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Taon 6 Blg. 24

Oktubre 18-24, 2021

P10.00

NEW DOST IV-A CHIEF TO UPSKILL STAFF



PNA---Newly appointed DOST-Calabarzon Director Emelita Bagsit (Photo courtesy of Emelita Bagsit)



Pakikilahok nila CENRO Sta Cruz Venerando Garcia, DENR CALABARZON Regional Executive Director Nilo B. Tamoria, at PENRO Laguna Ronila Salac sa tree planting activity---p.3



Batangas officials laud DHSUD for all-out support to settlement projects---p.11

NAMI PH K-TAPARAMA, NOW OPEN AT SM CITY BACCOOR FOODCOURT!

SM CITY BACCOOR, CAVITE - Annyeonghas eyo! Korean street foods waving at your cravings as Nami PH's very first K-taparama Korean food stall opens at SM City Bacoor Foodcourt! Enjoy the authentic taste of Korean street foods like Odeng, Tteokbokki, Corndogs and Korean Rice Meals at a very affordable price. See you there, chingui!

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Red Cross deploys local chapter assets and personnel as STS 'Maring' rages on.---p.8

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NEW DOST IV-A CHIEF TO UPSKILL STAFF

MANILA – The newly appointed chief of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) in Calabarzon (Region IV-A) wants to upskill and reskill the staff and push for an innovative work environment.

In an interview with the Philippine News Agency (PNA) on Wednesday, Director Emelita Bagsit said she is lucky to work with the hardworking and talented employees of the DOST regional office.

"Infusion of ICT (information and communications technology) into our systems, encouraging creativity, and developing new ways of doing things are some of the steps we will be taking to achieve an innovative working environment," she said.

Bagsit, a chemist, said among her priorities is to upskill and reskill the staff. Her office will invest more on the staff to expose them to various technologies such as robotics, artificial intelligence (AI), the internet of things (IoT), and blockchain.

This will be made possible by providing them with Master of Science (MS) and doctoral (Ph.D.) degree programs, as well as by developing facilities suitable for the research and development (R&D) environment, thus enhancing the regional innovation system.

"Through responsive programs and projects evolving with time and trends, sufficient funding, employee upskilling and reskilling, strategic partnerships, and an innovative work environment, not even the next pandemic can hinder us in bringing science and technology closer to the people of Calabarzon," Bagsit said.

The official will also promote small innovation projects by soliciting inputs on processes and service/product improvement. Further, she will review and

enhance work processes to improve efficiency and productivity. Meanwhile, Bagsit also targets to make DOST-Calabarzon the most valued partner of its stakeholders by forging collaborations in the local and international field. She is confident that with a strong team, the office will strive to gain more recognition from various award-giving bodies, including attainment of the standards for the environmental management system (ISO 14000) and the BCYF Innovation Award, which recognizes entities that made an impact in the lives of people through innovation.

"Proud is an understatement of how honored I am to inherit the Regional Director position from a great man, a great leader, Dr. Alexander Madrigal," Bagsit remarked. She cited that DOST-Calabarzon's laboratories are accredited by the ISO and the Department of Health, and recognized by the Food and Drug Administration and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Among her priorities are providing virtual consultancy services when it comes to technology commercialization and adoption. On-demand training is in the pipeline, too.

"We will create an enabling environment for more industry-academe researchers, and enhance support to fast track transfer and commercialization of technologies," Bagsit said. Her appointment was signed by President Rodrigo Duterte in a letter dated October 6.

"Emy Bagsit, a chemist, spent her whole career at (the) DOST. At one time, she was appointed as OIC (officer in charge) at the Regional Director's Office in Region V," said DOST Secretary Fortunato de la Peña in a Viber message. **(PNA)**

PCOO opens more vacant regular positions

MANILA -- The Presidential Communications Operations Office along with its attached agencies has opened more vacant regular positions across the country as part of improving the bureaucracy, Secretary Andanar said on Wednesday. The PCOO chief said that doing so will help maintain and improve the legacies of President Duterte in terms of institutional reforms in the agency.

"We open many positions so that we can really strengthen our bureaucracy," he said in an interview, stressing the importance of regularizing employees to ensure security of tenure.

"The important thing is that we leave the PCOO not only with the Build, Build, Build projects and policies but also leaving a strong bureaucracy by hiring regular people so that the institutional memory lives on and is improved as the day-to-day operations happen," he added.

Secretary Andanar said that for the Philippine Broadcasting Service (PBS) alone, the agency has opened around 190 vacant positions nationwide. The PBS is the agency which handles the operations of Radyo Pilipinas stations. Hiring and selection process of applicants is also ongoing for the PCOO proper and the Philippine Information Agency (PIA).

"If you place regular employees then we are assured that there will be someone who will look after the reforms and policies we have undertaken," he said.

Interested applicants are encouraged to browse through the respective websites of the PCOO and its attached agencies or through the website of the Civil Service Commission (CSC) for the list of vacancies.

Agencies under the PCOO include the Radio Television Malacañang (RTVM), Bureau of Broadcast Services (BBS), Bureau of Communications Services (BCS), National Printing Office, News and Information Bureau, PIA, People's Television Network, Inc. (PTNI), APO Production

Unit, Inc., and the Intercontinental Broadcasting Corporation (IBC 13). Instituting sustainable communication

In the same interview, Secretary Andanar also mentioned his advocacy on introducing sustainable communication as part of public news and information delivery.

"We've been talking about sustainable agriculture, sustainable living and development but we have not talked about sustainable communication even though we know that the one that weaves these programs and projects is communication," he said.

He stressed that communication in government should be advocacy-driven and it should be ensured that contents and information given out should be appropriate for its target audience. **(PCOO)**

DOTr, DILG to recognize LGUs with best bike lanes

MANILA – The Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) are set to recognize local government units (LGU) that have made "great strides" in establishing active transport infrastructures such as bike lanes throughout the country.

In a Facebook post, the DOTr said the awards would also take into consideration the LGUs that enacted programs seeking to "encourage" the use of active transportation.

"To qualify for selection, LGUs may submit their entries to the DILG Bureau of Local Government Supervision through the LGU's respective DILG Regional Offices using this template bit.ly/2021bikelanesaward as reference guide," the post read.

The awards will be given in three categories -- city, 1st to 3rd class municipalities, and 4th to 6th class municipalities. The top three LGUs in each category will receive gold, silver, and bronze awards.

It noted that the top 10 LGUs that meet the selection criteria will also be receiving awards from the DILG.

Final call for the submission of entries will be on Oct. 22, while the award-

PNP, AFP to boost info sharing in crackdown vs. loose firearms

MANILA – The Philippine National Police (PNP) on Thursday said it will strengthen coordination with the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) on information-sharing to further intensify the campaign against loose firearms.

PNP chief Gen. Guillermo Eleazar made the remark after five people, including two soldiers and a policeman, were arrested for selling firearms during an entrapment operation in Barangay Tamontaka, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao on Tuesday.

Arrested were Pat. Eliver Jay Anggot Soverano, assigned to the Police Regional Office-Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Regional Crime Laboratory Office; Army Staff Sgt. Glenn Sangyao and Army Staff Sgt. Reynaldo Dichosa II, both assigned to 6th Infantry Division; Datu Morjan Kunakon Tumindig and Adams Tumindig.

"Due to this incident, your PNP will liaise with the leadership of the Armed Forces of the Philippines to strengthen monitoring and operations against anyone who sells and buys loose firearms, whether these are police officers, soldiers, or civilians. We will not allow this trend, especially amid the election season," Eleazar said in a statement. Eleazar commended the chief of police and the personnel of the Datu Odin Sinsuat Municipal Police Station for their aggressive campaign against loose firearms.

"This translates to nine less firearms at the hands of criminal elements who may be tapped to sow violence in the May 2022 elections," he added.

The operation was conducted after a police poseur-buyer was able to transact with the suspects for the sale of assorted firearms.

Seized from the suspects were a 5.56 mm Bushmaster rifle, two 5.56 rifle, an M4 Carbine, two cal. 45 pistols, and three 9mm pistols.

He said the PNP personnel arrested will be charged with both criminal and administrative charges.

Eleazar earlier ordered early election security preparations that include aggressive operations against loose firearms and private armed groups. **(PNA)**

BRP Gregorio Del Pilar sea trials set in November

MANILA – The dock and sea trials for offshore patrol vessel BRP Gregorio Del Pilar (PS-15) which ran aground off Hasa-Hasa Shoal in August 2018, have been scheduled for November.

Philippine Navy (PN) spokesperson, Commander Benjo Negranza, made this statement when asked for updates regarding the repairs of the ship.

"BRP Gregorio Del Pilar (PS-15) was undocked and moved to Subic Bay Freeport Zone SBMA, Zambales. All other outstanding repairs are being completed now that PS-15 is back on the water. Dock and sea trials are scheduled for the end of November this year," he said in a message to the Philippine News Agency on Wednesday night.

One of the ship's two vari-

able pitch propellers was damaged, along with its propeller hub, after its grounding.

Negranza earlier said the drydocking and other related repairs of BRP Gregorio Del Pilar are expected to be completed by September.

"Nevertheless, the PN exerts all efforts to remain vigilant and to uphold its mandate in guarding the country's waters. We are one with our countrymen in looking forward to PS-15's repair completion," he added.

The PN said difficulties in procuring parts and the ongoing coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic have moved the completion of the repairs of the BRP Gregorio Del Pilar to the latter part of 2021.

(PNA)

TREE GROWING ACTIVITY INILUNSD NG DENR CENRO STA. CRUZ SA CAVINTI, LAGUNA

Ngayong taon, ang CENRO Sta. Cruz na may patnubay ng DENR CALABARZON at PENRO Laguna, ay naglunsad ng internal at external strengthening na kung saan ito ay naglalayon na mapalakas ang ugnayan sa pagitan ng DENR, Lokal na Pamahalaan at iba pang organisasyon upang maging katuwang sa patuloy na pagpapayabong at pagprotekta ng ating kapaligiran at likas na yaman.

Noong ika-25 ng Setyembre, 2021, ay nagkaroon ng isang Tree Growing Activity sa Cavinti Integrated National High School, So. Calminue, Brgy. Cansuso, Cavinti, Laguna. Naka-pagitan ng 200 na punla ng Molave (*Vitex parviflora*), Mangga (*Magnifera indica*), Durian (*Durio zibethinus*), Rambutan (*Nephelium lappaceum*), at Guyabano (*Annona muricata*) ang mga kalahok mula sa Lokal na Pamahalaan ng Cavinti na pinangunahan ni Mayor Milbert Oliveros, Philippine National Police (PNP) Laguna na Pinangunahan ni PCol. Serafin Petalio II, National Power Corporation (NPC) - Cavinti na pinangunahan ni Chief, CLWAT Edmond Enriquez, mga kawani ng DENR na pingunahan nina USEC. Edilberto DC. Leonardo, Regional Executive Director Nilo B. Tamera,

PENRO Ronilo L. Salac at OIC-CENRO Venerando U. Garcia.

Nagkaroon din ng isang Oath Taking Ceremony ang 25 na bagong Kaligkasan (Kaligtasan Kaligkasan) Warriors mula sa PNP Laguna at Sangguniang Kabataan ng Cavinti. Sila ay nanumpa bilang pagsuporta at pananalig sa ano mang proyekto, programa, at adhikain ng ating pamahalaan patungo sa patuloy na pagprotekta ng kapaligiran at likas na yaman ng bansa.

Noong isang taon, nauna nang nagkaroon ng kasunduan ang PNP Laguna at DENR para sa proyektong SPLaKaM o "Samahang Pulis Laguna, Kapanalig Mo at Makakalikasan", ito ay isang proyekto na naglalayon na magkaroon ng direktang pakikilahok sa mga aktibidad na may kinalaman sa pagpapalaki at pagpapanatili ng mga itatanim na mga puno bilang tugon sa banta ng pagabagong panahon.

Ang DENR ay naniniwala na sa pamamagitan ng pagkakaisa ng bawat isa, ay patuloy na mapoprotektahan at mapagyayabong ang mga natitira nating kagubatan at likas-yaman upang maibalik ang dati nitong sigla.

Ikaw, Ako, Tayo ang Kalikasan! **PR**

23 sabungero, inaresto

SA kabila ng mahigpit pa ring pinapairal ang pagsasabong sa Cavite, dalawampu't tatlo katao ang inaresto sa isinagawang anti-illegal gambling sa magkakahiwalay na lugar sa lalawigan.

