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Basahin Mo Ito!

Taon 10 Blg. 23 October 6-12, 2025 P10.00

'Level-up na produkto, level-up na serbisyo; garantisado...'

OVERSEA BUILDERS CENTER, NAGBUKAS NG FLAGSHIP STORE SA CAVITE BILANG BAHAGI NG SOUTHERN LUZON EXPANSION



PINANGUNAHAN ng pamilya Co ang ribbon cutting ceremony sa pagbubukas ng Oversea Builders Center sa Kawit, Cavite nitong Oktubre 3. **(Kuha ni JB)**



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SINA COHCI Chief Executive Officer Mr. Michael Co (kanan), at COHCI Modern Trade – Manila Chief Operating Officer Mr. Ferdinand Co habang kinakapanayam ng media. **(Kuha ni JB)**



DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr. (seated, left) together with Lazada Philippines John Kenneth Estiller formalized the partnership with the e-commerce platform that will benefit local MSMEs in expanding their market reach. Also, in photo are DOST officials (L-R) Assistant Secretary Napoleon K. Juanillo Jr., Assistant Secretary Maria Teresa B. De Guzman, and Undersecretary Sancho A. Mabborang. – **story p.4**



DOST Region 1 Prepares for Data Driven Agriculture with Project SARAI- **story p.4**



PHOTO BY REY NILLAMA

MAHIGPIT na tinututulan ng NUC ang gagaganap na anomalya hinggil sa proyektong nauugnay sa baha matapos pangunahan ni Fr. Anton CT Pascual, Chairperson, National Union of Cooperatives (NUC); kasama sina Dr. Garibaldi O. Leonardo, Chairperson of the Philippine Central Fund Federation; Annabelle S. Espino, Sheila O. Fernandez, Sheila O. Fernandez, Director Zenaida A. Alcantara, Almera Cheska Guito-Garais, Sheila Fernandez at Nancy Marquez ang press conference ng Cooperatives Against Corruption na ginanap kamakailan sa Baliwag Grill, Restaurant, Balet Drive cor E. Rodriguez Avenue, Baranggay Kristong Hari, Quezon City. **(REY NILLAMA)- story p.2**



Mindanao Gears Up for the Future with HANDA Pilipinas, RSTW 2025, and the C-Trike Breakthrough- **story p.4**



Mekenhi Launches 40 Years with New Flavors and Innovations at One Pampanga Food and Beverage Expo- **story p.7**

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OVERSEA BUILDERS CENTER, NAGBUKAS NG FLAGSHIP STORE SA CAVITE BILANG BAHAGI NG SOUTHERN LUZON EXPANSION

NAGBUKAS ang Cebu Oversea Hardware Company Inc. (COHCI) ng pinakabago nitong flagship retail hub na Oversea Builders Center (OBC) sa bayan ng Kawit, Cavite noong Oktubre 3, 2025.

Bahagi ito ng diskarte nitong makuha ang mabilis na lumalawak na home improvement at construction market sa Southern Luzon.

Ang grand opening ng OBC ay sinimulan sa pamamagitan ng isang banal na misa at sinundan ng pagbabasbas o blessing ng mezzanine furniture showroom, function hall at administrative office.

Bago ang seremonya ng pagpuputol ng ribbon sa main entrance ng Oversea Builders Center ay naghandog ng sayaw ang OBC team.

Ang ribbon cutting ceremony ay personal na pinangunahan nina Chairman Emeritus Engr. Napoleon Co, COHCI Chief Executive Officer Mr. Michael Co, COHCI Modern Trade – Manila Chief Operating Officer Mr. Ferdinand Co, at COHCI Modern Trade – Cebu Chief Operating Officer Ar. James Co.

Kasama rin si Provincial Board Member 1st District Juan Ysmael Gandia, na kinatawan ni Cavite Governor Francisco Gabriel 'Abeng' Remmula gayundin ang mga representante mula sa tanggapan ng provincial vice governor, Kawit municipal mayor and vice mayor.

Nakiisa rin sina Ms. Gwen Cua, board of trustee ng Philippine Constructors Association; Ar. Christopher Esteves, president ng Cavite Aguinaldo Central Chapter (UAP); Ar. Jaypee Escalante Feraer, president ng Cavite Chapter UAP; at iba pa.

Nagbigay ng makabuluhang talumpati sina Engr. Napoleon Co, Mr. Michael Co, at Mr. Ferdinand Co gayundin si Provincial BM Gandia.

Sinundan ito ng paglilibot sa buong pasilidad ng OBC ng mga panauhin at iba pang sumaksi sa simple at maayos na seremonya.

"Level-up talaga," hindi maiwasang sambit at impresyon sa bawat display o sa halos lahat ng produkto.

Ito ay dahil sa maaliwalas na pagkakasalansan na sadyang masasabing malamig o maganda sa paningin.

Binanggit naman ng pamilya Co na maging sa antas ng

pagseserbisyo ay 'level-up' din ang lahat ng kawani ng OBC. Nabatid na sumailalim sa maselang pag-aaral o kasanayan ang lahat ng empleyado upang maipagkaloob ang tama at maayos na serbisyo sa bawat paroklyano o kostumer.

Bukod sa magalang na pakikitungo ay ganap na maipapaliwanag sa mga customer ang alin mang katanungan o impormasyong nais malaman.

Napag-alaman na ang kumpanya ay namuhunan sa isang 5,847-square-meter na pasilidad, na kinabibilangan ng 4,125 square meters para sa DIY at mga showroom space at 1,722 square meters na nakatuon sa mga kasangkapan.

Ang tindahan ay tumutugon sa mid-to high-end na segment, partikular ang A at B na mga merkado, sa gitna ng pagtaas ng residential at commercial developments sa Cavite at mga karatig na lalawigan.

"Ang mabilis na urbanisasyon at paglago ng imprastraktura ng Cavite ay ginagawa itong perpektong lokasyon para sa pagpapalawak na ito.

Ang aming layunin ay magbigay sa mga may-ari ng bahay, tagabuo, at mga kontratista ng mid to premium na mga produkto na pinagsasama ang mas mahusay na disenyo, mas mahusay na halaga, at mapagkumpitensyang pagpepresyo, "sabi ni Mr. Michael Co.

Nag-aalok ang OBC ng komprehensibong hanay ng mga produkto, kabilang ang mga tile, sanitary wares, plumbing at mga kagamitan sa kusina, ilaw at mga dekorasyon, mga kagamitan sa kamay at kuryente, hardware, pintura, mga materyales sa bahay at sahig.

