreign Investment Act, which aim to attract more investments. For ordinary Filipinos, this means creating more and better jobs)," Chua said.

These reforms are included in the Updated Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022 anchored on the 0-10 point Socioeconomic Agenda and is geared towards achieving the Ambisyon Natin 2040 or the collective long-term vision of the country. **(PR)**

would like to use this as a platform to promote travel for a taste of a place in order to get a sense of a place," Tourism chief Bernadette Romulo-Puyat said in her opening remarks during the virtual signing ceremony.

A DA-NCCA-DOT-PCHM Technical Working Group (TWG) shall be formed and will conduct quarterly meetings to ensure the smooth implementation of the activities and responsibilities enclosed in the MOU.

DOT, specifically, will be tasked to include its food and gastronomy tourism-related activities in the calendar of events for the Filipino Food Month and to provide support through information dissemination.

Romulo-Puyat said the DOT fully supports the initiative, underscoring the immense potential of Filipino food in tourism prior to the pandemic.

"Our own internal studies in the DOT have revealed that prior to the pandemic

in 2019, inbound tourists spent 22.4 percent of their total expenditures on food and beverage items. For domestic tourists, 8 percent was devoted to F&B expenses and a big chunk of shopping expenses were also spent on foodie treats," she said.

The official said the DOT had been harnessing the potentials of food tourism by formulating regional tourism circuits with food and farm experiences as the centerpiece of itineraries.

She said the DOT is also conducting food tourism resource inventories and mapping of key food tourism destinations in the country, including facilitating capacity-building programs to equip community stakeholders.

"As we shine the spotlight on our diverse culinary heritage and our agricultural producers, let us also experience the fun of food tripping in the Philippines," she said. **(PNA)**

No trolls hired in 375 COS workers: PCOO

MANILA – The Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) on Tuesday assured there are no "trolls" in the agency's hiring of 375 contract of service (COS) workers in 2020.

During the House appropriations committee hearing on the PCOO's budget for 2022, ACT Teachers party-list Rep. France Castro said the 375 COS personnel the agency hired last year could have been used as "ghost employees" or social media trolls.

PCOO undersecretary Kristian Ablan, however, said the hired COS personnel were not trolls.

"We assure that none of the 375 were part of a troll farm in social media. We define a troll as a person who posts negative comments inciting negativity," Ablan said. "We assure that there are no trolls hired doon sa 375. All of them are personnel providing specific tasks for the PCOO."

Ablan also said the number of COS workers has decreased from 375 to 301, saying that PCOO is working on increasing the number of plantilla positions.

"That number will continue to be reduced as we will be absorbing many of the contracts of service to the plantilla positions recently granted to us by the Department of Budget and Management," he said.

State auditors earlier questioned the PCOO for hiring 375 COS employees for public relations work in 2020 that led to expenses of over PHP70.6 million for their salaries.

Out of the PCOO's total workforce of over 500, only 144 are regular employees while the rest are contractual.

The proposed budget for the PCOO next year amounts to PHP1.91 billion, which is 18 percent higher compared to the PHP1.62-billion budget this year.

In the proposed budget, the PCOO proper has the largest share amounting to PHP740.2 million, followed by the Bureau of Broadcast Services (BBS) at PHP456.03 million, and the Philippine Infor-

mation Agency (PIA) at PHP333.54 million.

The Presidential Broadcast Staff Radio-TV Malacañang (PBS-RTVM) gets the fourth largest share at PHP171.86 million, followed by the News and Information Bureau (NIB) at PHP129.20 million, and the Bureau of Communications Services (BCS) at PHP70.59 million. Meanwhile, the National Printing Office (NPO) will get PHP9.13 million.

The agency also allocated subsidies to its government-owned and -controlled corporations (GOCCs) amounting to almost PHP178.63 million. Of this amount, PHP104.94 million go to the People's Television Network (PTV-4) to support its operations in offering better quality of programs; while PHP73.69 million will go to the Intercontinental Broadcasting Corporation (IBC-13) to support its maintenance and other operating expenses.

This brings the total agency budget and GOCC subsidy to PHP2.09 billion. **(PNA)**

PH strengthens interventions to ease food prices, curb inflation

MANILA – The government will continue to ensure a stable food supply to ease prices of fish, vegetables, and pork, and address the recent uptick in inflation, the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) said Tuesday.

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) reported that the headline inflation rate increased to 4.9 percent in August this year from 4.0 percent in July. This is at the upper-end of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas' forecast range of 4.1 to 4.9 percent for August 2021.

Despite this increase, the year-to-date inflation remained at 4.4 percent.

Food inflation continued its uptrend at 6.9 percent in August from 5.1 percent in July.

In particular, fish inflation accelerated to 12.4 percent from 9.3 percent, while vegetable inflation rose to 15.7 percent from

Why 'cedula' seems to be still in PH after 125 years

MANILA – While most of the present generation of Filipinos may be aware that the "cedula" or residence certificate was among the causes of the 1896 revolution against Spanish rule in the Philippines, some people could be wondering why such a certificate remains in use in the country today.