Sa ulat ng Cavite Police Provincial Office (PPO), isinagawa ang anti-illegal gambling operation sa pagitan ng alas-9:30 ng umaga hanggang alas-4:30 ng hapon.

Sa bayan ng Silang, dakong alas-9:30 ng umaga nagsagawa ng anti-illegal gambling sa Sitio Malipa, Brgy Maguyam, kung saan apat katao ang dinampot, sa aktong nagsasagawa ng tupada kabilang ang dalawang senior citizen na may edad, 68 at 74.

Narekober sa lugar ang dalawang panabong, dalawang tari at P480 na pusta. Dakong ala-1:00 ng hapon

naaktuhang nagsasagawa ng tupada ang anim na katao, kabilang ang isang 62-anyos na senior citizen sa Brgy Pasong Kawayan 2, lungsod ng Gen Trias kung saan dalawang panabong, dalawang tari at P1,900 na pusta ang narekober.

Sampu katao naman ang dinampot sa anti-illegal gambling operation sa Castillo compound, PIELA Brgy Sampaloc 3, Dasmariñas City, na naaktuhang nagsasagawa ng tupada dakong alas-12:15 ng tanghali kung saan P700 na pusta ang narekober.

Sa bayan ng Amadeo, tatlo katao ang inaresto sa anti-illegal gambling operation dakong alas-4:10 ng hapon sa Brgy Dagatan at narekober ang dalawang panabong, isang tari at halagang P1,390 na pusta. **GENE ADSUARA**

USAP LANG

JUNE BILLONES
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MALINAW NA DISKRIMINASYON

DAHIL patuloy pa rin ang pananalisa ng COVID-19 ay tungkol pa rin diyan ang paksa ng usap ng mga tropang kalye natin. Vaccines against COVID-19 ang sentro ng kanilang usap na tungkol sa benepisyo.

Hindi benepisyo ng vaccine kundi para roon sa mga nabakunahan na. Lalo na iyong complete doses na o fully vaccinated na.

Dati ng umikot ang usap nila tungkol dito na noon ay mayroong ayaw magpabakuna subalit kalauran na nagpaturok na rin. Kung matatandaan ay katwiran ng dating ayaw kaya nagpabakuna na rin sila ay dahil sa kapakanan ng kanilang mga mahal sa buhay.

Nagpaturok sila bunsod ng kahilingan ng mga kaanak nila at hindi ng kung sino man lalo na ng mga pulitiko o nanunungkulan sa gobyerno.

Hindi nga raw sapilitan o mandatory ang pagbabakuna subalit pinag-usapan nila na tila mayroong 'mali' sa sistema. Sistemang umiiral o pinai-

iral doon sa mga naka-pagbakuna na lalo na iyong mga fully vax na.

Hindi naman daw mairakakaila at maitatago ang benepisyo para sa mga nabakunahan na partikular sa mga fully vaccinated.

Maganda naman para sa kanilang opinyon pero naroon pa rin ang mga katanungan.

Sadyang may ilan na matigas ang kalooban o pasya na ayaw pabakuna.

Paano naman daw iyong gusto mang magpaturok subalit bawal o hindi ubra dahil sa karamdaman.

O kaya naman ay nais na mabakunahan subalit wala pa ring iskediyul dahil sa kakapusan ng vaccine.

Sa benepisyo o prebelihiyo na natatamo ng full vaccinated ay malinaw na 'etsa pwerá' ang hindi pa bakunado.

Parang may mali, sabi nila ay isang malinaw na diskriminasyon daw ito. Kayo na po ang humusga sa pananaw ng ating tropang lansangan.

Hit and run; 1 patay, 1 sugatan

PATAY ang rider na nawalan ng balanse sa minamanehong motorsiklo na nasagi ng dump truck at nagulungan pa habang sugatan ang angkas sa Kawit, Cavite.

Isinugod pa sa Las Pinas District Hospital ang biktima ng si Eleazar Gulfo Ag-araw, nasa wastong edad, subalit hindi na umabot ng buhay habang sugatan naman ang angkas nito na si Orlando Pongon Velche.

Sinusulat ito ay pinaghahanap ang driver ng kulay pula na HOWO dump truck na minamaneho ni Kenneth Mariano matapos tumakas.

Sa ulat ni PMSgt Erwin Clerigo, ng Kawit Police Station, minamaneho ng biktima ang kanyang motorsiklong Honda at angkas si Velche habang dump

truck naman ang suspek na kapwa binabagtas ang kahabaan ng Covelandia Road, Brgy Kaunlaran, sa direksiyon ng north bound patungong Bacoor City dakong alas-7:30 Lunes ng gabi.

Okupado ng biktima ang rightmost na bahagi ng kalasada habang sa outer lane naman ang driver ng dump truck nang masagi ng sasakyan ng huli ang una dahilang upang mawalan ng balanse sa pagmamaneho at dumulas at nagulungan ng truck.

Subalit imbes na tulungan ng driver ng dump truck ang dalawa ay tumakas at iniwan ang kanyang sasakyan sa gitna ng kalasada.

Idineklarang dead on arrival ang biktima. **GENE ADSUARA**

EDITORIAL

Pag-iingat ng maraming babae

SA inilabas na ulat Commission on Population ay malaki ang ibinaba sa bilang ng mga sanggol na naipanganak noong nakaraang taon.

Pinagbatayan ay ang preliminary report ng Philippine Statistics Authority na isinasaad na nasa 1,516,042 lamang ang rehistradong naisilang noong 2020.

Hindi lamang ang childbirth kundi maging noong nakalipas na tao ay bumaba maging ang bilang ng mga nagpakasal na umabot lamang sa 240,183 magkapareha.

Ang lowest birthrate noong 2020 ay bunsod na rin sa mababang bilang ng mga nagpakasal.

Sinasabi rin na maraming babae ang ayaw magbuntis at dumami ang mga ginang na gumamit ng iba't ibang paraan ng family planning noong nakalipas na taon.

Kasagsagan ng pandemiya noong 2020 gayunman ay ipinamalas ng maraming babae ang kaukulang pag-iingat.

Inaasahan naman na magtutuloy ito lalo at nananatili pa rin sa pandemiya ang bansa.

ADVERTISING RATES

COMMERCIAL - - - - -P200/col.cm
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.



DA agency to complete distribution of P5-B machinery this year

MANILA – The Philippine Center for Postharvest Development and Mechanization (PHilMech) eyes to complete the distribution of farm machinery worth PHP5 billion by the end of 2021.

Since PHilMech started distributing farm machines under the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund - Mechanization Program in June 2020, a total 14,368 units have reached farmer cooperatives and organizations nationwide, according to Department of Agriculture (DA) on Monday.

The bulk of farm machines distributed were for land preparation -- 7,998 units composed of 2,709 four-wheel tractors, 3,744 hand tractors, and 1,545 units of floating tillers.

Western Visayas (Region 6) and Bicol (Region 5) received the most number of units.

Qualified farmer cooperatives and associations (FCAs) in Western Visayas

got 2,180 units while those in the Bicol Region received 1,995 units.

FCAs in Regions 3 (Central Luzon) and 1 (Ilocos) got 1,586 units and 1,320 units, respectively.

PHilMech will also advance the bidding for some of the machine units covered by 2022 funds.

The National Postharvest Institute for Research and Extension (NAPHIRE) was established on May 24, 1978 to accelerate the development of the grains postharvest industry.

Its actual operations started in 1980 as a subsidiary corporation of the National Grains Authority it became a DA attached agency in 1986.

In 1992, NAPHIRE was transformed into a regular agency and was renamed anew as the Bureau of Postharvest Research and Extension until Executive Order 366 or the government's 2004 Rationalization Program changed it to PHilMech. (PNA)

UK SEEKS ENHANCED TIES WITH PH, OTHER ASEAN COUNTRIES

MANILA – The United Kingdom's (UK) Minister of State for Asia on Monday expressed her country's "serious" desire to grow its relationship with the Philippines and other countries in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean).

In a video posted on Twitter, Amanda Milling said she spent the last three days in the Philippines and met with Cabinet secretaries and other high-ranking Philippines government officials to discuss "shared interests" such as climate change, regional security, business prospects, Covid-19, and human rights.

"I've also met with British businesses, civil society, program partners, and our brilliant Chevening scholars who attended world-leading UK universities," Milling said.

Milling's visit is the first by a Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) minister since the UK's confirmation as an

Asean Dialogue Partner in August.

It was her first visit to Asia and coincides with the UK's 75 years of diplomatic relations with the Philippines. She noted that the Indo-Pacific region, where the Philippines and other Asean countries are located, is "of huge strategic importance to the UK."

"In the Philippines, a founding member of ASEAN, I reiterated our commitment to working with the region on vital issues such as maritime security and building back better after Covid-19," Milling said.

During her visit, she also went to the Manila-American cemetery to pay her respects and had the Philippines removed from the UK travel red list, allowing those in the country to travel to the UK.

Her visit to the Philippines is the first stop of an Indo-Pacific tour that would include Singapore and Japan. (PNA)

BOC Strengthens Inter-Agency Cooperation to Combat Agri Smuggling

THE Bureau of Customs (BOC) has intensified its border security measures against agricultural smuggling through strengthened inter-agency cooperation with the Department of Agriculture (DA).

In the recent meeting with the Agricultural Secretary William Dar, the BOC agreed to allow DA personnel to have access to the X-ray areas of the Bureau to ensure full transparency in the conduct of inspection of agricultural products.

The BOC and the DA also agreed to having an inter-agency data exchange of all relevant information requested by the DA to validate shipments suspected of agricultural smuggling. The said information includes the Sanitary and Phytosanitary Import Clearance (SPSIC), among others. This is on top of the Inward Foreign Manifest that the BOC has been furnishing the DA consistently.

Also, an agreement towards a strengthened anti-smuggling coordination was established where derogatory information and intelligence information may be quickly shared and acted upon by each agency. This effort shall be jointly supervised by DA Assistant Secretary for Economic Intelligence Federico Laciste and BOC Deputy Commissioner for Intelligence Group Raniel Ramiro.

Furthermore, a Technical Working Group (TWG) was created to review and

update the regulations and procedures for clearing imported agricultural commodities. The TWG is also tasked to identify and address all possible loopholes in the importation guidelines and procedures. The TWG comprises Agriculture Assistant Secretary for Regulations Liza Battad as the Chairperson and BOC Assistant Commissioner Vincent Maronilla as the Co-Chairperson. Meanwhile, the BOC is ready for the influx of imported fish in the coming days as the country grapples to sustain the supply and lower the price of fish in the market.

The Bureau, including the 17 ports nationwide, remains on guard against the illegal importation of agricultural products. The BOC is monitoring and reviewing all importations of agricultural products for possible violation of Customs laws, rules, and regulations. Mandatory inspection of all reefer containers prior to their transfer to the DA-accredited cold storage facility is also being implemented. The Electronic Tracking of Containerized Cargoes (ETRACC) system is also in effect to ensure safe transit and transfer of agricultural goods.

The Bureau of Customs will continue to work together with the Department of Agriculture at the national and regional levels to put an end to smuggling and secure the country's borders. **PR**

Nova coop joins Duterte admin's PUV modernization program

MANILA – An economist forecasts further growth of net foreign direct investments (FDIs) into the Philippines in the coming months partly due to increased state spending on infrastructure.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) on Monday reported that net FDIs rose by 52 percent year-on-year to USD1.3 billion last July. End-July 2021 level grew by 43.1 percent year-on-year to USD3.9 billion.

Aside from higher government infrastructure spending, Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation (RCBC) chief economist Michael Ricafort said keeping of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) of its ac-

commodative policy stance and the passage of reform measures, such as the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises (CREATE) law the Financial Institutions Strategic Transfer (FIST) law, among others, are pluses that are expected to attract foreign investments.

Ricafort said the reopening of the domestic economy also boosts the FDIs.

However, he said this "may be a function of better controlling/managing new Covid-19 (coronavirus disease 2019) local cases in view of the recent lockdowns in NCR (National Capital Region) to partly address this, as well as the expected increase Covid-

Ang Tulay Mo Party-list Party Officially Submits List of Nominees for the 2022 National and Local Elections

Manila, Philippines. A new party-list group which had been giving public assistance to the Filipino people and a partner of the Duterte Administration's policies and goals since 2015 has submitted to the Commission on Elections its list of nominees and substitute nominees for the May 9, 2022 National and Local Elections.