Sa pamamagitan ng pagsasama-sama ng isang DIY-style na konsepto ng pamimili sa isang na-curate na showroom, nagsisilbi ang tindahan sa parehong mga indibidwal na mamimili at mga propesyonal sa konstruksiyon, disenyo, at pag-unlad ng ari-arian.

"Muli naming binibigyang-kahulugan ang karanasan sa pagtitingi ng hardware sa rehiyong ito. Sa pamamagitan ng pagsasama ng DIY shopping sa isang mataas na karanasan sa showroom,

ANOMALYA SA MGA PROYEKTO PARA SA KONTROL NG BAHAGI, BINATIKOS NG NUC

INIHAYAG ng National Union of Cooperatives (NUC) kamakailan ang kanilang pagtutol sa umano'y anomalya sa mga multi-billion pisong proyekto para sa baha.

Sa isang press conference, sinabi ni Fr. Anton CT Pascual, Tagapangulo ng NUC, na mayroon silang higit sa 8,000 pangunahing miyembro, 20,000 kooperatiba at 12 milyong indibidwal na miyembro.

Ang NUC ay bagong nairehistro ngayong Enero ng

binibigyan namin ang mga customer ng kaginhawahan ng isang one-stop shop, kasama ang inspirasyon na kailangan nila para sa kanilang mga proyekto," pahayag naman ni Mr. Ferdinand Co.

Ang bagong pasilidad ay kasalukuyang gumagamit ng 60manggagawaatinaasahang tutulong na pasiglahin ang lokal na aktibidad sa ekonomiya sa pamamagitan ng pagsuporta sa lumalaking pangangailangan ng rehiyon para sa mga serbisyo sa konstruksiyon at pagpapabuti ng tahanan.

Ang COHCI, isang negosyong pag-aari ng pamilya, ay naglilingkod sa mga customer nang higit sa 70 taon, na umuusbong mula sa isang maliit na tindahan ng hardware sa kapitbahayan tungo sa isang sari-saring grupo ng mga negosyo.

"Hindi kami naghahangad ng malaking kita o tubo, nagsimula kami sa kapinganggog o maliit na pinagsikapang maiangat nang walang pag-aapura o pagmamadali," paliwanag ni Mr. Michael Co.

Ngayon, lumalaki ang kumpanya upang mag-sanga sa malalaking kahon na DIY na tindahan, mall, at aquaculture. Ang pagbubukas ng Oversea Builders Center ay sumasalamin sa pangako ng COHCI sa pagbabago at pagpapalawak, na nag-aanyaya sa mga customer na "tuklasin ang mas mahusay na mga pagpipilian at maranasan ang mas mahusay na serbisyo" habang binibigyang-buhay nila ang kanilang mga proyekto.

Binigyaang-diin naman Mr. Ferdinand Co na hindi sila nakakalimot sa mga lokal na produktong gawa at naroon palagi ang pagsuporta. Sa kabila ng hindi magandang panahon dulot ng pag-ulan ay bahagi pa rin ang motorcade bilang selebrasyon sa grand opening ng OBC.

Ang OBC ay matatagpuan sa kahabaan ng Centennial Road, Barangay Tabon, Kawit, Cavite. **(RS)**

taong ito. Sinabi ni Fr. Pascual, 'Umiiiral ang kasamaan dahil walang ginagawa ang mabubuting tao.'

"Naniniwala kami na ang mga Pilipino ay hindi tamad. Kulang lamang sila sa pagkakataon," dagdag niya. "Kami ay laban sa ayuda. Hindi kami naniniwala sa sistema ng ayuda," sabi ni Fr. Pascual. "Kami ay laban sa politikal na dinastiya at ayuda," dagdag pa niya.

Mahalaga ang pagtitiwala sa kooperatiba. Ang mabuting pamamahala na nakabatay sa pananampalataya, ayon kay Padre Pascual. "Ang pagtakas ay tanda ng pagkakasala," dagdag niya, tumutukoy sa pagtakas ng dating kinatawan ng Bicol Ako Partylist na si Zaldy Co.

Ang pangunahing layunin ng NUC ay integridad, na binubuo ng 8,000 kooperatiba at 12 milyong miyembro sa buong bansa. "Ang katiwalian ay sumisira sa paglago ng mga kooperatiba kahit na direkta," sabi ni Fr. Pascual.

Idinagdag niya na ang mga kooperatiba ay nag-aambag ng 5% sa GDP (Gross Domestic Product).

"Ang walang hanggang pagbabantay ang halaga ng demokrasya. Ang kapangyarihan ay nakakasira at ganap na nakakasira. Matagal nang dekada ang katiwalian at hindi ito madaling maalis," sabi ni Fr. Pascual.

"Ang NUC ay handang maging tagapagbantay upang protektahan ang mga Pilipino," dagdag niya.

Pinapalakas din ni Fr. Pascual ang konsepto ng agripreneur para sa kabataan.

"Ang pinakamahasag na paraan upang magdulot ng pagbabago ay sapamamagitan ng kapangyarihan ng pagboto. Kasalukuyan na ngayong isinasagawa ang isang malawakang kampanya para sa pambansa at pangulo ng 2028," sabi ni Fr. Pascual.

Wanted, naaresto sa Occidental Mindoro ng Magallanes MPS

ISANG wanted ang naaresto ng mga tauhan ng Magallanes Municipal Police Station kamakailan sa Occidental Mindoro.

Ang akusadong si alyas JR, residente ng Caloocan City, ay naaresto dakong ala-1:30 ng tanghali sa Lubang, Occidental Mindoro nitong Setyembre 30.

Isinagawa ng mga operatiba ng warrant section ng Magallanes

P340K shabu, huli sa HVI

HUMIGIT kumulang sa 50 gramo ng hinihinalang shabu na may estimated standard drug price na P340,000.00. ang nakumpiska sa isang High-Value Individual (HVI) makaraang magsagawa ng operasyon ang mga awtoridad kamakailan sa Dasmariñas City, Cavite. Kinilala ang suspek na si alyas BE, residente ng Dasmariñas City, na naaresto dakong alas-11:00 ng gabi nitong Oktubre 1, sa nasabing lungsod.