There is actually a very big difference between that 1896 "cedula" and the community tax certificate (CTC) being collected by local government units (LGUs) at present, or after 125 years.

According to the book "Philippine History and Government" by Dr. Gregorio F. Zaide and his daughter, Dr. Sonia M. Zaide, when Katipunan leader Andres Bonifacio tore up his Spanish-issued "cedula" (residence tax or tribute certificate) one day in August 1896, he shouted: "This is my answer to Spanish tyranny; let us fight for freedom."

The Zaides' book also said one of the earliest revolts against the tribute in the country started in Cagayan and the Ilocos

in 1589. In that year, the people there revolted due to the abuses of tax collectors. They killed many Spaniards, but then Spanish Governor Santiago de Vera pacified the rebel patriots by pardoning some of them.

The present community tax is being imposed by the Philippine government through the LGUs by virtue of Article 6 of the 1991 Local Government Code (LGC) or Republic Act 7160. The 866-page LGC was authored by the late Senate President Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr. and signed into law on Dec. 11, 1992 by then President Fidel V. Ramos.

According to Sections 156 and 157 of the LGC, cities or municipalities may levy a community tax as "residents have a financial obligation to specifically contribute to the development of their communities."

Pimentel noted that during the deliberations on the provisions of the LGC, there was serious discussion on the belief that "taxing the people for the right to live in their own country is an aberration of their

constitutional right to live anywhere in the Republic. We proposed the abolition of the so-called cedula or residence tax."

"Allusion to the Katipuneros' cry of Pugad Lawin where they tore up their cedula strengthens the call for the abolition of the cedula. Realizing, however, that it is also a sizable source of income for the government, upon suggestion of Senator Ernesto Maceda, we decided to change 'cedula' to community development tax," Pimentel said.

Section 157 of the LGC states: "Every inhabitant of the Philippines 18 years of age or over who has been regularly employed on a wage or salary basis for at least 30 consecutive working days during any calendar year, or who is engaged in business or occupation, or who owns or occupies real property with an aggregate assessed value of PHP1,000 or more, or who is required by law to file an income tax return shall pay an annual community tax of PHP5 and an annual additional tax of PHP1 for every PHP1,000.00

of income regardless of whether from business, exercise of profession or from property which in no case shall exceed PHP5,000."

In the case of husband and wife, the additional tax imposed shall be based upon the total value of the property they owned and the total gross receipts or earnings derived by them. Section 158 has this provision for juridical persons liable to community tax: "Every corporation, no matter how created or organized, whether domestic or resident foreign, engaged in or doing business in the Philippines, shall pay an annual community tax of PHP500 and an annual additional tax which, in no case, shall exceed PHP10,000 in accordance with the following schedule:

(1) For every PHP5,000 worth of real property in the Philippines owned by it during the preceding year based on the valuation used for the payment of real property tax under existing laws, found in the assessment rolls of the city or municipality where the real property is located--PHP2; and,

(2) For every PHP5,000.00 of gross receipts or earnings derived by it from business in the Philippines during the preceding year--PHP2.00.

The Community Tax Certificate shall be paid in the place of residence of the individual, or in the place where the principal office of the juridical entity is located.

The proceeds of the CTC collection shall accrue to the general funds of the cities, municipalities and barangays except a portion thereof which shall go to the general fund of the national government to cover the actual cost of printing by the Bureau of Internal Revenue and distribution of the forms and other related expenses.

The city or municipal treasurer shall deputize the barangay treasurer to collect the community tax in their respective jurisdictions. The barangay treasurer shall be bonded in accordance with existing laws. **(PNA)**

5.0 percent due to the impact of the southwest monsoon and onset of the rainy season.

Meat inflation slightly increased to 16.4 percent in August from 16 percent in July.

However, on a month-on-month basis, meat inflation slowed down to -0.4 percent suggesting some price stabilization.

In particular, retail prices of frozen and fresh pork have fallen by around PHP19 to PHP38 per kilo from their peak, following the issuance of Executive Order Nos. 133 and 134.

Rice inflation also remained negative at -0.4 percent year-on-year following the issuance of EO No. 135.

"We are beginning to see the impact of our proactive interventions to ease food prices, especially pork and rice. The government will continue to adjust and strengthen its policies to ensure that the people

have access to affordable food amid the pandemic," Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Karl Kendrick Chua said.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) is also intensifying its hog repopulation program to address the supply gap in domestic production and address the elevated pork inflation.

Meanwhile, to ensure stable fish supply, the DA issued Administrative Order No. 22, approving a Certificate of Necessity to Import (CNI) fish of 60,000 metric tons up to Dec. 31, 2021.

The DA is also preparing to increase the CNI should the initial imports not be sufficient to curb fish inflation. This is part of the government's proactive monitoring to ensure sufficient supply and stable prices during the closed fishing season.

To support vegetable production, the government

will further promote urban agriculture and backyard gardening.

Under these initiatives, the government will provide raw material resources, machinery and equipment, training and technical assistance, resiliency projects, and funding support.

Chua said that as granular lockdowns are implemented to curb the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) due to the Delta variant, the country should keep enabling key sectors of the economy to operate and ensure essential goods and services reach consumers.