Ang Tulay Mo Party-List Party (ATM-PL), headed by Former Philippine Coconut Authority Administrator Billy Andal seeks elective office under the party-list system, after majority of its members clamored for the group to be a formal party-list group.

As President and Chairman of the said party, Andal submitted to the COMELEC the party's nominees and substitute nominees on October 7, 2021.

Andal, who worked tirelessly to introduce then-Davao City Mayor Rodrigo Duterte to the voting public in Luzon, particularly in the Calabarzon Region back in 2015, said that his advocacy is just a continuation of his commitment to serve by being a bridge between the Filipino people and Government and to serve as a voice to victims of incompetence, injustice, graft and corruption and other government inadequacies.

A regular weekend TV show, Ang Tulay, serves as a venue for the promotion of government's projects and programs as An-

19 vaccine arrivals and rollouts locally in the coming weeks/months."

"Proposed more localized/granular lockdowns (shifting away from lockdowns at the city/provincial/regional levels), as well as any additional measures to reopen the economy, could allow higher capacity for some businesses/industries, thereby fundamentally supporting a more conducive environment for more FDI inflows into the country," he added.

Monetary authorities' net FDI outlook for this year is USD7 billion. (PNA)

dal's continuing support to the Duterte Administration, as well as a platform where public service is brought to the people. In fact, the program has features several episodes where complaints were addressed and appropriate government agencies were held accountable, ensuring that all those who seek help and assistance are appropriately served.

Andal also spearheaded the Go for Senator National Alliance (GO SANA), PRD National Volunteers Foundation, Inc. and the Inday Duterte '22 (ID'22) Movement, the latter promoting and encouraging the candidacy of Davao City Mayor and Presidential Daughter Sara "Inday" Duterte-Carpio as President for the 2022 elections.

"Our goal to be an organized party-list party is to lend a more credible and recognized voice for the Filipino people to be heard. Tayo ay talagang tulay sa mga hinaing, reklamo at isyu na kinakaharap ng ating mga mamamayan, lalo na yung walang boses o hindi naririnig ng mga kinauukulan," Andal said, stressing the advocacy of the group.

"So far, our members encompass not only the Calabarzon area (Region IV-A) but also includes sizeable members across the entire nation," Mr. Mel Unso, the group's Secretary-General, said. "this just goes to show that when we introduced the idea of being a party-list party, a lot of people are really supportive of our advocacies and goals."

"We believe in continuance. We believe that whoever shall be elected as the next president of the Philippines should continue the gains and accomplishments of the Duterte Administration," Andal added. "So we as a group were very happy when Senator Bong Go decided to run as Vice-President. We shall support him the way we have always supported him in the past – by campaigning for him and providing an avenue for him to reach more voters." **PR**

PNP donates P944-K worth of equipment, guns to BuCor

MANILA – The Philippine National Police (PNP) on Wednesday turned over an assortment of firearms and other crime-fighting equipment worth over PHP944,000 to the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor). PNP deputy chief for administration, Lt. Gen. Joselito Vera Cruz, together with Brig. Gen. Ronald Olay, director for logistics, personally turned over the donated firearms and equipment to BuCor Director General Gerald Bantag and Assistant Secretary Milfredo Melegrito in a ceremony in Camp Crame, Quezon City. The donated items include 40 units of 12GA shotgun of different makes and models, 2,000 rounds 12GA shotshells, 40 units of .38-caliber revolver of different makes and models, and 960 rounds of Ctg ball .38-caliber.

These equipment are no longer included in its supply line and classified as disposable properties based on the PNP's latest table of equipment. "Under the PNP Memorandum Circular No. 2017-17 or the Revised Guidelines and Procedures in the Disposal of the Philippine National Police Property, Plant and Equipment, Transfer of Property is one of the modes of disposal. With this, we are glad to choose the BuCor as our recipient," Vera Cruz said in a statement Thursday. He said the PNP has chosen the BuCor as the recipient in consideration of its need to equip its personnel, particularly the jail guards, with adequate and appropriate firearms necessary to keep peace and order, and maintain safety and security within prison premises. (PNA)

Poll bets giving extortion money to rebels face DQ

MANILA – The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) wants to stop local chief executives and candidates from giving extortion money to the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front (CPP-NPA-NDF), especially with the election season nearing. During the weekly virtual press conference of the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC) on Monday, DILG Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya said they will be seeking for the disqualification of candidates who will be proven to have given extortion money to communist terrorist groups (CTG) so they can be allowed to campaign in areas under the control of CPP-NPA-NDF elements. "Maliwanag po iyan sa ating Revised Penal Code, as well as sa Omnibus Election Code na ang pagbibigay ng extortion money sa Communist Party of the Philippines and New People's Army (It is very clear in our Revised Penal Code, as well as in the Omnibus Election Code, that giving extortion money to the) CPP-NPA is an election offense. And since this is an election offense, this is a ground for disqualification," Malaya said. He said the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA) revealed CTGs rake in millions of pesos from politicians who wish to campaign in the rebels'

jurisdiction. Article IX, Section 68 of the Omnibus Election Code states that any candidate who, in an action or protest in which he is a party is declared by final decision of a competent court guilty of, or found by the Commission (on Elections) of having given money or other material consideration to influence, induce or corrupt the voters or public officials performing electoral functions; committed acts of terrorism to enhance his candidacy; spent in his election campaign an amount in excess of that allowed by this Code; or solicited, received or made any contribution prohibited under the law shall be disqualified from continuing as a candidate, or if he has been elected, from holding the office. Under Section 261 of the same law, an accused may also be permanently disqualified from holding any public office. Malaya said aside from the disqualification, the agency may also file a case under the Terrorism Financing Prevention and Suppression Act of 2012 as giving extortion money to CTGs can be classified as a crime. Malaya said the report by NICA Deputy Director General Abelardo Villacorta that only 63 officials were monitored to have given extortion money to the CPP-NPA during the 2019 elections was a welcome development.

EXEC SEES CAR INDUSTRY HITTING 295K SALES TARGET THIS YEAR

MANILA – The Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines, Inc. (CAMPI) remains hopeful to hit the industry's sales target this year after recording an encouraging month-on-month growth in September. A joint report of CAMPI and Truck Manufacturers Association (TMA) on Monday showed that vehicle sales in September grew 35.6 percent to 21,493 units from 15,847 units in August this year. In a statement, CAMPI president Rommel Gutierrez said the favorable development last month will help the industry to achieve its sales target for this year. "Amidst the challenges, the industry's optimism still lingers for a better sales performance in the fourth quarter this year. This is driven by the overall improved consumer confidence resulting from a more buoyant economic condition and household spending, according to the recent government data,"

"Noon pong 2016 ay 349 po iyan. Ibig pong sabihin, naging matagumpay po iyong ating programa laban sa pagbabayad ng extortion sa ating mga CPP-NPA dahil from 349 local officials, ito po ay 63 officials na lamang. So ang target po ng DILG ay mabawasan pa ito, na sana po ay mazerong natin ang pagbibigay ng extortion money sa mga CPP-NPA (In 2016, that was 349. This means that we have been effective in our program against the giving of extortion money to the CPP-NPA because from 349, it went down to 63. DILG's target is to further lower the number and bring it to zero)," Malaya said. He said the DILG is optimistic that this can be achieved especially after 1,436 out of 1,715 local government units nationwide have declared the CPP-NPA persona non grata. Malaya assured that together with the Philippine National Police, the DILG will continue to monitor the 63 local government officials who paid extortion money to rebels in the 2019 elections. He added the money was eventually used to acquire arms and weapons. The Philippines' Anti-Terrorism Council has designated the CPP, NPA, and NDF as terrorist groups. The United States, the European Union, the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and the Philippines also listed the CPP-NPA as a terrorist organization. (PNA)

he added. Earlier, Gutierrez said the industry targets to end the year with 295,400 unit sales. The target includes sales of imported vehicles. For the first nine months of the year, sales of local car assemblers reached 191,605 units, increasing by 29.5 percent from the same period last year at 148,012 units. In the same period, passenger car sales rose 38.3 percent to 60,982 units from January to September this year from 44,079 units in 2020. Commercial vehicle sales improved by 25.7 percent to 130,623 units from 103,933 units. Industry leaders for the first three quarters of the year are Toyota, Mitsubishi, Ford, Suzuki, and Nissan. (PNA)

Secretary Andanar: Duterte Admin safeguarded media

MANILA -- Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin Andanar on Tuesday said that it was through the efforts of the government under the Duterte administration that stressed the need to safeguard Filipino media workers. Secretary Andanar cited how the creation of the Presidential Task Force on Media Security (PTFoMS) pivoted the country's attention to making sure that democracy remains vibrant. "Pagdating po sa polisiya, maiwan po ni Presidente Duterte sa PCOO ang PTFoMS na naging dahilan na mabilis yung pagresolve ng kaso ng Maguindanao Massacre, ganun din po ang pagkaalis ng ating bansa among the top 5 most dangerous countries for journalists dahil napabilis yung decision ng Maguindanao Massacre [When it comes to policy, one legacy the President Duterte will be leaving for PCOO is the creation of the PTFoMS, which was one of the reason that Maguindanao Massacre case was resolved. We were also out from being among the top 5 most dangerous countries for journalist because we facilitated the decision of the said case]," he said in an interview. "Naprotektahan po at nab-

5.5K more contact tracers hired to improve Covid-19 response

MANILA – An additional 5,514 contact tracers have been hired to boost the government's efforts to track close contacts of coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) patients, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said Monday night. "Nakapagdagdag tayo ng 5,514 contact tracers mula October 3 to 7. Ang kabuuan na po ngayon ng ating contact tracers ay 136,937 (We have hired an additional 5,514 contact tracers from October 3 to 7. We now have 136,937 contact tracers)," Lorenzana told President Rodrigo Duterte during his Talk to the People. Lorenzana, also chairperson of the National Task Force against Covid-19,

said these contact tracers have managed to trace, access, and isolate 21,898 probable Covid-19 cases and 11,652 confirmed cases within 24 hours. He added that around 86,228 close contacts have been traced and were found to be positive for Covid-19. Reporting on the country's Covid-19 healthcare response, Lorenzana said the government now has 150,919 Covid-19 dedicated beds distributed to 9,073 facilities being managed by local government units as of October 5. "Mula 31 percent noong nakaraang linggo ay bumabasa 27 percent ang occupancy rate. Dumadami na po 'yung ating bakanteng beds (And from a 31 percent occupancy rate last week, it has gone down to 27 percent. The number of vacant beds is increasing)," he added. Lorenzana also reported that there are currently 41,729 hospital beds, 4,499 intensive care unit (ICU) beds, 20,975 isolation units and 15,353 ward beds, and 3,367 mechanical ventilators allotted to Covid-19 patients. "Patuloy ang pagbaba ng ating healthcare utilization rate. Mula 68 percent noong September 20 to 26, sa 64 percent noong September 27 to October 1. Ngayong linggo naman ay naging 60 percent na lang (Our healthcare utilization rate is going down, from the 68 percent reported from September 20 to 26, to the reported 64 percent from September 27 to October 1, this week it has gone down to 60 percent)," he added. Lorenzana also reported that 64 percent of patients under ICUs and 74 percent of intubated patients are unvaccinated. "Ibig sabihin mas malaki po ang tiyansa nung mga hindi nabakunahan na magkaroon ng Covid-19 (This means that the unvaccinated have larger chances of getting Covid-19)," he said. Lorenzana also reported that 9,795 out of the 10,226 emergency positions for health workers have been filled. (PNA)

igyang pansin ang ating media workers na threatened [We were able to protect and give attention to our media workers who are being threatened]," he said. The infamous attack killed 58 people, including 32 journalists on November 23, 2009, placing the Philippines among the top 5 deadliest countries for journalists according to the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) Global Impunity Index. In 2018, the Philippines is out of the top five most dangerous countries for journalists, according to the annual report of media freedom organization, Reporters Without Borders (RSF). The CPJ also released its annual report in 2020 showing that the Philippines has improved in campaigning against impunity. The country was booted out among the top 5 deadliest countries for journalists according to its Global Impunity Index. Secretary Andanar also said that the PCOO is not yet giving up on the legislation of the Media Workers Welfare Bill which is still pending at the Senate. "We are hoping that this will be passed into law before the term ends," he said. (PCOO)

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Share special moments with your kids gardening with ACE.