Ang matagumpay na

2 katao, tiklo sa buy bust; P408K 'bato' kumpiskado

TIKLO ang dalawa katao, na itinuturing na high-value drug suspects, sa ikinasang buy bust operation ng mga awtoridad na nagresulta sa pagkakakumpiska ng P408,000.00 halaga ng hinihinalang shabu kamakailan sa Bacoor City, Cavite.

Ang dalawang suspek na kinilala sa mga alyas na Dodoy at Nathan, kapwa residente ng Bacoor City, ay naaresto dakong alas-2:40 ng madaling araw nitong Setyembre 30 sa Barangay Molino 2, ng

Wanted sa kasong pagpatay sa pulis-Cavite, timbog sa Pangasinan

TIMBOG sa mga tauhan ng Cavite Component City Police Station ang wanted na may kasong pagpatay sa isang pulis matapos ang matagumpay na operasyon kamakailan sa Pangasinan.

Ang akusadong si alyas Edmir, residente ng Cavite

buy-bust operation ay ikinasa ng mga operatiba ng Cavite Police Drug Enforcement Unit (PDEU) katuwang ang mga tauhan ng Dasmariñas City Police Station.

Dito ay nakumpiska ang dalawang piraso ng heat-sealed transparent plastic sachet na naglalaman ng hinihinalang shabu sa pag-iingat ng suspek, na kakaharap sa kasong paglabag sa Republic Act 9165, the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

nasabing lungsod.

Isinagawa ng mga tauhan ng Drug Enforcement Unit ng Bacoor Component City Police Station ang operasyon gamit ang alternative recording device at sa koordinasyon sa Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency.

Nakuha mula sa pag-iingat ng mga suspek ang apat na pirasong heat-sealed transparent plastic sachets na naglalaman ng hinihinalang shabu na tinatayang nasa 60 gramo at tinatayang nasa P408K ang halaga.

City, Cavite, ay naaresto dakong alas-4:45 ng hapon sa Pangasinan nitong Setyembre 29.

Si Edmir, na Rank No. 1 Regional Level Most Wanted Person, ay naharap sa kasong pagpatay kay PO1 Joseph Tan y Ortega, nakatalaga sa Cavite Component City Police Station, noong Pebrero 1, 2019.

Matapos makatanggap ng impormasyon sa kinaroroonan ng akusado ay isinagawa ng mga awtoridad ang operasyon gamit ang Body Worn Camera at Alternative Recording Device.

Isinagawa ang operasyon sa bisa ng warrant of arrest na inisyu ng Regional Trial Court, Fourth Judicial Region, Branch 16, Cavite City, Cavite na may petsang Enero 26, 2023 at walang inirekomendang piyansa.

Editorial

Dignidad ng tradisyunal na midya, lalo pa dapat pataasin TELEBISYON, radyo, at dyaryo ang tanging pangunahing source o kaalaman ng mga tao dati sa mga kaganapan sa ating bansa o mag-ing sa ibang panig ng mundo. Tinawag na tri-media na ang tungkulin o trabaho ay upang maglahad ng iba't ibang impormasyon o balita. Ito ay sa pamamagitan ng mga mamamahayag o reporter na mayroong sinusunod na alituntunin sa larangan ng pamamahayag. Kabilang ang patas na pamama-

hayag na kaya binansagang media ay nangangahulugang nasa gitna lamang at walang papaboran o papanigan sa antas ng paglalahad ng balita para sa katotohanan. Sa napakabilis na pagtakbo ng panahon ay hindi na lamang ang mga mainstream media ang sinasandalan ng mga tao para sa mga balita dahil nariyan na rin ang social media. Malaki ang pagkakaiba ng tradisyunal na midya sa social media sa aspeto ng pagbabalita. Katanungan sa ngayon ay humihina at bumababa na ba ang kredibilidad ng mainstream media? Dapat ay panatiling mataas at lalo pang pataasin ang dignidad ng tradisyunal na midya.

LIBRENG EDUKASYON SA KOLEHIYO, DAPAT GANAP NA PONDOHAN- LEGARDA

Sa kabila ng pagsuspinde ng mga deliberasyon sa pambansang badyet dahil sa malakas na pagulan, pinangunahan ni Senadora Loren Legarda, Chairperson ng Senate Committee on Higher, Technical, and Vocational Education, ang isang dayalogo kasama ang mga pangulo ng state universities and colleges (SUCs) noong Biyernes, ika-26 ng Setyembre 2025. Kasama ni Legarda sina Senador Sherwin Gatchalian, Chairperson ng Senate Finance Committee, at Congressman Leandro Legarda Leviste, Vice Chair ng House Committee on Appropriations. Samasama nilang pinagtibay ang kanilang kolektibong paninindigan na palakasin ang suporta para sa mga institusyong pangmataas na edukasyon sa buong bansa. Dumalo rin si Dr. Shirley Agrupis, Tagapangulo ng Commission on Higher Education (CHED). Ang dayalogo ay nakatuon sa ₱12.3 bilyong kabuuang kakulangan sa alokasyon para sa Free Higher Education mula taong 2022 hanggang 2025, ayon sa Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC). Ang kakulangan na ito ay resulta ng paggamit ng Department of Budget and Management (DBM) ng aktuwal na bilang ng mga estudyanteng naka-enroll sa nakaraang taon, sa halip

na projected enrollment na itinatakdang ng Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act (RA 10931). “Ang ganitong kakulangan ay hindi dapat maging hadlang sa ating mga estudyante. Hindi dapat mapigil ang mga pangarap dahil sa kakulangan sa badyet. Ang Free Higher Education ay hindi opsyon—ito ay batas,” pahayag ni Legarda. “Dapat itong pondo batay sa tinatayang bilang ng enrollment, gaya ng itinatakdang batas. Ang anumang pagkukulang sa pondo ay nangangahulugang may mga estudyanteng maiwan, at hindi ito katanggap-tanggap.” Malugod na tinanggap ni Legarda ang pangako ng Kamara na tugunan ang kakulangan sa 2026 National Budget, kung saan ₱7.82 bilyon ang mungkahing kukunin mula sa Higher Education Development Fund ng CHED, at ₱4.49 bilyon mula sa iba pang mapagkukunan ng pondo. Sa pagtanaw sa hinaharap, binigyang-diin ni Legarda ang pangangailangang itama nang permanente ang paraan ng pagkukuwenta sa 2026 General Appropriations Act (GAA), upang matiyak na ang Free Higher Education ay ganap na napopondohan taon-taon.