"Keeping transportation available and affordable, while still following minimum public health standards, will help facilitate the movement of people, goods, and services. All these will allow people to safely earn income and keep prices stable," he added. **(PR)**

TIME TO RAISE COMPENSATION FOR HEINOUS CRIME VICTIMS: DOJ

MANILA – It's about time to amend a 29-year-old law that compensates victims of heinous crimes and those who have been wrongfully convicted.

Department of Justice (DOJ) Secretary Menardo Guevarra told reporters via text message on Monday that his agency supports the amendment to Republic Act (RA) No. 7309, the law that created the Board of Claims (BOC) for victims of unjust imprisonment or detention and victims of violent crimes.

"The DOJ will give its full support for the amendment of RA 7309 to increase the amount of compensation," Guevarra said. "The law was enacted in 1992 and the value of the award has not kept up with the changing times."

The House of Representatives will consolidate bills amending RA 7309, filed by Jesus Suntay (4th Dis-

trict, Quezon City), Manuel Cabochan (Magdalo party-list), Luis Campos (2nd District, Makati), Evelina Escudero (1st District, Sorsogon), and Mercedes Cagas (Lone District, Davao del Sur).

The lawmakers pointed out a decrease in the PHP18.66 million paid by the Board of Claims in 2018 to PHP7.80 million in 2019 due to tedious processes that discourage applicants who would otherwise be qualified for compensation. Among the proposed changes is to increase the current PHP1,000, which a wrongfully convicted individual is entitled to every month, to as much as PHP5,000.

"The amount provided in the law is not relevant considering the present economic conditions," Suntay explained in House Bill No. 5347.

Under the law, among

those who may file for compensation are those unjustly accused, convicted and imprisoned but subsequently released by virtue of a judgment of acquittal; unjustly detained and released without being charged; victims of arbitrary or illegal detention by the authorities; and victims of violent crimes such as rape and offenses committed with malice which resulted in death or serious physical and/or psychological injuries, permanent incapacity or disability, insanity, abortion, serious trauma, or committed with torture, cruelty or barbarity. In case of death or incapacity of any person entitled to any award, the claim

may be filed by the heirs in the following order: by the surviving spouse, children, natural parents, and siblings.

Any person entitled to compensation must file within six months after being released from imprisonment or detention, or from the date the victim suffered damage or injury. Otherwise, the victim is deemed to have waived the claim.

Aside from the award ceiling of PH1,000 per month of detention for victims of unjust imprisonment or detention, in all other cases, the maximum amount for which the Board may approve a claim does not exceed P10,000. (PNA)

Comply with court order on release of detainees, police told

MANILA – Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Gen. Guillermo Eleazar on Monday ordered police officers to comply with the court orders to release detainees under custody after posting bail.

Eleazar also tasked the Integrity Monitoring and Enforcement Group (IMEG) to probe the practice of some police officers who allegedly deliberately delay the release of detainees despite a release order.

"I am also ordering all chiefs of police and other unit commanders to immediately release detainees under their custody if a court order is already issued and if the subject detainees have already complied with all the requirements for their release, except if they have other pending cases and if there are other legal grounds to continue their detention," Eleazar said.

The order is to ensure respect to the due process and existing laws and to deny erring policemen to take advantage of the detainees and their relatives, Eleazar said.

Citing complaints, Eleazar said inmates were asked to pay several fees for

"board and lodging," "protection," and "visitation" -- a money-making scheme of some erring policemen on inmates under custody. The erring policemen would allegedly reason out that they could not release the detainees despite the court order since they have to check if the detainees are facing other cases.

Eleazar said a background check must be done right after the arrest to determine if they are also facing other cases or wanted for other criminal activities.

"Hindi natin papayagan ang ganitong uri ng korapsyon sa aming hanay at tinitiyak ko na mamalasin ang sinumang utak-kriminal na pulis na sangkot dito (We will not allow this kind of corruption in our ranks and I guarantee that any unscrupulous policemen involved in this kind of practice will be penalized)," Eleazar said. (PNA)

"Both the Department of Finance and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas are in sync in ensuring that fiscal and monetary tools in our arsenal are kept sharp and ready even for a protracted global health emergency," he added. (PNA)

Rise in PH debt still fiscally viable, sustainable: DOF chief

MANILA – Department of Finance (DOF) Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said Monday government debt and its share of domestic economic output rose last year due to pandemic-related spending but this remained fiscally viable and sustainable.

In his speech during the virtual House of Representatives' Ways and Means Committee briefing, Dominguez said the proportion of debt to gross domestic product (GDP) of the country rose by 15 percentage points last year from a record-low 39.6 percent pre-pandemic.

"It is important to note that about 25 percent of our domestic economy consists of government spending. If we did not increase the level of public spending through borrowings, the domestic economy would have collapsed. This event would have inflicted a far more painful toll on our people," he said.

Last year, the government borrowed about PHP2.7 trillion, majority of which was sourced onshore.

Dominguez said it is the right time to borrow "to fund our people's needs" but

clarified "we must use borrowings in a prudent manner" such as increasing the capacity of the health care system as well as the productive sectors.