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SM City Trece Martires supports the efforts of the government in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic by providing safe spaces for #Resbakuna vaccination efforts throughout Trece Martires Cavite and to the whole Country. For registration, <http://bagongtrece-online.com/Registration.aspx>. Don't forget to bring your own pens and observe safety protocols.

I got vaccinated!

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Smart Space at SM City Dasmariñas- Looking for delightful place to work? Visit SM City Dasmariñas Smart Space at the 2nd Level. You can access free WiFi and charge your laptops and Smart phones. The area is sanitized for your safety and protection. Work fun and stay safe at SM Dasmariñas' Smart Space.

CREATE A PET-FRIENDLY HOME WITH PET EXPRESS

One of the blessings of being homebound during the pandemic is that it has brought us closer to family members that stay with us – parents, spouses, kids. It has also brought us closer to our pets, who have brought us comfort, laughter, and fun during challenging times. And as we refurbish our homes to accommodate WFH arrangements, on-line classes, and other new normal adjustments, it may be a good idea to dedicate a space for our furry friends.

Pets, after all, also need their own personal space. Dogs and cats are prone to sleepiness, irritability and personal boundary violations just like their pet parents. Whether it's a well-appointed crate, or a small area in your bedroom or living room, creating a sense of security for your pets will keep them emotionally safe and physically comfortable.

Pet Express, the one-stop shop for all your pet's essentials, has a wide variety of high-quality pet food, toys, dog beds, crates, climbing gyms and other accessories, that will keep your home a haven for your pets. Here are some practical tips on how to keep your home pet-friendly:

- Create a cozy corner for your pet. By assigning their place, you will be able to train them and provide a bed space for your pet to rest and unwind.
- For small breeds and small pets like cats, who like to cling to their pet parents, putting a small bedding area for them in your living room or under the dining space will make them secure and safe.
- Have a clean designated dining space for your pet. Do not forget to store your Pet food properly that is out of your pet's reach. Get an automated Pet feeder so mealtimes can be fun.
- Organize your pet needs and accessories in a shelf or cabinet. Remember to keep it within your reach.
- Pet-proof your home. Set up a retractable fence to set boundaries between yours and your pet's space.
- Hide their pet bowls and litter box. Give your cat some privacy and provide a small screen to their litter box in a corner.
- Dogs love to bathe and play on wet area. Provide them a space in your wet area by adding a platform for their muddy paws and a quick wash after a play.
- Keep your pets active. It is important to give your dog something to chew on like treats or rubber toy; while cats should have a scratching post or climbing trees on their active days.
- As you bathe and groom your pet, you should keep their area clean and germ-free as usual. Use pet-friendly disinfectant and cleaners in keeping their nook clean and tidy.

Create a small space in for your pet in your home.

Cats can rest and play in this Climbing Gym.

This Cat Jungle Tree is made from highly durable compressed wood, wrapped with high quality faux fur to keep your cats warm and cozy.

Do not forget to give your pet some privacy by hiding your cat's litter boxes.

Nina Ottoson Pet Stages Melon Madness.

Dogs sleep between 12 to 18 hours a day so they will be happy with a comfy bed to snooze.

Adorable 2-in-1 cat bowl for your feline friend.

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Meal time will always be fun for your dogs with this Nina Ottoson Wobble Bowl puzzle dog toy.

Doggo Tough Swirly Cone Rope Toy

Spray Muddy Paws- OFF LIMITS on the surfaces you want to keep off limits to your pets.

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PHIL WOMEN TEAM NAGHAHANDA SA FIBA WOMEN'S WORLD CUP 2022

Ang GILAS Pilipinas Women's Basketball ay magkakaroon ng lakas sa 2022 habang nakikipag-kumpitensya sa dalawang pangunahing internasyonal na paligsahan, kabilang ang pagtatanggol sa titulo nito sa Hanoi Southeast Asian Games.

Sinabi ni Coach Pat Aquino na ang pagsisimula para sa pambansang koponan sa kalagitnaan ng Nobyembre para sa 2022 kwalipikadong paligsahan ng FIBA Women's World Cup na itinakda sa Peb. 6 hanggang 14, kahit na ang lugar ng kompetisyon ay hindi pa mapangalanan.

Si Aquino at ang natitirang pangkat na nagmula sa kampanya ng FIBA Asia Cup sa Amman, Jordan, ay tinatapos lamang ang kanilang ipinag-uutos na mga quarantine protokol, pagkatapos ay sila at makikipagpulong sa mga nangungunang opisyal ng Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas (SBP) upang talakayin kung ano ang inaasahang maging isang abalang kalendaryo para sa mga kababaihan ng Gilas Pilipinas sa susunod na taon.

Sinabi ng 50-taong-gulang na pambansang coach sa lingguhang online session ng PSA Forum na mayroon na siyang paunang pag-uusap kasama ang SBP Special Assistant ng Pangulong Ryan Gregorio hinggil sa plano na isulong.

"Ang SBP ay napaka-suporta sa amin sa darating na mga paligsahan. At laking tuwa ko ng marinig iyon. Naghihintay lang kami at inaabangan ang panahon, inihahanda ang lahat ng mga plano at muling makuha ang lahat ng mga manlalaro para sa mga paligsahan," sabi ni Aquino, na sumali sa programang pampalakasan sa publiko ng pambansang mga stalwart na sina Janine Pontejos at Camille Clarin.

Ang kwalipikadong pagpupulong para sa Women's World Cup na ihahatid ng Australia mula Setyembre 22 hanggang Oktubre 1. Inaasahan ni Aquino na ibalik sa koponan ang 6-foot-5 na regular center na si Jack Animam, kasama ang ipinanganak ng

US Ang Filipina cager na si Mai-Loni Henson, isang dating pamantasan sa University of Washington Huskies. Nabigo si Animam na umakma sa FIBA Asia Cup habang siya ay kasalukuyang naglalaro ng pro ball sa Serbia.

Si Ella Fajardo, ang rookie playmaker mula sa Fairleigh Dickinson University, ay hindi magiging kwalipikado, dahil sa kanyang pangako sa US NCAA.

Ngunit ang pinakamahaling priyoridad ng koponan ay tiyak na mapanatili ang titulong SEA Games sa Vietnam noong Mayo matapos na magtagumpay ng ginto sa kauna-unahang pagkakataon noong 2019 edition ng biennial meet dito sa Maynila.

"Pinag-hirapan namin yun kaya kailangan naming mai-defend yun (ang korona)," said Pontejos in the session presented by San Miguel Corporation (SMC), MILO® Philippines, Amelie Hotel Manila, Braska Restaurant, the Daily Tribune, and the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR).

"Tiyak, nais kong maging bahagi ng gintong medalya (koponan). We have a great program going for us," dagdag ni Clarin, na unang naglaro para sa mga kababaihan ng Gilas Pilipinas sa huling FIBA Asia Cup. Naniniwala si Aquino na ang abalang iskedyul na nakahanay para sa koponan sa mga darating na buwan ay magiging mabuti para sa pagpapanatili ng titulo sa SEA Games ng Gilas, na pinapaalala kung paano ang parehong talantasan na nakatulong sa mga cagebells ng Filipina na sa wakas ay makapuntos ng isang pambihirang tagumpay sa regional showcase.

"Napaka kapaki-pakinabang para sa amin na makarating sa SEA Games. Sinabi ng coach ng Gilas "So looking forward, nandiyan yung paghahanda natin sa SEA Games."

At upang makamit ang lahat, inaasahan ni Aquino na ang Filipina cagebells ay pahintulutan na ring maglaro sa Asian Games na gaganapin sa Hangzhou, China sa Setyembre.

NAKUHA NG BLACKWATER SINA CASIO, EBONA MULA SA ALASKA SA PAGLALARAWAN

Ang napakalaking muling pagsubok ng Blackwater ay nagpatuloy upang makuha ang dalawang manlalaro mula sa Alaska sa isang pag-apruba ng PBA Trade Committee.

Nakuha ng Bossing ang point guard na si Jvee Casio at ang sentro ng si Barkley Ebona mula sa Aces, na nakuha nito ang spitfire guard na si Mike Tolomia at ang ikalawang pick ng Bossing para sa PBA Season 48 Draft.

Ang pagpapalit ay natapos ng pang-araw na kumpirmado ni Blackwater coach Ariel Vanguardia sa isang pahayag ngunit sa isang hindi pangkaraniwang paliwanag, ipinahayag lamang ng PBA ang pag-apruba sa kasunduan sa gabi.

Ang sagot ay nagmamarka ng pagtatapos sa siyam na panahon na panunungkulan ni Casio bilang isang pangunahing point guard ng Alaska.

Gayunpaman, ang bilang ng 34 na taong gulang na beterano ay humina nang kaunti sa panahon ng PBA Philippine Cup, na maaaring average lamang na 6.9 puntos, 1.4 rebounds, 2.6 assists, at 0.9 steal sa isang maliit na higit sa 20 at nawawalan ng solusyon

sa oras ng paglalaro bawat laro.

Samantala, si Eboña, na nagkaroon ng promising rookie season noong nakaraang taon, limikum din sa kanyang stats, naglalaro lamang sa anim na laro at nag-average ng 1.7 puntos, 1.0 rebounds, at 0.5 assist bawat gabi.

Ang slide sa kanilang average ay nakakaapekto sa bid sa playoff ng kanilang koponan dahil naalis sila sa quarterfinal contention na may napakasamang 3-8 record.

Sa kabilang banda, ang Tolomia ay isa sa mga maliwanag na spot ng Bossing sa panahon ng kanilang kampanya na walang panalo na nakita nilang nag-eclipse sa lahat ng pinakahabang tala sa liga, na nagtala ng 11.7 puntos, 3.1 rebounds, 2.9 assist, 0.5 steal, sa 0.1 blocks per game.

Ang parehong mga koponan ay nagtutuon muli para sa paparating na ikalawang kumperensya, naitakda sa kalagayan ng Nobyembre na nagsimula nang magsimula ang ilang mga pagpapaunlad hinggil sa paglaban ng Metro Manila laban sa coronavirus disease 2019.

BARCENILLA, ENRIQUEZ, GOMEZ NANGUNA SA LAGUNA PARA TALUNIN ANG TOLEDO SA PCAP CHESS

Tinalo ni Grandmaster Rogelio "Banjo" Barcenilla Jr. kontra si National Master Rommel Ganzon sa kanilang rapid duel para pangunahan ang Laguna sa 17-4 victory kontra sa Toledo sa third conference Professional Chess Association of the Philippines (PCAP) Miyerkoles, Oktubre 13, 2021 virtually na ginanap sa Chess.com Platform.

Si Barcenilla na nagkampeon sa last two Battle of the Grandmasters ay kinaldag si Ganzon sa 25 moves of a Two Knights Defense, Fried Liver Attack para selyuhan ang Heroes sa kanilang ika-5 sunod na panalo sa Northern division gaya ng kaparehas na iskor na naikamada ng San Juan Predators, Pasig City King Pirates at Manila Indios Bravos.

Lumagapak naman ang Trojans sa 0-5 sa Southern division kung saan namamayagpag ang Paralympics na may 5-0 clean slate.

"Though the Laguna Heroes scored 17-4 against Toledo, it was a tough match. The early wins of GM Barcenilla and GM Gomez in the rapid match sparked the team to play harder." "sabi ni Arena Grandmaster Dr.Fred Paez, isa sa apat na co-team owner ng Laguna Heroes na kinabibilangan nina Mr. David Nithyananthan ng KALARO, Engr. Benjamin Dy ng SDC Global Choice at Engr. Jonathan Mamaril ng Oregon,

USA. Maraming beses na naging Olympiad veteran kung saan si Barcenilla ay nakakuha ng tulong kina Woman National Master Jean Karen Enriquez, Fide Master Jose Efren Bagamasbad, Grandmaster John Paul Gomez at Vince Angelo Medina.

Dinurog ni Enriquez si Jeah Jean Gacang sa 47 moves ng Indian Game, na itarak ni Bagamasbad ang checkmate kay International Master Rico Mascarinas sa 47 moves ng English Opening, diniskaril ni Gomez si Redentor Nailon sa 32 moves ng Slav defense at panalo si Medina kay National Master Rogelio Enriquez Jr. sa 99 moves ng Trompovsky Opening.