Iginiit niyang dapat malinaw na matukoy at matugunan ang eksaktong kakulangan sa ilalim ng 2026 National Expenditure Program—lampas pa sa ₱12.3 bilyon na naitala para sa mga taong 2022 hanggang 2025—at maisama ito nang buo sa 2026 GAA. Kasabay nito, nanawagan siya ng mas mataas na antas ng transparency at accountability. Para sa mahigit pitumpung (70) pangulo ng mga state universities and colleges (SUCs) na dumalo, ang pagpupulong ay isang mahalagang hakbang upang matiyak ang sapat na pondo para sa pagpapalakas ng mga akademikong programa, pagpapahusay ng mga pasilidad, at pagpapalawak ng akses sa mga mag-aaral sa buong bansa. Sa wastong pagpopondo ng Free Higher Education, magpapatuloy ang mga SUC hindi lamang sa paglikha ng mga bihasang gradwado at makabuluhang pananaliksik, kundi pati sa pagsusulong ng agham at inobasyon, pagpapalalim ng kritikal at malikhaing pag-iisip, pagpapalakas ng teknikal at bokasyonal na kakayahan, pangangalaga sa kulturang pamana, at pagiging tagapagpaunlad ng lokal at rehiyonal na ekonomiya. “Hindi natin maaaring

talikuran ang mga estudyanteng pinangakuan natin ng Free Higher Education,” giit ni Legarda. “Ang pangakong ito ay dapat tuparin nang buo at walang kompromiso, sapagkat walang mas mahalagang pamumuhunan kaysa sa edukasyon upang labanan ang kahirapan. Ang bawat batang Pilipino ay karapat-dapat sa kinabukasang hinubog ng kaalaman—hindi ng kakulangan sa oportunidad at yaman.” Bago pa man maipasa ang Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act na kanyang co-authored at co-sponsored, isinulong na ni Legarda ang libreng matrikula para sa mga estudyante sa kolehiyo. Bilang dating Tagapangulo ng Senate Committee on Finance, pinangunahan niya ang tamang alokasyon ng pondo ng pamahalaan upang sagutin ang matrikula ng mga estudyante sa lahat ng SUC—patunay na ang makabuluhang reporma ay maaaring maisakatuparan sa pamamagitan ng estratehikong badyet na nakatuon sa tao. Tiniyak din ni Legarda ang ganap na pagpapatupad ng batas sa unang taon nito, bilang patunay ng kanyang matagal nang paninindigan na gawing abot-kamay ang mataas na edukasyon para sa bawat Pilipino.

Kalibre

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‘Anti-Martin, pro-Martin’

HATI ang mga tao o masasabing watak-watak sa kasalukuyang isyu ng ating bansa partikular sa maanomalyang flood control project. Nabanggit na ang pangalan ni dating Speaker Martin Romualdez. Natural na kung anti-Martin ay naroon ang pananaw na siya ang isa sa mga ‘ugat’ ng anomalya. Kung pro-Martin naman ay natural na hindi maniniwala sa alegasyon. Sa mga anti ay normal lamang ang mga maaanghang na salita habang sa mga pro ay todo sa pagtatanggol. Kaya natin nasambit na hati ay dahil nga sa mga anti at pro. Mukhang hindi lamang hati ang mga tao bagkus ay watak-watak pa. Mayroon din kasing

mga hindi anti o hindi pro sa halip ay nasa gitna lamang. Hindi nga lang natin mabatid ang dami o bilang ng anti, ng pro o iyong nasa gitna lamang. Silang mga nasa gitna ay nakikiramdam lamang o nagmamasid at sinusuri ang mga gumugulong na imbestigasyon. Wala silang hangad kundi ang malantad ang katotohanan at malaman kung sino ang mayroong m a k a b u l u h a n g ipinagtanggol sa panig ng mga anti-Martin o sa hanay ng mga pro-Martin. Ako ay hindi anti-Martin at hindi rin pro-Martin bagkus ay nasa gitna lamang na kagaya nila ay katotohanan nawa ang hangad na mamayani.

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DOST, Lazada ink deal to expand market reach of Filipino MSMEs

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) formalized its partnership with e-commerce platform Lazada Philippines on Wednesday to help Filipino micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) expand their market reach and strengthen competitiveness through the digital platform.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on September 24, 2025, at the DOST Central Office in Bicutan, Taguig City.

Under the MoU, DOST and Lazada will collaborate in several key areas.

These include onboarding DOST-assisted MSMEs to Lazada's platform, providing them access to a wider consumer base through the Lazada Marketplace and LazMall, and leveraging Lazada's logistics, marketing, and payment systems.

The partnership also seeks to integrate DOST's oneSTORE initiative with Lazada, further boosting the digital presence of the DOST assisted products.

To ensure long-term growth, MSMEs will undergo training through Lazada University (LAZ-U), with modules on digital marketing, supply chain management, customer engagement, and online selling.

DOST and Lazada will also co-develop targeted marketing campaigns and promote innovation and digital transformation, aligning with DOST's mandate to advance science, technology, and innovation for sustainable and inclusive growth.

"Lazada's partnership with the government is patriotic at its core. Your ability to reach millions makes you a powerful ally in promoting science, technology, and innovation, which are key drivers of national progress. This collaboration is especially significant because MSMEs make up more than 99% of businesses in the Philippines and provide over 60% of employment," shared DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr. Solidum added that the partnership marks a

milestone in the country's growing innovation ecosystem, with the Philippines now ranking 3rd among lower-middle-income economies and proving itself a consistent regional performer. Through Lazada, DOST envisions not just a selling platform but a complete ecosystem that empowers MSMEs with logistics, training, digital tools, and access to wider markets. DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations Engr. Sancho A. Mabborang highlighted that the MoU represents a strategic alliance aimed at enhancing MSMEs' market access, operational capacity, and digital capabilities—factors essential in today's rapidly evolving business landscape.

"It is gratifying to see how that early vision has evolved and now finds a significantly enhanced platform through Lazada's expansive reach. The synergy between DOST's programs and Lazada's digital marketplace opens unprecedented opportunities for MSMEs, especially those enterprises assisted by DOST, to access a wider market," Usec. Mabborang said.

Meanwhile, John Kenneth Estiller, representing Lazada CEO Carlos Barrera, emphasized that the collaboration is designed to expand MSMEs' market reach while improving operational capacity and competitiveness both locally and globally.