"If we do not do these things, the economy will collapse even further," he added.

Dominguez also cited the need to spend wisely, such as on infrastructure programs "because infrastructure investments have the highest multiplier effect on economic growth."

The government touted its infrastructure program, "Build, Build, Build", as a major priority to ensure the sustainability of domestic growth.

The current administration increased infrastructure investment to around 5 percent of GDP from around 2.8 percent in the previous governments.

Dominguez said the financing program will remain to be sustainable and borrowing will be prudent to fund both the economic investments and the pandemic-related programs.

He said domestic borrowings will continue to account for the bulk of the financing given the high liquidity situation in the economy.



KING TIGER, BANDERANG TAPOS! NAMAYAN, HINANGAAN!

Bumanderang tapos ang kabayong si King Tiger na nirendahan ng hineteng si John Alvin Guce sa ginanap na 2021 Philracom Hopeful Stakes Race na inilarga sa karerahan ng Metro Manila Turf Club Inc. sa Malvar-Tanauan City, Batangas. Binulaga ng dehadong si King Tiger ang mga liyamadista at hindi nakaporma ang matutulin sa largahan matapos ang kanyang wire to wire win para sa mahabang distansiya. Pag bukas ng aparato ay agad na sinungaban ni King Tiger ang unahan at agad na hinawakan ang dalawang kabayong kalamangan sa pumapangalawa na si Liquid Gold na sakay ni MM Gonzales, pangatlo si Chrome Platter ni Pabs Cabalejo at pang-apat si Superformer na ginabayan ni AR Villegas. Pagdating sa 3/4 mile na distansiya ay bahagya pang lumayo si King Tiger sa unahan habang nakasunod pa rin si Liquid Gold sa ikalawang puwesto at kinuha naman ng paborito na si Flattering You ni Kelvin Abobo ang ikatlong posisyon. Pagsapit ng huling kurbada ay bandera pa rin si King Tiger at nakabuntot pa rin sa kanya si Liquid Gold habang pinipilit naman ni Flattering You na makalapit. Sa huling diretsuhan ay bahagyang dumikit sa unahan si Liquid Gold pero hindi nagpatinag ang winning horse na kahit nakapitan na sa rektahan ay nagpakita pa rin ng tulon at lakas. Sumegundo sa kanya ang nahilo sa kakahabol na si Liquid Gold, tersero si Superformer at kuarto si Flattering You. Naorasan si King Tiger ng tiyempong 1:51.8 (13'-22'-23'-23'-29) para sa distansiyaang 1,800 meters. Kinubra ni King Tiger ang premyong P900,000 bilang 1st place, habang nakuha naman ni Liquid Gold ang premyong P300,000 bilang 2nd place. Si-nungkit naman ng kabayong si Namayan ang titulo sa 2021 Philracom 3YO Locally Bred Stakes Race na inilarga rin sa karerahan ng Metro Manila Turf Club sa parehong petsa. Marami ang humanga sa itinakbo ng kabayong si Namayan sakay ng hineteng si AR Villegas matapos talunin ang mga bigating karibal sa nasabing karera. Sa simula ay nakauna sa lundagan ang kabayong si Cat Bell ni Unoh Hernandez, pangalawa si Commodora na ginabayan ni MM Gonzales, nasa ikatlong puwesto si Namayan, pang-apat sa labas si Battle Scar ni MB Pilapil, kasunod sa gitna si Stayinthemoment ni Patty Dilema. Sa back stretch ay nagbabakbakan sa unahan sina Cat Bell at Commodora habang naghihintay naman ng magandang pagkakataon si Namayan sa ikatlong puwesto. Lumapit ang winning horse papasok ng far turn sa mga nangunguna na sina Cat Bell at Commodora at mabilis na inagaw ang harapan sa home turn at nagdire-direto na sa pagtawid sa meta. Sumegundo sa kanya si Roll Da Dice ni John Alvin Guce, pangatlo si Stayinthemoment at pang-apat si Money Changer ni Jerico Serrano. Nakapagrehistro si Namayan ng tiyempong 1:53 (13'-22'-24'-24'-28) para sa distansiyaang 1,800 meters. Nakapag-uwi si Namayan ng P600,000 bilang 1st prize, P200,000 ang napunta kay Roll Da Dice bilang 2nd prize, P100,000 para kay Stayinthemoment bilang 3rd prize at P50,000 naman ang nahamig ni Money Changer bilang 4th prize.

FOREIGN DRIVER'S LICENSE, INIYABANG

HINDI umubra ang tikas at yabang ng isang lalaki na ipamukha sa awtoridad ang kanyang California driver's license matapos arestuhin sa Tanza, Cavite.

Kasong unjust vexation ang kinaharap ng suspek na si Jasper Mintu Laguardia, nasa wastong edad, ng Brgy Calibuyo, Tanza, kaugnay ng reklamo ni Corporal Sherlie Chavez, nakatalaga

sa Tanza Police Station (MPS).