Tabla naman si Fide Master Austin Jacob Literatus kontra kay Richard Natividad sa 65 moves ng English Opening habang nakihati ng puntos si Kimuel Aaron Lorenzo kontra kay Bonn Rainauld Tibod sa 87 moves ng King's Indian defense.

Suportado ng Greatche Philippines, Inc., SDC Global Choice, Jolly Smile Dental Clinic, KALARO at ng Rotary Club of Nuvali, ang Laguna Heroes ay tinalo ang Toledo City Trojans, 5-2, sa blitz game matapos magrehi-tro ng importanteng panalo sina Barcenilla, Literatus, Enriquez, Gomez at Medina. **(MARLON BERNARDINO)**



PSA GUEST
ILAN sa pahayag ni Phil Women team Coach Pat Aquino ang pagsisimula pagsasanay para sa pambansang koponan sa kalagitnaan ng Nobyembre para sa 2022 kwalipikadong paligsahan ng FIBA Women's World Cup na itinakda sa Peb. 6 hanggang 14, at iba pang mga pahayag para sa nasabing kuponan kasamang ni coach sina Janine Pontejos at Camille Clarin sa ginanap na lingguhang online PSA Forum. **(RGN)**



Maris Mana2
MAKIKITA sa larawan sina TOPS president Ed Andaya, Eddie Torres Pangulo ng Powerlifting Association of the Philippines, Ella Partice Fajardo Gilas Pilipinas Basketball, Agatha Wong - SEA Games Gold Medalist Wushu na nagbigay ng kani-kanilang mga pahayag kaugnay ng kanilang update para sa kinaaani-banang nilang sports sa pagdalo sa weekly zoom online TOPS Usapang Sports 124th edition **(RGN)**



NASA larawan sina TOPS president Ed Andaya, Eddie Torres Pangulo ng Powerlifting Association of the Philippines, Ella Partice Fajardo Gilas Pilipinas Basketball, Agatha Wong - SEA Games Gold Medalist Wushu na nagbigay ng kani-kanilang mga pahayag kaugnay ng kanilang update para sa kinaaani-banang nilang sports sa pagdalo sa weekly zoom online TOPS Usapang Sports 124th edition **(RGN)**

MANILA – The Presidential Task Force on Media Security (PTFoMS) is in high gear as it celebrated Monday its 5th year anniversary as the forefront agency of the government in defending press freedom by protecting the life, liberty and security of media workers in the Philippines.

As one of President Rodrigo Duterte's legacies to the Filipino people, the PTFoMS was created on Oct. 11, 2016 as an inter-agency task force dedicated to ensure the safety of journalists against threats and violence - the very first in the world.

Through the "whole-of-government" approach that now characterizes the way the Duterte Administration has effectively handled important social issues - a unified effort between government agencies to maximize all available resources to achieve its goals - the task force has come a long way from its very humble beginnings.

Citing the achievements in the last five years, Undersecretary Jose Joel Sy Egco, Executive Director of the PTFoMS, said the agency will be relentless in going after perpetrators of violence against media workers.

"We have been at the forefront in the fight to protect the life, liberty and security of media workers in the Philippines. Not only my mandate but my advocacy," Egco said.

With a dedicated mandate to resolve media killings in the country, the PTFoMS recorded the 51st case of media killing that resulted in a guilty verdict out of the total of 187 cases being monitored by the task force since the time of President Corazon Aquino, bringing to 68 the total number of media killers that were convicted by the courts, while 56 cases were regarded as "closed" for various reasons.

Far less journalists have also been killed ever since PTFoMS' creation compared to the last two administrations that saw a slew of killings of media workers, most notably the Ampatuan Massacre that happened during the time of President Gloria Arroyo. While tragic, there were fewer media workers that were killed during the present administration, far

PTFoMS in 5th Gear: A Duterte Legacy

lower than the 40 victims in the time of the presidency of the late President Noynoy Aquino and 82 during President Arroyo. PTFoMS also directly oversaw the filing of 15 cases in court against perpetrators of media violence, arrested nine suspects and investigated seven killings with the help of its core member agencies such as the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI). Justice Secretary Menardo Guevarra chairs the task force.

A total of 80 cases involving media practitioners who were unduly threatened were also quickly acted upon, assisted and/or resolved by the task force. Media workers who were in danger were immediately given round-the-clock police protection.

"President Rodrigo Roa Duterte knows the importance of press freedom in a democratic society. That is the reason why establishing PTFoMS was the very first administrative order he signed upon assuming office," Egco said. "This commitment of the President with the fourth estate by institutionalizing the task force will be one of his most important legacies in preserving Philippine democracy."

Egco also said that during the pandemic, the PTFoMS became more proactive in providing for the needs of media workers aside from ensuring their protection.

"The welfare of our media workers is our primary concern. We have taken the initiative by providing financial, medical and food assistance to many of our media practitioners all over the country who were badly affected by the onslaught of the Covid19 pandemic, with the help of the National Press Club and ACT-CIS party-list" said PTFoMS Co-Chairman and Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin M. Andanar. The Task Force closely monitors all cases of media violence even during the pandemic through regular virtual case update meetings with law enforcement agencies.

In coordination with the Philippine National Police,

the PTFoMS has extended its mandate by providing real time security even to the families of victims of media violence and eyewitnesses to media killings.

"Today (Oct. 11) as the PTFoMS observes its 5th anniversary, we echo the call of hundreds of thousands of media workers across the country for the passage of the proposed Media Workers Welfare Act (MWWA) that has already been approved by the House of Representatives in 2020 and is now pending approval for a long time in the Senate. The MWWA is proposed legislation exclusively for media workers that aims to dramatically improve their economic welfare," Egco said.

The bill grants media workers with hazard pay, living wage, employment security plus additional insurance and hospitalization benefits. PTFoMS - an agency under the Office of the President - actively participated in crafting the bill and lobbying for its passage in Congress.

To reiterate, through the guidance of Egco as its Executive Director, the PTFoMS has come a long way in making the country a safer place for the media.

In 2018, the Reporters without Borders (RSF), an international media watchdog, finally removed the Philippines from its list of Top 5 most dangerous countries in the world for journalists. In 2019, the Philippines became a beacon of hope for press freedom by giving justice to the 31 media workers who were among those slain in the infamous Ampatuan Massacre when a court convicted 43 individuals including the masterminds behind the tragedy.

In 2020, the country was declared as the biggest mover in the Committee to Protect Journalists' (CPJ) Global Impunity Index, noting that the Philippines was the most improved country in its 2020's rankings. The Philippines is also not included in CPJ's list of "World's Worst Places to Be a Journalist" or "10 Most Censored Countries".

The 2020 Director-General Report on the Safety of Journalists and the Danger

of Impunity released by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has cited gains made by the present Administration through PTFoMS in the realm of media safety, such as the setting up or strengthening of monitoring mechanisms to track attacks against journalists which have contributed to better reporting on the safety of journalists; the putting up of measures to prevent crimes against journalists; and the establishment of specific bodies dedicated to ensuring the prosecution of crimes against all media workers. And to set the record straight, despite notable declines in 73 percent of all countries in the world, the Philippines fared well in the 2021 World Press Freedom Index (WPIFI) of the RSF. While noting a slight 2-point drop in the index, the country's ranking for the past five years remained better than during previous administrations. In fact, President Duterte's lowest grade in the index was President Noynoy Aquino's highest. Indeed, in spite of the extreme challenges brought about by the pandemic, the Philippine media remains free, colorful and vibrant as ever.

Meanwhile, the Task Force is already in the 6th leg of its regional webinar series exclusively for media workers that promote best safety practices in the midst of the pandemic and in the upcoming national and local elections. Media workers from all over the country will get the chance to participate and learn from this webinar.

The PTFoMS also continues to engage with the international community in the promotion of press freedom and safety of journalists such as the United Nations, UNESCO, European Union and media advocacy groups like the CPJ and RSF, in partnership with the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Presidential Human Rights Committee.

Needless to state, the PTFoMS will continue to remain proactive, unwavering and relentless in its mandate to defend press freedom in the Philippines in the years to come. (PR)

Red Cross deploys local chapter assets and personnel as STS 'Maring' rages on

MANDALUYONG CITY

-- With Severe Tropical Storm Maring raging on in various parts of the country, the Philippine Red Cross has deployed its assets and personnel to affected areas in several provinces. PRC Palawan Chapter's risk assessment team reports waist to chest-deep waters in some areas within the Municipality of Narra including Brgy. Malinao, Brgy. Batang Batang, and Brgy. Princess Urduja.

As of press time, in the town of Narra, the local PRC Chapter is also doing a search and rescue operation as there are three missing persons reported at Brgy. Princess Urduja. Also affected by flooding is Brgy. Punan of the Municipality of Sofronio Española and Brgy. Poblacion in the Municipality of Quezon.

PRC Palawan Chapter also deployed a five-man volunteer team to distribute hot meals to 150 individuals who were affected by Typhoon Maring in Brgy. Malinao, Narra.

In Cagayan, the local PRC Chapter has deployed its 143 Volunteer's unit to assess the situation as the Pinacanauan River along Teresa Boulevard in Tuguegarao City swells up to 2.45 meters.

PRC La Union Chapter is also on alert as the power went down in the areas of Tanqui and Langcuas in San Fernando City.

"Sa mga panahong ito, lagging naka-alerto ang mga Red Cross Chapters natin. Maasahan ninyo na ang mga volunteers natin sa Red Cross ay laging handang tumulong sa panahon ng sakuna," said PRC Chairman and CEO Dick Gordon.

As a veteran when it comes to typhoon response, PRC's disaster management assets include 7 payloaders, 8 humvees, 34 rubber boats, 2 amphibians, and 43 delivery trucks. Also, part of PRC's emergency response when it comes to disasters are 2 head tractors, 139 motorcycles, 10 rescue vehicles, 8 payloaders, 19 fire trucks, 171 ambulance units, 22 water tanks, and 31 water treatment units.

"All PRC assets and personnel are on standby and will be deployed if necessary to alleviate the suffering of our kababayans before, during, and after the storm. That's how PRC works. Lagi kami nandiyan, kaagapay ninyo," added Gordon. (Philippine Red Cross)

Investors increase in Manila despite pandemic

MANILA – Business is good in Manila despite the challenges posed by the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic.

The city government recorded a 45.21 percent increase in business registration as of the September 2021 data released Tuesday.

The Manila Bureau of Permits said the increase was from January to September, as compared to the same period last year.

Bureau of Permits Director Levi Facundo told the Philippine News Agency (PNA) in an interview they recorded 6,356 new businesses during the first seven months of 2021 while there were only 4,501 last year.

"A popular hamburger fast food chain will have three new stores by the end of 2021. Two telecommunications companies improved their services with over 300 new cell sites since De-

ember 2020. Most others are medium to small businesses, which have been the backbone of our local economy such as retail and services, food, online businesses, as well as lessors who formalized their business activities," Facundo shared.

He said the ease of doing business in the capital city was streamlined via the online application Go! Manila that encouraged more business owners to register.

The app will allow business owners to submit and pay online and print their electronic statement of account and electronic permit.

Manila likewise implemented out-of-the-box programs to support businessmen, like Manila Support Local and Manila Restaurant Week while Paskuhan sa Maynila, Maynilove, and EntrePinays provided spaces for business training and grants. (PNA)

Rediscounting loans availment down in end-September

MANILA – Banks took out lower peso-denominated rediscounting loans in the first nine months this year amounting to PHP6.12 million compared to the same period in 2020, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) reported.

Data released by the central bank on Monday showed that end-September 2021 total availments under the Peso Rediscount Facility (RRF), which currently has a 2.5 percent rate, is way lower than the PHP26.9 billion year-ago.

“These availments represent the rediscount of Production Credits that financed industrial processing (65.35 percent); and Other Credits that funded capital asset expenditures (24.81 percent) and permanent working capital (9.84 percent),” the BSP report said.

BOC – PORT OF SUBIC CONDUCTS A MEETING TO CURB AGRICULTURAL SMUGGLING

District Collector Maritess T. Martin of the Bureau of Customs (BOC) - Port of Subic spearheaded a coordination meeting which aims to strengthen the cooperation and information sharing among government agencies to curb agricultural smuggling on October 06 at the SBMA Administrative Building.