He added that MSMEs will be supported in their growth journey, helping them scale from small and medium enterprises into larger businesses.

This partnership is among the DOST initiatives aimed at providing science-based, innovative, and inclusive solutions across four strategic pillars: human well-being, wealth creation, wealth protection, and sustainability. These pillars embody the mantra OneDOST4U: Solutions, Opportunities for All. **(by Allan Mauro V. Marfal, DOST-STII)**

DOST Region 1 Prepares for Data Driven Agriculture with Project SARAI

The Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST Region 1), under the leadership of Regional Director Teresita A. Tabaog, with Assistant Regional Director for Field Operations Mr. Decth-1180 P. Libunao serving as the project lead, is preparing to bring the Smarter Approaches to Reinvalidate Agriculture as an Industry in the Philippines (Project SARAI) closer to the farming communities of the Ilocos Region. While the establishment of the SARAI Regional Hub in Region 1 is still underway, the active participation of its technical team in recent trainings and workshops marks a crucial first step toward building the foundation for smart, data-driven agriculture in the area.

Project SARAI, which began in 2013 through the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB) with support from DOST-PCAARRD, harnesses remote sensing, geographic information systems (GIS), crop models, and weather-based advisories to provide farmers and local governments with actionable information for resource management and climate adaptation. Now entering its expansion phase, SARAI is working closely with DOST regional offices to train personnel, transfer technologies, and eventually establish functional regional hubs that will serve as platforms for localized agricultural innovation.

As part of this national rollout, SARAI Team One of DOST Region 1 composed of Engr. Dana Bliezelle V. Hernaez (Co-Lead), Engr. Novilyne O. Obfan (Lead Researcher and GIS Expert), Ms. Jeisel O. Labatete (Crop Expert), Mr. Christian Dominic I. Casimiro (Capacity Development Lead), and Ms. Miriam A. Oliva (GIS Support) joined a series of trainings to deepen their technical expertise. The online component, held via Zoom on September 2-4, 2025, introduced the Community-Level SARAI-Enhanced

Agricultural Monitoring System (CL-SEAMS) and provided orientation on GIS tools, including digitizing agricultural land and applying geospatial analysis for crop monitoring.

The sessions were followed by a hands-on training at DOST-PCAARRD in Los Baños, Laguna on September 9-10, 2025, where the Region 1 team practiced using Google Earth Engine for time-series data preparation, running scripts to compute the Normalized Difference Vegetation Index (NDVI) for crops, and managing Automatic Weather Station (AWS) data. They also gained practical skills in AWS installation, maintenance, and weather data visualization using the Weatherlink platform. A content management system under the SARAI Knowledge Portal was likewise introduced to streamline data and information sharing once the regional hubs are in place.

In preparation for hub establishment, DOST Region 1 also took part in the SARAI inception meeting on September 8, 2025 at PCAARRD, which gathered representatives from across the country to align project objectives, set deliverables, and strengthen collaboration between the Central Hub and the regional offices. The meeting highlighted the importance of tailoring SARAI technologies to local contexts while laying the groundwork for their integration into farming systems nationwide.

For Region 1, these trainings and consultations are more than just capacity-building, they are investments in the region's agricultural future. With the leadership of Dr. Tabaog and ARD Libunao, and the commitment of its technical team, DOST Region 1 is positioning itself to play a central role in the eventual rollout of the SARAI Regional Hub. Once established, the hub will provide farmers and local governments with access to timely, science-based tools that can help boost yields, reduce risks,

Mindanao Gears Up for the Future with HANDA Pilipinas, RSTW 2025, and the C-Trike Breakthrough

Zamboanga City - The Department of Science and Technology IX (DOST IX) successfully hosted the HANDA Pilipinas Mindanao Leg and the 2025 Regional Science, Technology, and Innovation Week (RSTW) on September 23-25, 2025 at the Palacio Del Sur, Marcian Garden Hotel, Zamboanga City. The three-day event was graced by DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr., with the participation of national and regional officials, partner institutions, and stakeholders from various sectors.

In his keynote address, Secretary Solidum highlighted the central role of science and collective action in building resilience in Mindanao, while Undersecretary for Regional Operations, Engr. Sancho A. Mabborang, underscored that preparedness must be viewed as a lifeline and not a luxury. Both officials emphasized that science goes beyond discovery; it is about impact, action, and collective responsibility, ensuring that innovations benefit communities and strengthen resilience across the region.

A major feature of the celebration was the Converted Electric Tricycle (C-Trike) developed by Cagayan State University (CSU) through its Electromobility Research and Development Center (eMRDC), supported under DOST's Niche Centers in the Regions for Research and Development (NICER) program. The project focuses on converting traditional gasoline-powered tricycles into electric vehicles by retaining the original body and frame of tricycles while replacing fuel-dependent components with a modern electric conversion kit. This innovation provides a cost-effective and practical option for tricycle owners to transition to clean and

and make agriculture in the Ilocos region more resilient to climate change. **(Christian Dominic I. Casimiro)**

efficient mobility without the heavy financial burden of purchasing brand-new e-tricycles. By reducing carbon emissions, cutting fuel costs, and promoting cleaner air, the C-Trike exemplifies how local innovation can drive sustainable transport solutions that contribute to healthier, more inclusive, and environmentally sound communities across the Philippines.

Among the other key highlights of the event were the launching of the HANDA Pilipinas Guidebook and turnover of the HANDA Pilipinas Local Caravan Guidebook, as well as the ceremonial signing of Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) on the adoption of the DOST-PHIVOLCS Rapid Earthquake Damage Assessment System (REDAS) in Zamboanga Peninsula and the establishment of a DOST-PHIVOLCS Earthquake Monitoring Station. These initiatives aim to fortify the region's disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) capacities through science-based tools and innovations.