Sa ulat ni Pat. John Paul Cruz, ng Tanza MPS, naka-duty si Chavez sa Barangay Sahud Ulan at pinara ang suspek dakong alas-2:00 Lunes ng hapon dahil sa hindi pagsusuot ng helmet habang sakay ng motorsiklo.

Nang isyuhan ng citation ticket at hanapan ng driver's license, ay nagalit at ipinamukha ang kan-

yang California driver's license.

Subalit sinabihan siya ni Chavez na wala naman bisa ang lisensiya na lalo itong nagalit at insultuhin dahilang ng kanyang pagkakaaresto.

Sa batas sa Pilipinas, ang isang foreign driver's license ay maaaring magamit sa Pilipinas 90-araw mula sa pagdating ng nag-mamay-ari nito.

GENE ADSUARA

PAGHAHANDA NG BACCOOR SA MGA SAKUNA

BACCOOR--- Tiwala ang pamahalaang lungsod na mas mapapaghandaan na nila ang mga sakuna sa mga susunod na taon, matapos pasimulan ang kanilang City Resiliency Building nitong Lunes, Setyembre 6.

Ayon sa lokal na pamahalaan, magsisilbi itong himpilan ng mga frontline employee ng Bacoor Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office upang patuloy nilang magampanan ang kanilang tungkulin, tulad ng pagresponde sa mga emergency at sakuna.

Ayon kay Mayor Lani Mercado-Revilla, mithiin ng kanilang lungsod na magkaroon ng bagong pasilidad ang mga BDRRMO frontliner upang makapagbigay ng serbisyo.

"Ang araw na ito ay katuparan sa ating mga mithiin

na di lang laging handa at fully-equipped ang lahat ng ating mga frontliners sa Bacoor Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office, kundi na rin mabigyan sila ng bagong building o bahay dahil likas sa kanila ang pagtatrabaho ng 24/7. Oo, ang ating pag-aalaga sa ating mahal na lungsod ay 24/7 sa loob ng 365 na araw sa isang taon," ani Mercado-Revilla.

Kasabay nito, namahagi ng tanggapan ni Senador Ramon Revilla Jr. ng mga service vehicle para sa pamahalaang lungsod, kabilang na ang apat (4) na ambulansya, isang (1) fire truck, at isang (1) Bayanihan Rescue Vehicle, bilang pandagdag sa mga emergency response operation sa lungsod. | **Ruel Francisco, City Government of Bacoor**

Nationwide study on youth fertility, sexuality kicks off soon

MANILA – The fifth installment of the Young Adult Fertility and Sexuality Study (YAFS) of the University of the Philippines Population Institute will kick off soon after the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) issued its approval.

YAFS is a cross-sectional survey to generate comprehensive nationally representative data on the reproductive health indicators and sexual and non-sexual risk behaviors of young Filipino adults aged 15 to 24 years old, the PSA stated on Monday.

The PSA aims to generate updated estimates of adolescent reproductive health indicators and their determinants and consequences at the national and regional levels.

Among the objectives of the study are the analysis of pertinent demographic trends by comparing data results with the previous survey; to produce updated information on other equally relevant aspects of adolescent and young people's lives; to provide evidence-based information for pandemic-related policy and intervention targeting ado-

lescent and young people; to potentially contribute to the assessment of previous and current youth-related government and non-government programs and initiatives; and the creation of new policies and interventions.

YAFS will collect data from at least 14,000 Filipinos aged 15 to 24 years old, and about 14,000 households nationwide from September to November 2021. The results of the survey are scheduled for release in October 2022.

A budget of PHP70 million will be utilized for the study.

The PSA reviewed and cleared the study through the Statistical Survey Review and Clearance System, a mechanism implemented by virtue of Rule 28 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act 10625 that reorganized the Philippine Statistical System to ensure sound design for data collection, minimize the burden placed upon respondents, and effect economy in statistical data collection.

It also seeks to eliminate

5.2K erring cops dismissed, 17K sanctioned since July 2016

MANILA – Philippine National Police (PNP) chief, Gen. Guillermo Eleazar, on Wednesday assured that the police force upholds accountability through quick response to reports of abuse of its personnel. Citing PNP records, Eleazar said more than 5,240 PNP personnel have been dismissed from the service from July 2016 to August 2021 while more than 17,000 more were punished with various penalties that include suspension and demotion for various offenses.

His statement came after Bayan Muna party-list Rep. Carlos Isagani Zarate criticized the police force for supposedly removing its policy of mandatory inquest proceedings on police officers in anti-crime

unnecessary duplication of statistical data collection efforts and achieve better coordination of government statistical activities.

The Commission on Population (PopCom) completed its nationwide dissemination of YAFS in 2013, with data on premarital sex showing that males edged females by around 7 percent (35.5 percent versus 28.7percent) while from 1994 to 2013, there has been an upward shift in the prevalence of premarital sex from 17.9 percent to 32.2 percent.

PopCom said the dissemination of YASF has been the venue for policy advocacy for youth issues among local governments and regional agencies, program development for local implementers, media dissemination on the state of the youth today, and awareness-raising for the youth.

One of PopCom's biggest goals is to bring down the rate of teenage pregnancy in the Philippines, which YAFS can help supply data to.