Among the attendees are Assistant Secretary Federico Laciste, Co-chair of the Economic Intelligence Sub-Task Group on Food Security, and representatives of its member-government agencies which include the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Agriculture (DA), Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG), and the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA). In addition, BOC – Port of Subic's Deputy Collector for Assessment, Coll. Maita S. Acevedo, Chief-CIIS FS IO3 Verne Y. Enciso, ESS-SP Captain Vincent Mark S. Malasmas, as well as

However, there was no availment under the Exporters Dollar and Yen Rediscount Facility (EDYRF) during the same period, it said.

BSP said the last time the EDYRF was tapped by banks was in 2016, through a US dollar-denominated rediscounting loan.

Its rediscounting facilities aim to provide a boost to banks' liquidity requirements by extending loans to banks, with the financial institutions using their own borrowers' loans as collateral.

Among the eligible papers that banks can use to tap the facility include promissory notes, drafts or bills of exchange of commercial credits, production credits, or other credits like micro-finance, housing loans, services, and agricultural with medium and long-term tenors. (PNA)

representatives from the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) and the Seaport Department were also present during the conference.

During the meeting, the initial guidelines to be implemented for the proposed Inspection Hub at the Port of Subic was discussed to stop the proliferation of smuggled goods and to prevent other unlawful acts.

Coll. Martin stated, “Let this coordination meeting and the establishment of the Inspection Hub be the key and the ultimate model to other ports on how to eradicate all kinds of agricultural smuggling and importations. This may not be the start of it all but let us make this the end of it all.”

Since the 2nd quarter of this year, the BOC – Port of Subic has been in constant coordination with the Economic Intelligence Sub-Task Group on Food Security in protecting our border against smuggling and other illicit trades. PR

QC POPULATION GROWTH FROM 39K IN 1939 TO NEAR 3M IN 2020 TRACED

MANILA – Did you know that when the Philippine Commonwealth Government created Quezon City in 1939, it had a much smaller area than at present and a population of only 39,103 people?

That small number of inhabitants came from the then sparsely-populated barrios which were taken from the Rizal towns of San Juan, Mandaluyong, Caloocan, Pasig and Marikina to comprise the infant city under Commonwealth Act (CA) 502 of Oct. 12, 1939.

This and related information can be gleaned from data collated by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) which indicates that QC, once declared as the country's capital in place of Manila, has a population of 2,960,048 based on its 2020 census.

According to provisions of CA 502, QC consisted of 7,355 hectares when it was approved by the National Assembly.

The area was doubled with the inclusion of half of the former town of Novaliches in 1948 when QC was

declared officially as the new capital of the country through Republic Act 333. The law was signed by then-President Elpidio Quirino.

After 28 years, or in 1976, then President Ferdinand Marcos issued Presidential Decree 940 restoring the capital city title to Manila because of the failure of both the national government and the local officials of QC to implement the National Capital City Development Plans.

The PSA gave the following details of the increase in the city's number of inhabitants during the last 81 years (1939 to 2020):

1939 -- 39,013; 1948 -- 107,977; 1960 -- 397,990; 1970 -- 754,452; 1975-- 956,864; 1980 -- 1,165,865; 1990 -- 1,666,766; 1995 -- 1,989,419; 2000 -- 2,173,931; 2007 -- 2,679,450; 2010 -- 2,761,720; 2015 -- 2,936,116; and 2020 -- 2,960,048.

Meanwhile, the League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP) website shows that aside from Quezon City,

Hontiveros: Senate Medal of Excellence for Ressa is mandatory

SENATOR Risa Hontiveros, Chair of the Senate Committee on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality, has filed Proposed Senate Resolution No. 927 urging the Senate to recognize Maria Ressa's Nobel Peace Prize as mandated by Senate Adopted Resolution No. 110.

According to Hontiveros, Senate Resolution No. 110 states that recipients of a Nobel Prize are to automatically receive a Senate Medal of Excellence.

Senator Minority Leader Frank Drilon, and Senators Kiko Pangilinan and Leila De Lima also signed Hontiveros' resolution.

“Conferring the Senate Medal of Excellence on Maria Ressa is mandatory and procedural. It's not up for vote or debate,” she stressed.

“Whatever side you look at it from, Maria Ressa's feat is important for our country and all freedom-loving nations. We have a duty at the Senate to uplift and

acknowledge our fellow Filipinos when we make our mark in the world,” she added.

Hontiveros said that ignoring Ressa's accomplishment would also be ‘damaging to women's important role in Philippine history’.

“Maria Ressa is the first ever Filipino Nobel Peace Prize winner. To purposely ignore this achievement would be to wash away an amazing victory of a Filipina from our history books. This is a chance for the Senate as an institution to show that it remains true to its values of free speech and genuine democracy,” she said.

“I urge the Senate to give Maria Ressa the recognition she is due so that we may inspire Filipinos to continue to be brave. Filipinos are many things, and now we also have a Nobel Peace Prize awardee. This is a Pinoy Pride moment. May there continue to be many others,” Hontiveros concluded. PR

PRIVATE SECTOR OFF ON SEPTEMBER 2021 INFLATION PROJECTIONS

MANILA – Most private sector institutions have overshoot their September 2021 inflation forecasts, with their median projection at 5 percent, or higher than the actual headline inflation rate of 4.8 percent for the period.

Based on a newspaper poll, the Department of Finance (DOF) said only John Paolo Rivera of the Asian Institute of Management (AIM), and Emmanuel Lopez of the Colegio de San Juan de Letran, projected a lower rate of 4.5 percent and 4.7 percent, respectively, while 15 others placed their forecasts between 4.9 and 5.2 percent.

Standard Chartered economist Jonathan Koh, and Citi's Nalin Chutthotitham, predicted the September inflation rate to be at 4.9 percent.

Philippine National Bank (PNB) vice president and head of Equity Research Division Alvin Joseph Arogo, Sun Life Financial (SunLife)'s Patrick Ella, ING Bank NV Manila senior economist Nicholas Antonio Mapa, Ateneo de Manila University (ADMU) economist Ser Percival Peña-Reyes, Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.

(RCBC)'s Michael Ricafort and Moody's Analytics Senior Asia-Pacific economist Katrina Ell, forecast the inflation rate at 5 percent.

The Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) lead economist Emilio Neri, Jr., Security Bank Corp. (SBC) chief economist Robert Dan Rocas, BDO Uni-bank's Jonathan Ravelas, GlobalSource Partners analyst Romeo Bernardo and Union Bank of the Philippines (UnionBank)'s Ruben Carlo Asuncion, projected inflation to reach 5.1 percent, while De La Salle University's (DLSU) Mitzie Irene Conchada and Pantheon Economics' Miguel Chanco both gave a 5.2-percent forecast.

“Analysts from the private sectors appeared to have expected the worst as the median inflation rate is at 5 percent, slightly above the actual September 2021 inflation, based on the BusinessWorld poll,” the DOF said.

According to the DOF, the country's headline inflation slightly eased to 4.8 percent in September 2021 from 4.9 percent, which is within the 4.8 to 5.6 percent estimate of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) said the easing of the overall inflation in September was mainly a result of the lower annual rate of increment in the transport index at 5.2 percent from 7.2 percent in the previous month.

The annual uptick also slowed down in the following indices, which contributed to the slower pace in the overall inflation: food and non-alcoholic beverages (6.2 percent); furnishing, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house (2.4 percent); communication (0.2 percent); and education (0.9 percent), the PSA said.

The latest figures now put the average inflation to 4.5 percent, above the BSP's target range of 2 percent to 4 percent.

“BSP Governor Benjamin Diokno stated that the inflation rate is expected to remain elevated in the coming months before it settles to target levels before the end of 2021,” the DOF said.

Diokno said supply-side factors, such as weather disturbances, global oil prospects, and the African swine fever (ASF), continued to drive the inflation rate. (PR)

President Quezon established nine other cities in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao during the first four years of his term and until the spread of World War II to the Philippines on Dec. 8, 1941.

Quezon was sworn in as the first president of the Commonwealth Government on Nov. 15, 1935. He died on Aug. 1, 1944 while his administration was in exile in the United States due to World War II.

QC was the seventh city created during Quezon's incumbency and the ninth since the time of the Philippine Commission in 1901.

The Philippine Commonwealth-born cities, according to their charter numbers and dates of creation, were:

Zamboanga City, CA 39, Aug. 4, 1936; Davao City, CA 51, Oct. 16, 1936; Iloilo City, CA 57, Oct. 20, 1936; Cebu City, CA 58, Oct. 20, 1936; Bacolod City, CA 326, June 18, 1938; Tagaytay City, CA 338, June 21, 1938; Quezon City, CA 502, Oct. 12, 1939; San Pablo City, CA 520, May 7, 1940; Cavite City, CA 547, May 26, 1940; and Marawi City, CA 592, Aug. 19, 1940. (PNA)

DRIVER, BUGBOG-SARADO DAHIL SA KALAGUYO?

KINUYOG at binugbog ang 42-anyos na driver dahil nadatnan umanong may nanligigaw sa kanyang kalaguyo sa Bacoor City, Cavite.

Arestado sina Francia Tausa at Romeo Bermejo na habang sinusulat ito ay pinaghahanap ang iba pang kasama sa pambubugbog na sina Aaron Dequilla, Jonny Dequilla, Monmon Dequilla, Kenneth Superanza at Mark Daniel Leonado.

Ang nagreklamo ay si Irene Ferrer, 44, asawa ng biktimgang si Ernesto Ferrer Jr., na ginamot sa Perpetual Help Medical Center.

Sa ulat ni PSSgt Albert Badocdoc, ng Bacoor City Police Station, dakong alas-1:30 Lunes ng madaling

araw ay nagtungo ang biktima sa bahay ng kanyang kabit na si Francia sa Brgy San Nicolas 3.

Pagdating doon ay naabutan ng biktima si Aaron na nanligigaw din sa kanyang kabit dahil upang magkaroon ng mainitang pagtatatalo sa pagitan ng tatlo.

Tinawag ni Aaron ang kanyang mga kamag-anak at iba pang kaibigan.

Kasunod ay pinagtutulungan umanong bugbugin ang biktima na nagresulta sa matinding pinsala sa katawan.

Unang naaresto ang mga suspek at dinala sa barangay hall subalit pinatakas ni Bermejo si Aaron at mga kasamahan nito. **GENE ADSUARA**

Pagbatì at Pagpupugay sa mga Ulirang Guro sa Filipino 2021

LUNGSOD NG MAYNILA -- Kilalanin ang mga hinirang at pinarangalan ng Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF) na mga bagong Ulirang Guro sa Filipino na nagpamalansang natatanging kontribusyon sa pagpapalaganap, pagpapaulad, at pagpapayaman ng wikang Filipino at mga katutubong wika ng Pilipinas.

Mark-Jhon R. Prestoza, MAEd

Kasalukuyang guro ng Quirino National High School sa Isabela. Nagtapos siya ng Master of Arts in Education Filipino at kasalukuyang kumukuha ng Doctor of Philosophy in Language Education-Filipino sa Isabela State University. Pinarangalan bilang Outstanding Researcher noong 2019.

Rowell D. Madula, PhD Nagtapos ng kaniyang doktorado ng Araling Filipino sa Pamantasang De La Salle at ginawaran ng pinakamahasay na disertasyon. Kasalukuyang Associate Professor V at pangalawang tagapangulo ng Departamento ng Filipino sa Pamantasang De La Salle. Noong 2018, siya ay pinarangalan ng Cecilio M. Lopez Gawad Propesor sa Wika at Panitikang Filipino. Romeo P. Peña, PhD

Kasalukuyang dekan ng Kolehiyo ng Arte at Literatura at tagapangulo ng Master of Arts in Filipino Program ng Graduate School sa Politeknikong

Unibersidad ng Pilipinas-Sta. Mesa. Nagtapos siya ng doktorado ng Araling Pilipino sa Unibersidad ng Pilipinas-Diliman. Awardee rin siya ng Filipino Migration to Hawaii Centennial Literary Prize International. Ma. Lourdes R. Quijano, PhD

Pinarangalan ng Excellence Award bilang awtor at propesor noong 2020. Kasalukuyang direktor ng Sentro ng Wika at Kultura at Professor VI sa Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology. Nagtapos ng Doctor of Philosophy

Tirador ng motorsiklo, tiklo

TIKLO ang 21-anyos na umano'y tirador ng motorsiklo na pinapa-duplicate muna ang susi ng target nitong nakawin sa Tanza, Cavite.