In addition, DOST IX inaugurated its first Advanced Manufacturing Center (AMCEN) in Western Mindanao State University on September 23, 2025, marking a milestone in bringing advanced technologies for innovation and productivity to the Zamboanga Peninsula. The event also featured the Forum on Smart and Sustainable Communities (FORAS), along with knowledge-sharing sessions that showcased partnerships and community-driven initiatives for resilience and sustainable development. Through these initiatives, the HANDA Pilipinas Mindanao Leg and RSTW 2025, hosted by DOST IX, demonstrated how science, technology, and innovation continue to empower communities, strengthen preparedness, and promote resilience in the Zamboanga Peninsula and the whole of Mindanao. **(Nelson Santos)**

Cavite Holds Consultative Meeting on Rabies Prevention in Support of World Rabies Day

The Office of the Provincial Health Officer spearheaded a Consultative Meeting on Rabies Prevention and Control Program in celebration of World Rabies Day on September 23, 2025, at the Cavite Collaboration Center for Public Health in Trece Martires City. The activity gathered doctors and nurses from various Animal Bite Treatment Centers (ABTCs) in Cavite, alongside health professionals, to strengthen the province's response against rabies. Dr. Nelson C. Soriano, Provincial Health Officer I, delivered the welcome remarks emphasizing Cavite's continuing efforts to eliminate rabies. Updates on human rabies cases in the province were presented by Ms. Charlene E. Rosanes, Provincial Rabies Prevention and Control Program (RPCP) Coordinator, followed by an in-depth discussion on DOH Interim Guidelines (DM No. 2025-0368) regarding the administration of

suspected and confirmed counterfeit anti-rabies vaccines, led by Mr. Jomell V. Mojica, Regional RPCP Coordinator of DOH-CHD IV-A. In addition, Ms. Janissa Therese G. Gutierrez of the FDA highlighted the risks of counterfeit medicines and the proper process of reporting such cases to ensure public safety. The program aimed to raise awareness and enhance advocacy against rabies, support the global observance of World Rabies Day, and tackle critical issues related to the circulation of counterfeit vaccines. The event concluded with an open forum and closing remarks from Dr. Armand J. Dotollo, Medical Officer III and Head of OPHO Infectious Cluster, underscoring Cavite's unified commitment to protect communities from rabies and safeguard the integrity of vaccines provided to the public.—A. Sarte (**CPIO**)

PGC Awards Hearing Aids to Children and Adults with Hearing Impairment

The Provincial Government of Cavite, through the OPG-Office of the Provincial Persons with Disability Affairs Officer (OPG-OPDAO), successfully held the dispensing and awarding of hearing aids last September 19, 2025, at the auditorium of Cavite Collaboration Center for Public Health in Trece Martires City. A total of 66 beneficiaries, composed of 41 children

and 25 adults with mild to severe hearing loss, received hearing aids during the activity. The children received assistance through a partnership with the Provincial Council for the Protection of Children. All recipients were selected based on the results of hearing tests conducted by the Manila Hearing Aid on September 3 and 4, 2025. — **R. Tanael (CPIO)**

Livelihood on the Go empowers communities through meat processing training

The Office of the Provincial Cooperative Development Officer (OPCDO) successfully spearheaded the Livelihood on the Go: Meat Processing Training held last September 18, 2024, at the Centro de Oro Subdivision Clubhouse, City of General Trias. The program gathered 16 participants composed of HOA Kababaihan members and livelihood committees, who were trained in preparing meat-based products such as morcon and chicken

cordon bleu. The activity aimed to equip participants with practical skills that can serve as an additional source of income, fostering economic stability and self-sufficiency within their communities. Through the initiative, the province continues to provide avenues for community members to explore small-scale enterprises, promote self-reliance, and contribute to sustainable livelihood opportunities in Cavite. — **R. Tanael (CPIO)**

Livelihood Training Opens New Opportunities for OSY, Solo Parents, and PWDs

The Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC), through the Office of the Provincial Cooperative Development Officer (OPCDO), successfully held its Livelihood On-the-Go (LOG) training on September 24, 2025, at the Cavite Government Center, Trece Martires City. The session, which featured a revel bar and chocolate brownie-making training, was attended by 60 online participants, including out-of-school youth (OSY), solo parents, and persons with disabilities (PWDs). The activity was designed to equip participants with practical

baking skills that can serve as an affordable and marketable livelihood opportunity. With its goal of providing free and accessible training, the program empowers Caviteños—especially from marginalized sectors—to explore micro-entrepreneurial ventures, improve household income, and develop sustainable livelihood options. The program underscores the Provincial Government's commitment to building inclusive opportunities and strengthening community empowerment. — **R. Dones (CPIO)**

PH honored to be first Southeast Asian country to host International Day for Universal Access to Information

The Philippines reaffirmed its commitment to the right to information as it hosts the Global Conference of the International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) 2025, with the theme “Ensuring Access to Environmental Information in the Digital Age.”

“The Philippines is honored and proud to host this year's conference, especially as we commemorate the 10th anniversary of the designation of September 28 as the International Day for Universal Access to Information,” Presidential Communications Office Acting Secretary Dave Gomez said during the opening ceremony at the Hilton Newport World Resorts in Pasay City.

“As the first country in Southeast Asia to host the IDUAI, this celebration is a meaningful recognition of our continuing commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 16.10: ensuring public access to information as a fundamental human right,” Gomez said in his speech.

Co-hosted by the Philippine government and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the two-day conference gathered government decision-makers, international experts, information commissioners, journalists and civil society leaders from more than 30 countries.

The delegates are expected to discuss how policies that guarantee access to environmental information strengthen regional cooperation, disaster preparedness, and climate

action, and advance sustainable development and environmental justice.

Gomez said the Philippines affirms its commitment to the right to information through Article III, Section 7 of the 1987 Constitution, which recognizes the people's right to information on matters of public concern.

This constitutional right was operationalized by Executive Order No. 2, series of 2016, which established the Freedom of Information (FOI) Program across the Executive Branch.

“Today, under the vision of the Bagong Pilipinas campaign—which, for our international guests, translates to New Philippines—we envision a government that is not only for the people but also with the people,” Gomez said.

“A government that listens, informs, and empowers its citizens, because only with an informed citizenry can we build a truly democratic nation.”

Gomez said over the past nine years, the PCO has worked to institutionalize the FOI Program through the FOI Program Management Office. This has involved maintaining the eFOI portal, expanding localization efforts, and launching nationwide capacity-building programs, as well as countering misinformation and disinformation through credible and accessible public data, the PCO Acting Secretary said.

“We continue to empower our local governments to become FOI-ready, bringing FOI closer to every Filipino,” Gomez said. | **PND**

PhilATOM Law ni Cayetano, susi ng bansa tungo sa mas ligtas at mas matalinong paggamit ng nuclear technology

Naisabatas na ang isang landmark law na magbibigay ng malinaw na gabay sa paggamit at pamamahala ng nuclear energy sa Pilipinas, salamat sa mga pagsisikap ni Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano. Ito'y matapos lagdaan ni President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. ang Philippine National Nuclear Energy Safety Act (Republic Act No. 12305) bilang isang batas noong

September 18, 2025. Si Cayetano ang nanguna sa pagsusulong ng batas at ipinaglaban ang mga naunang bersyon nito sa Senado bilang chair ng Senate Committee on Science and Technology sa 19th Congress.