In 2019, teenage pregnancy was tagged as a national and social emergency by the National Economic and Development Authority. (PNA)

operations that would result in the death of suspects.

"Our Internal Affairs Service conducts motu proprio investigations on instances where there are deaths or injuries, either of a suspect or a police officer, in any police operation. This IAS probe primarily determines if there is probable cause to hold a policeman culpable for death and assists in the filing of criminal charges," Eleazar said.

Eleazar said he understands the concerns of some lawmakers regarding the issue and assured them that this would be looked into.

Eleazar said he has already ordered a review of the part of the Police Operating Procedures pertaining to the conduct of inquest during an armed confrontation.

Citing a result of consultation with the PNP Legal Service, Eleazar said the current procedure states that "in cases of armed confrontation wherein a suspect dies, the team leader of the operating unit shall submit the incident for an inquest before the duty inquest prosecutor prior to the removal of the body from the scene except in areas where there are no inquest prosecutors. In which case, the territorial police unit can proceed with the investigation."

"This is impossible as an 'incident' cannot be subjected to inquest proceedings. Only arrested persons are subject to inquest as contemplated in the Revised Rules of Criminal Procedure," Eleazar said.

He also explained that the inquest under the Rules of Court and the inquest under the PNP Operational Procedure are two different and distinct concepts. "The Directorate for Operations should carefully scrutinize this possible oversight and input the necessary adjustments," the PNP chief said. (PNA)

SECRETARY ANDANAR HIGHLIGHTS DELIVERY OF CORRECT INFORMATION TO EDUCATE, EMPOWER FILIPINO VOTERS

MANILA - Massive information dissemination of the achievements of the Duterte administration not only make the public more knowledgeable but also create more empowered Filipino voters.

Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin Andanar responded to an interview on the role of implementing the Duterte Legacy campaign that the agency has embarked on since 2020.

He said that he is looking forward for the same legacy campaign to be institutionalized by the succeeding administrations, as this will be an important comprehensive report to the people, whom he said are the stakeholders of the government.

"Importante po ang mai-report sa ating mga kababayan ang ginagawa ng ating Pangulo. Sana itong ginawa nating Legacy campaign ay ma-institutionalize, at ma-adopt ng susunod na administrasyon sapagkat it is only through reporting that the people will be more knowledgeable and more informed kung saan napunta

iyong pondo ng bayan [It is important that we report to the people what the President is doing. And I hope that our legacy campaign will be institutionalized, adopted by the next administration, because it is only through reporting that the people will be more knowledgeable and more informed where public funds are being spent]," he said. Secretary Andanar stressed that correct information is the arm of the Filipinos on having the conscientious choice in the coming national elections next year, "Pag nangyari po yun, mayroon na silang benchmark, batayan sa kanilang mga isipan kung ano po yung tamang pagpapatakbo ng bayan. Sa pagboto nila sa susunod na taon meroon na silang basehan [If that happens, the Filipino people will have the benchmark etched in their minds on how the country should be run. When they vote next year they already have a basis," he said.

"It is only when you are armed with the correct information that you will be able to vote wisely," he added.

Manila plans to build 7th city hospital in Tondo

MANILA – The city government of Manila will build another hospital to meet the growing needs of its constituents and address the continuous rise of Covid-19 cases.

It will be the city's seventh public hospital, the others being Ospital ng Sampaloc, Ospital ng Tondo, Ospital ng Maynila, Sta. Ana Hospital, Justice Abad Santos Medical Center, and Gat Andres Bonifacio Medical Center.

The 344-bed Manila Covid-19 Field Hospital at the Quirino Grandstand, launched in June, also accepts even non-residents with mild to moderate Covid-19 cases.

During a meeting with the city council on Monday, Mayor Francisco "Isko Moreno" Domagoso said the planned hospital will be built in the Baseco area in Tondo where the housing project for indigent families, Basecommunity, is located.

"Hindi na sila makikipag-patintero sa truck sa R-10 para pumunta sa Ospital ng Maynila o pumunta ng Gat Andres (Bonifacio Memorial Medical Center).

Tatayuan natin sila ng ospital (They will no longer risk their lives to be able to go to the Ospital ng Maynila or to the Gat Andres. We will build a hospital for them)," Domagoso said.

The city government also procured pulmonary and cardiovascular equipment needed to treat Covid-19 patients and there are also stocks of tocilizumab and remdesivir for severe cases.

As of noontime Tuesday, the Manila Health Department (MHD) logged 1,301 active Covid-19 cases after recording 327 new cases.

Sampaloc still has the most number of active cases with 308, Sta. Cruz has 169, and Tondo 1 has 152 Covid-19 cases.

Binondo and Intramuros only have three and two active cases, respectively. On Monday, the city vaccinated 95.48 percent or 30,650 individuals of its target 32,000 individuals for the second dose of the Covid-19 vaccine.