Kinilala ang suspek na si Lester Cedrick Moreno, 21, binata, ng 156 B. Brgy San Juan 1, Gen Trias City.

Inireklamo siya ng biktimgang si Emelyn Cases, 35, may-asawa, ng 120 Mendoza St., Gen. Trias City.

Sa ulat ni Pat John Paul Cruz, ng Tanza Police Station, ipinarada ng biktima ang motorsiklong Yamaha Mio Aerox na may plakang 11800B sa harapan ng kanyang sari-sari store sa Brgy Bucal, Tanza, dakong alas-5:30 ng hapon nang

HONTIVEROS, PINAPA-AUDIT ANG P1.8B 'PORK BARREL' NI LAO SA HOUSING DEPARTMENT

Hinimok ni Senador Risa Hontiveros ang Commission on Audit (COA) na subaybayan ang higit sa P5B na nakolekta mula sa mga private housing developers alinsunod sa Urban Development and Housing Act. Sinabi ng senadora na mula sa P5 bilyon - ang kabuuang halaga ng mga inilagay sa mga escrow account sa ilalim ng iba't ibang pangalan - 1.8B ay iniulat na ginastos ni dating Usec. Si Christopher Lloyd Lao sa panahon ng panunungkulan sa Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB).

"Tumatagiting na P5B ang nakolektang pera mula sa private housing developers simula nang pumasok si Usec Lao sa HLURB, na pahirap sa maraming maliit na developers. Hindi maipaliwanag at matag-

puan kung saan ginasta ang malalaking tipak nito noong panahon ni Lao," ani Hontiveros.

"Walang paper trail. Ang pera ay dapat ay napunta para sa pagtatayo ng murang bahay ng minimum wage earners, pati na yung mga gustong umalis mula sa informal settlements. I urge COA to look into this matter and immediately, and I urge the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DH-SUD) to cooperate without hesitation," dagdag pa niya.

Paliwanag ni Hontiveros, sa panahon na nagsisilbi si Lao bilang Chief Executive Officer at Commissioner ng HLURB, nagkaroon ng isang "scheme" kung saan ang mga private housing developers ay nagbayad ng kaukulang halaga kapalit ng pagsunod sa requirement na maglaan ng bahagi ng kanilang housing projects para sa socialized housing.

Nagtataka ang Senadora kung paanong nagastos ni Lao ang P1.8B nang walang pormal at dokumentadong kaalaman ng ahensya. "Paano nagastos ni Lao ang P1.8B nang hindi alam ng HLURB (na ngayon ay parte na ng Department of Housing)? Siya lang at hindi ang HLURB ang nagdedesisyon kung anu-anong mga lugar at sinong mga kontratista ang mapapaboran ng halagang ito."

"Naging pork barrel ba ang pera? Hindi natin alam kung pabahay ba ang naitayo. Hindi kayang i-assemble ng DHSUD ang detalyeng matagal ko nang hinihingi. Sunud-sunod ang mga kinasasangkutan ni Lao, hindi lang barya-barya, kundi bilyon. Hindi na dapat ito palampasin pa." ayon pa sa kanya.

Ayon kay Hontiveros, maaaring labag din ito sa batas dahil ang mga pondong nalikom at inilagay sa mga escrow account sa mga bangko ay one-fourth lang ng nakasaad sa batas. Kung sinunod ang batas, ang pribadong sektor ay makakapagtayo ng P20B halaga ng mga socialized housing units



WAR CANNON, BUMIDA SA 3RD LEG TRIPLE CROWN!

Bumida ang kabayong si War Cannon na sinakyan ng hineteng si Kelvin Abobo matapos magwagi at durugin ang pangarap ng nakatunggali na si Nuclear Bomb sa ginanap na 2021 Philracom "3rd Leg Triple Crown Stakes Race" na inilarga sa karerahan ng Santa Ana Park sa Naic, Cavite. Maraming karerista ang natuwa at humanga sa ipinakitang performance ni War Cannon, ngunit marami din ang nalungkot dahil nabigo si Nuclear Bomb na maukit ang kanyang pangalan sa kasaysayan ng karera na nakawalis ng tatlong leg ng triple crown. Sa simula ng labanan ay nakauna sa arangkadahan ang kabayong si Ambisioso na ginabayan ni Jerico Serrano, ngunit agad naman na inagaw ng ka couple runner ni War Cannon na si Flattering You ang bandera na nirendahan ni Jonathan "Unoh" Hernandez, nasa ikatlong posisyon si King Tiger ni John Alvin Guce, pang-apat si Paruparung Bukid na pinatungan ni Claro Pare Jr., panglima si Gusto Mucho ni Patty Dilema, pang-anim si Whateverwillbewillbe na sakay ni Conrad Henson, pangpito ang paborito na si Nuclear Bomb ni Pablito Cabalejo, nasa ikawalong puwesto ang winning horse na si War Cannon, habang si Kevlar ni Jeff Zarate ang bugaw sa takbuan. Hindi nakigulo si War Cannon sa unahan at binantayan nito ang liyamadong si Nuclear Bomb sa likuran. Sa kalagitnaan ng labanan ay bahagyang lumayo si Flattering You sa harapan kaya naman kumaripas na sina Gusto Mucho at War Cannon papuntang unahan at nagsimula na rin magpa init si Nuclear Bomb. Papasok sa huling kurbada ay naagaw na ni Gusto Mucho ang bandera kay Flattering You pero nakasabay na rin ang malakas na sina Nuclear Bomb at War Cannon. Sa rektahan ay si Nuclear Bomb na ang nasa unahan habang si War Cannon ay hindi basta bumitaw sa laban. Mapapansin na sumandal sa tabing balya si Nuclear Bomb habang nagpakita naman ng determinasyon si War Cannon. Pagdating sa huling 100 meters ay nasikwat na ni War Cannon ang unahan at tumawid sa meta ng may apat na kabayong agwat laban sa nasegundo na si Nuclear Bomb. Nakapagrehistro si War Cannon ng tiyempong 2:07 (23'-23"-26'-26'-27") para sa mahabang distansiya na 2,000 meters. Nahamig ng may-ari ni War Cannon na si Melanie Habla ang premyong P2.1M, habang P700,000 ang napunta kay Nuclear Bomb, P350,000 naman ang nasungkit ni Kevlar bilang 3rd place, at nakubra ng 4th placer na si Gusto Mucho ang P175,000. Kilalang matulin sa arangkadahan si War Cannon ngunit nabigo ito nung 1st at 2nd leg, kaya inamin ni Kelvin Abobo na tinuruan nila si War Cannon na sumunod lamang sa takbuan at wag makipagsabayan sa matutulin sa largahan. Congrats!

na malaking karagdagan sa napakaliit na badyet na ibinigay ng Budget Department sa mga ahensya ng pabahay.

"Karapatan ng taumbayan na malaman kung saan napupunta ang pera na pinaghirapan nilang kitain. Kumpyansa ako sa CoA na

gagawin nila ang kanilang mandato lalo na sa mga hindi maipaliwanag na paggasta ng ahensya ng gobyerno. Hindi ako kumpyansa sa mga taong tuso at mapanlinlang na gagawin ang lahat makapangupit lang at makapanlamang," pagtatapos niya. **PR**

Batangas officials laud DHSUD for all-out support to settlement projects

ALITAGTAG, Batangas -- Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD) Secretary Eduardo Del Rosario has earned praises from Batangas local government officials for making housing projects in their respective municipalities into a reality.

The housing czar spearheaded the ceremonial signing of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and groundbreaking event for land development of a proposed socialized housing project in Alitagtag early on Tuesday.

The housing complex, part of government efforts to assist local government units (LGUs) affected by the Taal Volcano eruption in January 2020, will benefit government employees, particularly teachers and uniformed personnel.

At the ceremony, Alitagtag Mayor Edilberto Ponggos praised the Department for its devotion in fulfilling the municipality's dream shelter project. He likewise lauded DHSUD's efforts in fast-tracking the completion of requirements for such an undertaking.

"Yung bilis ng kanilang (DHSUD) pag-ganap, ito yung kailangan natin sa Pilipinas. Ito yung mga lider na dapat ay manatili sapagkat bibihira ang ganitong magiging sistema, kaya Secretary Del Rosario, saludo po kami, ang buong bayan ng Alitagtag, sa inyo," Mayor Ponggos said.

Secretary Del Rosario, in his message, emphasized that the Department is ready to assist LGUs in recovering from disasters and provide shelter and livelihood to their constituents.

"Yan ang gusto namin sa Department, yung tulong na nakikitang may ginagawa and to ensure na lahat ng projects matatapos," the housing czar stressed.

He likewise announced assistance for additional common facilities like a training facility or livelihood center intended for the occupants of the housing project, construction of which comes

three months following the finalization of a MOA for an evacuation center also in the municipality.

Also in attendance at the key event were Batangas 3rd District Rep. Maitet Collantes, who likewise expressed gratitude for DHSUD's commitment in pushing for the settlement projects within her district. She disclosed that Secretary Del Rosario was one of the few Cabinet members who had gone directly to the ground to assist LGUs following the Taal Volcano eruption in January last year.

"Mabibilang po natin sa daliri ang mga secretary na katulad ni Secretary Del Rosario...kaya Secretary isa lamang po ang masasabi ko salamat, salamat," Rep. Collantes said.

Later in the day, Secretary Del Rosario also led a MOA-signing and groundbreaking for land development of a government center and settlement site in Mataasnakahoy, wherein he was welcomed by Mayor Janet Ilagan and Vice Mayor Jay Ilagan.

In her welcome speech, Mayor Ilagan described the housing czar as "Mr. Change" for his commitment in pushing for development projects in the municipality.

"Napakaganda po ng ibinigay nila sa ating evacuation center at ngayon naman po ay hindi magkakaroon ng katuparan ang ating pabahay kung walang land development assistance dito sa Brgy. San Sebastian, kaya Secretary Del Rosario, maraming salamat po at bahagi po kayo ng bayan naming Mataasnakahoy," the local chief executive said.

According to Secretary Del Rosario, it is the instruction of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to help LGUs directly impacted by the volcanic eruption last year.

"Kami po (sa DHSUD) ay taus-pusong bumababa para magkaroon tayo ng sinasabi nating 'make a difference into the lives of the Filipino people,' along-lalo na yung mga nangangailangan, yung andyan sa ib-

Isabela mayor faces 1-year jail term for usurpation of authority

MANILA – The Supreme Court (SC) upheld the conviction by the Sandiganbayan in 2019 on a town mayor found guilty of usurping the official functions of his vice mayor in appointing Sangguniang Bayan personnel.

In a resolution recently made available online, the SC Second Division dismissed the appeal filed by Gamu, Isabela Mayor Nestor Uy and sentenced him to up to one year and eight months in prison.

"We hold that the prosecution discharged its burden of proof and sufficiently established Uy's guilt beyond reasonable doubt through the admitted documentary evidence and testimonies of witnesses," the SC ruled.

"Despite the lack of official correspondence pertaining to the disapproval or rejection of the appointments, Uy admitted in court that the appointments were not compliant with the requirements of posting of notices in at least three conspicuous places nor did the appointments pass through the personnel selection board of the municipality, hence, said appointments

aba. Kapag nakikita po natin ang kasiyahan ng mga LGU leaders at kanilang mga constituents, kami po ay talagang natutuwa dahil sa pagbaba naming, nakikita naming ang inyong katuwaan sa tulong na ibinibigay ng national government," the housing czar stressed.

"That is my instruction to all our regional offices – to coordinate with the LGUs so that both of them will plan and directly find out what are the projects that need immediate implementation that the Department can provide and within the budget that we are given," he noted.

Earlier, the officials inspected the ongoing construction of an evacuation center for Mataasnakahoy, a MOA for which was signed in July this year.

Also participating in the event were former DHSUD Assistant Secretary Leira Buan and DHSUD Regional Office 4A Director Jann Roby Otero, who had actively been coordinating with the LGUs regarding the development of the said projects. **(DHSUD)**

were inefficacious and not approved. Such testimony confirms that there was indeed disapproval on his part even though no document nor action was actually taken to convey the rejection," the tribunal added.

Uy was originally sentenced by the Sandiganbayan to up to six months in prison for preventing the hiring of four municipal employees in the vice mayor's office in 2013.

The case filed by the Office of the Ombudsman in 2016 arose from Uy's refusal to approve the appointment papers of four people as legislative staff members of the Sangguniang Bayan, headed by then vice mayor Fernando Cumigad.