“Across the globe, nuclear energy has been used for peaceful and beneficial applications contributing to sectors such as medicine, agriculture, industry, and energy production,” wika ni Cayetano.

Sa ilalim ng batas, itatag ang PhilATOM bilang isang independent regulatory body na may eksklusibong kapangyarihang mangasiwa sa kaligtasan, seguridad, at mga pananggalang na may kaugnayan sa nuclear energy, mga pinagmulan ng ionizing radiation, at radioactive materials.

“It's obvious why we need the PhilATOM [as established by the] Nuclear Energy Safety Act. It plays a vital role in treating diseases, food security, improving crop yield, mitigating the effects of climate change and generating clean, reliable power or electricity,” giit

Layan din ng batas na i-update ang mga luma nang

batas na may kaugnayan sa nuclear energy at maiwasan ang conflict of interest.

Mananatili sa Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (PNRI) ang tungkuling magtaguyod ng nuclear energy, habang ililipat naman sa PhilATOM ang tungkuling mag-regulate.

Kaugnay ng ionizing radiation, ang regulatory function ng Food and Drug Administration's Center for Device Regulation, Radiation Health and Research ay ililipat din sa PhilATOM.

Ang paghihiwalay ng tungkulin ng PNRI at FDA ay para makatuon ang mga ahensya sa research and development, at sa gayon ay lalong mapapainam ang mga praktikal na aplikasyon ng nuclear energy sa larangan ng medisina, agrikultura, at industriya.

“We will align with our international conventions. It is also not really possible for those who promote nuclear atomic energy to be the ones who regulate it. This will fix that problem,” aniya. Upang pangalagaan ang kalayaan ng regulatory body, binigyang diin ng senador na ang PhilATOM ay malaya sa mga political appointment.

“Unless the politico or barangay captain or senator has at least 7 years of actual distinguished experience in specific fields of

science, they cannot be appointed. In PhilATOM, they should regulate use of nuclear energy, not promote it,” sabi ni Cayetano. Binanggit din ng senador na isa sa mga layunin ng PhilATOM ay ang magbigay-inspirasyon sa mas maraming Pilipino na magtamo ng karera sa larangan ng nuclear energy.

Wanted, nadakip sa Naic

ISANG regional level most wanted person ang nadakip ng mga awtoridad kamakailan sa Naic, Cavite. Ang akusadong si alyas Jonas, naninirahan sa Naic, ay inaresto sa bisa ng warrant of arrest na inisyu ng Regional Trial Court, Branch 132, Naic, Cavite, nitong Setyembre 25.

Ito ay kaugnay sa kasong paglabag sa RA 9165, Seksyon 12 at Seksyon 2. Isinagawa ang pag-aresto ng mga operatiba ng warrant section ng Naic Municipal Police Station dakong alas-5:05 ng hapon nitong Setyembre 29, gamit ang Alternative Recording Device.

Skyranch Tagaytay, one of Cavite's top tourist destinations and a Department of Tourism-accredited recreational center, has just unveiled two-exciting new attractions that promise more #HappyMemories for guests: Cartoonville & Sky Spin! Nestled inside the cool, scenic grounds of the amusement



park, Cartoonville is a 3,000-sqm wonderland built for families, barkadas, and kids and young-at-hearts.



Guests are welcomed into Cartoonville's colorful world, a 3,000-sqm family adventure zone inside Skyranch Tagaytay.



Cartoon characters come alive at Cartoonville to welcome guests are Enoki the Mushroom, Speedy the Turtle, Qubi the Cube and Dottie the Dino.

Here, everyone's encourage to dress in cartoon-inspired fits and serve their best main character energy while exploring a vibrant world filled of activities and live shows. For just 150 for an All-Day Pass (free for kids 11 months and below), guests can enjoy the Village and Forest Lights, cartoon live shows, meet-and greet, and more.



Families make #HappyMemories at Cartoonville's Inflatable Playground, a hit for children and the young-at-heart.

Skyranch Tagaytay Levels Up Fun with Cartoonville and Sky Spin

Cartoonville also features three major attractions: the 26-foot Giant Slide (starting at P150), a 600 sqm Inflatable Playground (starting at P150), and a 400-sqm Gel Blaster area (starting at P120). Guests who want to maximize the fun can opt for the All-in-One Pass at P499 or go VIP with express lane access for P799.



Guests are invited to enjoy the thrill of Cartoonville's Giant Slide, one of its three major attractions.



Cartoonville's Gel Blaster zone offers a safe and exciting play experience for barkadas and thrill lovers.

For thrill-seekers, Skyranch Tagaytay introduces Sky Spin, the newest extreme ride designed to get hearts racing. Inspired by the speed of galloping horse, Sky Spin is a giant spinning disk that swings riders back and forth while rotating 360 degrees in the air. This adrenaline-pumping, three-minute experience costs only P120 per person, with a minimum requirement of 4 feet.



Sky Spin takes thrill-seekers on a high-flying, 360-degree spinning adventure above Skyranch Tagaytay.



Visitors may channel their "main character energy" in cartoon-inspired fits while exploring Cartoonville.



Evening comes alive at Cartoonville as the lights transform Skyranch Tagaytay into a whimsical wonderland.



Explore the colorful world of Cartoonville at Skyranch Tagaytay at night.

With over 39 rides and attractions, now including Cartoonville and Sky Spin--Skyranch Tagaytay continues to solidify its status as an ionic landmark in the city. Open weekdays from 10AM to 10PM and weekends/holidays from 8AM to 10PM, the park is set to attract more tourists, especially this holiday season.

Follow Skyranch Tagaytay on Facebook (@skyranchtagaytayofficial), Instagram (@skyranchphl), and TikTok (@skyranchph) for updates.

Hashtags: #CartoonvilleAtSkyranch #HappyMemories #SkyranchTagaytay #SkySpinAtSkyranch

Mekeni Launches 40 Years with New Flavors and Innovations at One Pampanga Food and Beverage Expo

CLARK, PAMPANGA - Mekeni Food Corporation made a strong statement on the first-ever One Pampanga Food and Beverage Expo on Sept 13-14 with the launch of its newest offerings, while giving visitors a glimpse of what's ahead as it gears up for its 40th anniversary in 2026.