The city has so far administered 2,134,696 Covid-19 vaccines as of 7 p.m. on Monday, 891,992 of them as second doses. (PNA)

Cavite Chapter ng grupong nagsusulong ng 'Isko for President' inilunsad

TANZA, Cavite – Isang “multi-sectoral group” na nananawagan na kumandidato bilang Pangulo si Manila Mayor Francisco Moreno Domagoso - na mas tanyag at kilala sa pangalang Isko “Yorme” Moreno, ay naglunsad ng kanilang Cavite Chapter sa Oasis Hotel, Tanza, Cavite nung Huwebes.

Ang “Ikaw Muna (IM) Pilipinas” – na kinabibilangan ng iba’t-ibang sektor ng lipunan mula sa mga mag-sasaka, manggagawa, tricycle operators and drivers association, small-scale business owners, professionals, health workers, public and private school teachers, women, youth, LGBTQ, kasama na ang nasa private sector ay nagsusulong sa kandidatura ni “Yorme” dahil sila umano ay naghahanap ng makabagong leader at liderato para sa maayos na pamamalakad ng bansa, ani ni former Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) General Manager na ngayon ay lead convenor ng koalisyon Tim Orbos.

“Nagawa nga niya sa Maynila (ang maayos na pamamalakad), sa buong Pilipinas pa kaya?” dagdag ni Orbos kung bakit si “Yorme” ang napipisil nila sa pagkapanungulo.

Si Orbos, na nakilahok sa programa via Zoom dahil na rin sa IATF protocol on gatherings, ay sinamahan ng iba pang IM-P national convenors na sina Phillip “Dobol P” Piccio, Bong Mangahas (Political Affairs) at Elmer S. Argaño (Secretary-General).

Ang IMP-Cavite Chapter ay pormal na ngang itinatatag matapos pasinayahan ang kanilang “national launching” na ginanap sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas – Diliman, kung saan mga 200 leaders na galling sa 16 na probinsya ang nakilahok, nung July 2.

Kasama sa aktibidad nung Huwebes ang pormal na

panunumpa ng suporta ng mga IM-P Cavite Chapter sektor leaders kung sakaling dinggin ni “Yorme” ang kanilang panawagan para tumakbo sa pinakamataas

na posisyon sa darating na May 2022 elections. Sa isa ngang “joint statement” nagkaisa ang grupo sa paghahayag na “iba si Yorme sa lahat.”

Bihira, na umano sa ngayon ang lider na mapagpakumbaba, at lalong bihira sa ngayon ang lider na inaabot ang mahihirap, hindi

dahil sa naaalala niya kundi dahil sa nakikita niya. Kaya, diumano, ay hindi na nakapagtataka kung bakit hinihiling ngayon ng ma-

hihirap nating mga kababayan ang kaniyang pagtakbo bilang presidente sa paparating na halalan.



IKAW MUNA (IM) PILIPINAS CAVITE CHAPTER: Pinangunahan ni Ikaw Muna (IM) Pilipinas Secretary-General Elmer Argaño (na nakilahok sa programa virtually via Zoom, kasama na ang iba pang IM National Convenors na sina Bong Mangahas, Tim Orbos and Philip Piccio) ang pormal na panunumpa ng sektor leaders at provincial convenors ng IM- Cavite Chapter sa isang simpleng salusalalo sa Oasis Hotel, Tanza, Cavite nung Huwebes.

Ang IM-Cavite Chapter na pinangunahan nila (mga nakaupo sa panel sa unang larawan, mula kaliwa) Radjie Gross (LGBTQ), Nelson Louie Genedo (Provincial Convenor), Manny Capiral (Riders), Bryan Briones (teachers), and Rogelio Cuevas (TODA), kasama pa ang ibang sektor leaders na kumakatawan sa “poor and marginalized groups”, kasama na ang nasa “private sector,” ay nakikiisa sa panawan para tumakbo sa pagkapanungulo si Manila Mayor Isko “Yorme” Moreno sa darating na election.



STATEMENTS FROM THE SECTOR LEADERS: **FROM MANNY CAPIRAL, PRESIDENT/FOUNDER PHIL. EAGLES RIDERS CLUB. RIDERS RIGHTS ADVOCATE:**

“Nakakalungkot sapagkat hindi man lamang kami maipagtanggol nang maayos ng ating pangulo na isa ring rider, hindi gaya ni Yorme. Walang diskriminasyon kay Yorme. Paano? Tignan na lamang natin ang kampanya sa bakuna sa siyudad ng Maynila. Basta nasa Maynila ka ay entitled ka sa bakuna at iba pang anyo ng ayuda. Hindi usapin sa kaniya kung Manilenyo ka o hindi. Ito ang mga bagay na kapuri-puri sa riders’ community. May-

roon siyang political will at good personality dahilan para siya ang mamukodtangi sa lahat ng mg puwedeng maging presidente. Ito ang tunay na lider. Hindi hipokritong politiko.”