The four were Dante Martinez as legislative aide, clerk Jasmine Rose Martinez, and drivers Silverio Balagan and Michael Balagan.

The SC upheld the Sandiganbayan ruling that under the Local Government Code, the authority to appoint the legislative staff of the Sangguniang Bayan belongs to the vice mayor, who also serves as the council's presiding officer. **(PNA)**

SEARCA Photo Contest to capture interlinked people-animal-environment health

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna --The COVID-19 pandemic trained a spotlight on the interconnectedness of the health of people, animals, and the environment—also known as One Health.

The Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA) thus chose to focus the 2021 SEARCA Photo Contest on "One Health is Wealth: Healthy Agriculture and Sustainable Food One Health is Wealth: Healthy Agriculture and Sustainable Food Systems."

Now on its 15th year, the SEARCA Photo Contest invites photographers from the Philippines and other Southeast Asian countries to submit their best shots depicting One Health applications to agricultural and rural development (ARD), particularly those featuring sustainable food systems in this time of pandemic.

Images that depict One

3 DENR C. Luzon execs cleared of graft charges

MANILA – The Sandiganbayan has cleared three officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Region III of graft charges filed 13 years ago.

The anti-graft court acquitted Regidor De Leon, regional executive director; Leonardo Aggabao Jr., regional technical director; Fernando Clerigo, an engineer, in a 2008 complaint for alleged violation of Republic Act 3019, otherwise known as the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, according to an 11-page decision written by Associate Justice Oscar Herrera Jr. on October 8 and recently published online.

Complainants Jaime Lazaro, Salvador Osita and Monico Waje of Barangay Boltok in Sta. Cruz, Zambales claimed the trio canceled their survey plans without notice and hearing and before the scheduled ground verification survey, thus giving unwarranted benefits to contractor DMCI.

The complaints said the three officials misrepre-

sented that a property, which they claimed they own, was submerged and part of the South China Sea and have become part of the foreshore, when in truth the same is actually situated in a land mass and not under water.

The questioned property was part of the 2,756 sqm area being developed and declared alienable and disposable by the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) in Masinloc, Zambales.

Ruling for the DENR officials, the anti-graft court said "there was no showing whatsoever that the cancellation of the survey plans of private complainants was an unnecessary, improper or illegal invasion of a legally protected interest".

"On the contrary, the evidence indicate that it was intended to rectify or correct the erroneous approval of the survey plans of private complainants," the court ruled.

The tribunal also said it was unclear how the complainants were deprived of the chance to have their lease application approved by the court, noting that CENRO-Masinloc issued a certification, stating that Waje and Osita have no application for foreshore lease or any other public land applications. **(PNA)**

of Education Secretary's Choice winners will each get \$500, while the winner of the People's Choice Award via Facebook votation will walk away with \$400. To mark the 15th milestone year of the SEARCA Photo Contest, there will also be two special awards tagged Best Youth Photographer, one who used a camera and another who used a mobile phone. Each will take home \$300.

The contest is open to both professional and amateur photographers. Those who wish to join may submit an unlimited number of photo entries as long as they meet the photo contest specifications.

All entries must be submitted to SEARCA online via <https://photocontest.searca.org> until 30 November 2021.

Cash prizes of US\$1,000, \$800, and \$500 await the winners of the first, second, and third prizes. The SEARCA Director's Choice and Philippine Department

1 MINOR, 1 SENIOR; HULI SA BUY BUST

ISANG menor de edad, isang senior citizen at apat na babae ang kabilang sa tatlung hinihinalang tulak ang hinuli ng Cavite Police sa isinagawang buy bust operation sa mga lugar sa lalawigan.

Sa ulat ng Cavite Police Provincial Office (PPO), isinagawa ang buy bust operation sa pagitan ng ala-1:00 Martes ng hapon hanggang ala-1:00 ng Miyerkules ng madaling araw sa limang lungsod at anim na bayan sa lalawigan. Nanguna sa listahan sa may pinakamaraming hinihinalang tulak na naarresto ang mga lungsod ng

Dasmariñas at Bacoor na tig-sampu; sumunod ang Rosario na anim; habang apat naman sa Naic; tigdalawa sa Cavite City, Gen Trias City at Imus City habang tig-isa ang Alfonso, Mendez, Silang at General Mariano Alvarez (GMA) o kabuuan na 30.

Sa nasabing buy bust operation, isang 17 anyos na menor de edad mula sa Gen Trias City ang naarresto habang apat na babae naman mula sa Naic, Gen Trias City, Bacoor City at Dasmariñas City. Isang 71-anyos na senior citizen naman sa Rosario. **GENE ADSUARA**

Rider, tigbak sa trak

NASAWI ang rider ng Lalamove nang nakasalpukan nito ang Isuzu truck dahil nag-u-turn ang driver sa Tagaytay City, Cavite.

Hindi na umabot ng buhay sa Ospital ng Tagaytay ang biktimgang si Gabriel Lacanaria, nasa wastong edad.

Kinilala naman ng pulisya ang driver ng Isuzu truck na may conduction sticker na D10381 na si Bernardo Aguzar.

Sa ulat ni Corporal Cipriano Contreras, ng Tagaytay City Police, dakong alas-9:20 Martes ng gabi naganap ang insidente.

Kapwa binabagtas ng biktima at ni Aguzar ang kahabaan ng Tagaytay-Aguinaldo Highway sa Tagaytay City north direction patungo sa Maynila.

Pagsapit sa Brgy Maitim II ay nag-u-turn ang trak habang paparating naman ang biktima.

Dahilan upang magsalpukan ang dalawang sasakyan at tumilapon ang katawan ni Lacanaria sa kabilang linya ng kalsada.

Isinugod pa ang biktima sa ospital subalit idineklarang dead on arrival. **GENE ADSUARA**

Angkas sa motorsiklo, dedo; 2 pa sugatan sa salpukan

DEDO ang angkas sa motorsiklo na nakasalpukan ng sasakyan na nagresulta sa pagkakasugat ng dalawa pa sa Imus City, Cavite.

Kapwa isinugod sa Medical Center Imus Hospital sina Ryan Chavez Lopez, 28; Vernon Hebron Ronquillo, 27; at Maria Dolores Baluyot De Leon, 55, subalit idineklarang dead on arrival si Lopez.

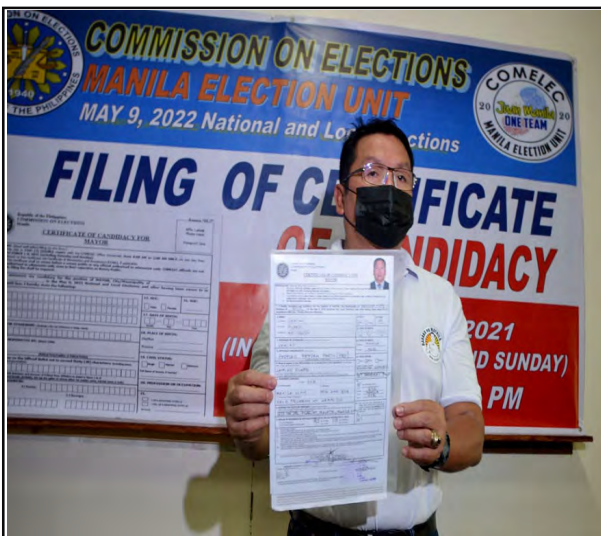
Sa ulat ni PSSgt Carlo Punzalan, ng Imus City Police Station, dakong alas-9:30 Miyerkules ng gabi naganap ang insidente.

Binabagtas ng driver ng Mitsubishi Adventure GLS Wagon na may plakang ABQ 1845 na minamaneho ni Roderick Pan-

gan De Leon ang kahabaan ng Buhay na Tubig Road patungo sa direksiyon ng Brgy Bahayang Pag-asa nang nakasalpukan ang minamanehong motorsiklong Yamaha Mio Sporty ni Ronquillo kung saan binabagtas ang opposite direction patungo naman sa Aguinaldo Highway.

Dahil sa insidente, kapwa tumilapon sa kalsada ang driver at angkas ng motorsiklo na si Lopez habang nasugatan din ang driver ng Mitsubishi Adventure at misis nito na si Maria Dolores.

Ayon sa imbestigador, nakai-nom ang driver ng motorsiklo. **GENE ADSUARA**



IPINAKITA ni retired Police General Elmer Jamias ang kanyang certificate of candidacy na inihain kamakailan sa Commission on Election sa Aroceros, Manila. Tatakbo si Gen. Jamias bilang mayor ng Maynila sa May 9, 2022 elections. **CHRISTIAN HERAMIS**



MANGIYAK-NGIYAK ang suspek na si Edwin Geguera y Afable habang kinakusap ni Kagawad Rey V.Casanova na nahulihan ng isang pirasong maliit na sachet ng hinihinalang shabu nang nagsagawa ng oplang galugad ang mga tauhan ng BF Homes Sub Station 5 sa pamumuno ni P/Major Tirso Pascual. Naging seizing officer si P/Pl Jerald Rabena. **(JIMMY HAO)**



NAKUMPISKA ang labintatlong pirasong sachet ng hinihinalang shabu sa ikinasagang buy bust operation ng mga tauhan ng Paranaque City Police-Station Drugs Enforcement Unit (SDEU) sa pamumuno ni P/Major Briant Ian Salazar. Kinilala ang tatlong suspek na sina Marlon Tomas, Shela Semdo, at Marife Lopez. Ang operasyon ay isinagawa sa Vitalez Cmpd., Brgy.San Dionisio, P'que at seizing officer si Pat Reymark M. Llorag. **(JIMMY HAO)**

HANEP

Basahin Mo Ito!

KALIBRE

ROMY SANTOS

0977-7844136

Kung walang bayad, eh 'di wow at nakakabilib naman; argabyado talaga ang mga nakamotor

NATAPOS ang paghahain ng certificate of candidacy ng mga kandidato para sa halalan sa susunod na taon.

Alam kong hindi maikakaila sa inyo ang napakaraming puna na may patungkol sa dapat ay umiiral o pinaiiral na health protocols sa panahon ng paghahain ng kadidatura dahil nananatili pa rin tayo sa pandemiya.

Lalo na sa mga kilalang personalidad na naghain ng COC sa pagkapangulo at vice president maging sa pagkasenador.

Kitang-kitanamanahindi na nangyari at napatupad ang sinasabing social distancing.

Talagang ang mga prominente at mayayamang kandidato dahil sa mga naglutangang supporter.

Ang bulnang o ang sabi ay mayroong budget ang mga supporter na nagpunta noong filling of candidacy.

Pasintabi sa mga supporter subalit batay iyan sa pananaw ng nakararami.

Imposible umano na magtitiyaga subalit wala naman mapapala na budget.

Pwedeng totoo pero pwede ring hindi naman totoo dahil mayroon naman umanong tinatawag na die-hard supporter na kahit walang bayad na kung minsan ay nag-aabono pa.

Eh 'di wow! Kung hindi nagpabayad ay tila nakakabilib naman.

Kayo na po ang humatol. @@@ SA kalapit na lalawigan

naman ay biglaan ang pagiging aktibo ng pagsagawa ng paninita ng pulisya sa mga dumaraang naka-single motorcycle nito pa ring panahon ng filling of candidacy.

Matatawag bang checkpoint o oplan sita kasi ay wala namang nakalatag na mga karatula bagkus ay nakakalat lang ang mga pulis sa lansangan.

Bawat dumaraang nakamotorsiklo ay pinapapara at pinahihinto para sa kaukulang verification.

Anak ng tinamaan ng magaling na lintek, kaya naman pala biglang naghigpit ay dahil may daraan at darating na pulitiko.

Ang pakay ni pulitiko ay upang samahan at suportahan ang mga kaalyadong kandidato para sa local post sa 2022.

Ganoon din, hindi rin namayani ang dapat na social distancing dahil sa dagsang mga supporter.

Argabyado talaga kapag walang pera o mahirap lamang ang kakandidato.

Argabyado rin ang mga nakamotor dahil sila lamang ang pinapapara ng mga parak.

Pero iyong maraming nakamotor na kasama ng pulitiko ay direktso lamang.

Anong klaseng sistema o ano na ba talaga ang nangyayari sa bansa natin?

Iba ang maimpluwensiya at mapera, angat na angat sa lahat ng bagay at pagkakataon.