“Nasaksihan ko po kung paano pinahalagahan at binigyan ng puwang ni Yorme ang mga gaya naming matagal nang itinatakwil ng lipunan. Isa sa mga dakilang nagawa ni Yorme sa aming sektor ay ang pagpapasa niya

ng Manila City Ordinance No. 8695 kung saan kami’y tunay na kinilala at binigyan pa ng pagpapahalaga. Malayong-malayo ito kumpara sa kung paano kami itrato ng kasalukuyang administrasyon. Priyoridad ni Yorme kaming mahihirap. Kitang-kita ito sa kung paano niya binago ang buhay ng mga Manilenyo. Gawin din sana niya ito sa buong bansa,” said Radjie C. Gross, Founder of LGBT Cavite Bachelorette.

HANEP

Basahin Mo Ito!

KALIBRE



ROMY SANTOS
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Iluluklok ba ninyo ang mag-amang Duterte?

WALA pa namang kumpirmasyon pero maugong ang pagtakbo ng mag-amang Duterte sa eleksiyon sa susunod na taon, habang sinusulat ito.

Si Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ay nariyan ang posibilidad sa pagtakbo bilang vice president habang si Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte ay para sa pagkapresidente.

Kaya naman hindi maiiwasan ang mga pagpuna o ang negatibong reaksiyon mula sa mga kritiko. Kabilang ang grupo ng mga health workers na mahigpit ang pagtutol sakaling itutuloy nga ng mag-ama ang pagkandidato.

Ang katanungan ay kung mayroon pa bang karapatan ang mag-ama?

Tila may lakas pa ng loob ang mag-ama na iharap sa taumbayan ang kanilang mga sarili sa kabila ng kinasasadrakan ng bansa sa ngayon dulot ng pandemiya.

Bigo sa mga estratehiya, polisiya o plano kaya dapat pa bang iluklok ang mag-ama o sino mang mga ganitong uri ng pulitiko?

Mistulang pinabayaan ang tunay na kalagayan ng taumbayan na nahaharap sa matinding krisis gayong marami o mayroon namang pera subalit mistulang ‘sinalaula’ ang proseso sa paggamit

nito. Nariyan ang mga health workers na tunay na nangangailangan at isinugal ang buhay.

Ang mga binabanggit ko po ay batay sa pahayag ni Medical Action Group Chairperson Dr. Nemuel Fajutagana.

Ang mungkahi ng grupo ay higit na nangangailangan ang ating bansa ng bago o ibang administrasyon.

Naniniwala sila na ito ang magiging daan sa pagbangon sa pandemiya.

Pinuna ng grupo na naglalaro na sa dalawang taon subalit walang nagawa ang administrasyon ni Duterte.

Ikinumpara nila sa ibang bansa na namumuhay na sa normal habang sa Pilipinas ay nasa ikatlong surge pa ng COVID-19 na ang dahilan ay ang kapalpakan ng ating pamahalaan sa pagtugon sa pandemiya.

Kaya para kay Fajutagana ay nangangailangan ng wastong kaisipan kung ibalik ang mga ganitong klaseng pulitiko partikular ang mag-amang Duterte.

Bakit nga ba palpak ang covid response ng Duterte administration?

Tugon ng grupo ay dahil nagamit at nagagamit sa pamumulitika ang kasalukuyang sitwasyon sa covid.

Isa pa ay ang mga malalaking kontrata sa Department of Health na bilyones ang pondo gayunman ay hindi

nakarating sa tao. Giit pa nga ni Fajutagana na ang ang isa sa pinakamalaking kuwestiyon sa administrasyon ni Duterte ay transparency.

“Naging aid of reelection din yung mga questionable deals ng administration because they need funds for the campaign,” bahagi pa rin ng paliwanag ni Fajutagana.

Kung sa buong mundo ay iisa lang ang ginagawang covid response na maraming bansa naman ang nakatugon sa pandemiya at kaya naman napapag-iwanan ang Pilipinas ay bunsod ng governance ng kasalukuyang gobyerno.

Ang tanong ng grupo sakaling itutuloy ni Mayor Sara ang pagtakbo sa pagkapresidente at palarang manalo ay makakapagbigay ba siya ng tunay na pagbabago sa bansa?

Matigas ang kasagutan ng grupo na hindi rin si Mayor Sara ang kasagutan sa suliranin dahil may dikta at impluwensiya ito mula sa amang si Digong.

Tinitingnan din naman ng grupo ang posibilidad na maaaring maging iba si Sara sa kanyang ama subalit ito ay sana o pagasalamang.

Ibig sabihin ay puwedeng umasa sila na kakaiba si Mayor Sara kay PRRD subalit ayaw nilang isugal sa salitang ‘sana’ lang.

Wala namang tinukoy na pangalan o mga pangalan ang grupo na karapat-dapat uupo sa susunod na taon.

Ang hangad lamang nila ay iyong tunay ang krusada laban sa korapsiyon at totoo ang concern sa pangangailangan ng lahat ng tao hindi lamang para sa mga health front liners at mga nasa vulnerable sectors na labis na naapektuhan at nagsasakripisyo sa krisis.

Tamang pag-iisip lamang daw ang dapat isaalang-alang sa pagpipili ng mga ilalagay sa puwesto lalong lalo na sa pangulo at pangalawang pangulo.

Anyways, kayo pa rin ang magpapasya kaya ‘esep-esep’ tayo.

Sakali ba, iluluklok ninyo ang mag-amang Duterte?