New Sausage Creations
At the Mekeni booth, the largest at the expo, guests were treated to first tastes of its newest sausage creations. The 4 Cheese Sausage, bursting with cheddar, gouda, cream cheese, and mozzarella, was a crowd favorite among cheese lovers. The Breakfast Sausage, though small in size, delivered big flavors perfect for quick and hearty meals. For those with a more refined palate, the Country Style Sausage, infused with herbs and crafted in gourmet style, offered a premium experience.

These products reflect Mekeni's commitment to creating flavors that appeal to both Filipino and international consumers. Mekeni Festive Christmas Hams on Display
The spotlight also shone on Mekeni's well-loved Christmas Ham collection, a staple in Filipino celebrations for decades.

The line featured the Gold Premium Ham, smoky and made from the choicest pork cuts; the Deli Ham, known for its traditional sweet-savory flavor; and the Premium Chicken Ham, a healthier alternative for health-conscious families. Adding festive flair were the Jamon de Bola, glazed with pineapple sauce, and the Pear-shaped Ham, a lean and boneless option.

Completing the line were the Brick Ham, positioned as special yet affordable, and the Christmas Ham, Mekeni's most budget-friendly but still flavorful offering. This wide selection ensures that every household can bring home a taste of the holidays, no matter their budget.

Street Flavors: A New Offering
Adding to the excitement, Mekeni launched Street Flavors, a cart concept featuring the company's premium take on Filipino street food staples such as fish balls, squid balls, and kikiam.

Beyond being a new way to enjoy well-loved favorites, Street Flavors is also open for booking at events, offering a fun and high-quality food experience for gatherings and celebrations. At the same time, it serves as a business opportunity for those interested in operating their own events cart business, making it an accessible entry point for aspiring entrepreneurs.

A Sneak Peek of 40 Years
Visitors were also invited to a sneak peek of Mekeni's 40th anniversary campaign through the showcase of its 40th year logo and an AI-powered photobooth featuring countries where Mekeni products are now available.

These experiences underscored Mekeni's expanding global presence and its mission to share Kapampangan flavors with the world.

"As we approach our 40th year, we want to give our customers a taste of what's next," said Garcia.

"Our newest products, our ventures like Street Flavors, and our continued expansion abroad are all part of the story we want to tell, because truly, May Kwento sa Bawat Timpla", he added.

With its newest offerings and forward-looking initiatives, Mekeni reaffirmed its position not only as a pillar of Kapampangan cuisine but also as a Filipino brand with a global vision.

Supporting OPFBEX
As a Kapampangan company that has grown into a globally recognized brand, Mekeni's participation in the inaugural expo is both symbolic and purposeful.

While the company continues to expand its presence in international markets, it also views the event as an opportunity to reaffirm its identity as a symbol of Kapampangan pride and to share its story with aspiring entrepreneurs and small businesses.

"This expo is close to our hearts because it allows us to give back by showing others that it is possible to grow from humble beginnings and make an impact globally," said Mekeni President Pruds Garcia. "We hope our story inspires others to pursue their dreams with passion, values, and resilience."

PMCI to Chinese companies: Fulfill President Xi Jinping's pledge to end overseas coal; build renewables now!

Quezon City, Philippines — The Philippine Movement for Climate Justice (PMCI) has sent a letter to Energy China on Oct. 1, 2025, requesting its withdrawal from building coal projects, in light of its reported involvement in the Toledo and Atimonan coal-fired power plants.

On Sept. 22, 2025, Meralco PowerGen Corp. (MGen) President Emmanuel Rubio said they have identified a Chinese engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contractor for the proposed 73-megawatt (MW) coal plant in Toledo, Cebu. Rubio also revealed that three Chinese EPCs had bid for the contract of the 1200-MW Atimonan coal project.

"In 2021, we lauded President Xi Jinping's announcement at the United Nations General Assembly that China will no longer build new overseas coal-fired power projects. This aligns with China's pledge to peak carbon emissions before 2030. However, continued involvement in coal expansion abroad undermines this commitment. We would like to share the view that China is a global leader in renewable energy. That's why we want to discuss the matter with Energy China and other Chinese companies contracted to build energy projects in the Philippines," said Ian Rivera, PMCI national coordinator.

Communities in Atimonan in Quezon and Toledo City in Cebu have long opposed coal and other fossil fuels, as have different areas in the country that suffer from the negative health and livelihood impacts of these dirty projects.

"In 2017, Meralco tapped the Electricity Supply Board of Ireland as its operations and maintenance partner. However, it withdrew upon learning of the strong negative community reaction to the project. Moreover, the coal plant was never built since its power supply agreement was cancelled due to its anomalous nature, and no bank was willing to finance the project," said Elle Bartolome, PMCI senior executive officer for policy, campaigns, and communications.

PMCI also asserts that the proposed Atimonan and Toledo coal power projects

should not be exempted from the 2020 Coal Moratorium. In August 2025, PMCI and Kabataan para sa Kalikasan ng Atimonan (KAPAKANAN) filed an opposition letter with the Department of Energy (DOE) following the issuance in July 2025 of an exemption for said proposed coal project. The letter highlighted the lack of requisite qualifications for the project to be exempt, as it has no prior operations, no expansion record, and lacks approvals for the land agreement.

Aside from health, livelihood, and environmental impacts, Rivera also stressed that the energy industry in the country is marred by a systemic flaw – the same entities control both power distribution and generation. "MGen is a subsidiary of Meralco, one of the Philippines' biggest distribution companies. This hikes the power rates and places the burden on electricity consumers. The call to stop the reliance on fossil fuels encapsulates this systemic problem."

PMCI calls on China and its companies to walk the talk, lead the transition to renewables, end coal, and support the Philippines' transition to a coal-free nation by 2030. The group also encourages China to strengthen its legacy as the world's largest producer, investor, and user of renewable energy.

Cavite Marks Linggo ng Kabataan with Provincial Celebration

The Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer (OPSWDO), spearheaded the Linggo ng Kabataan Provincial Celebration on September 24, 2025, at the New Provincial Government Center, Trece Martires City.

The event gathered members of the Pag-asa Youth Association of the Philippines – Cavite (PYAP-Cavite), alongside youth leaders and organizations, with the goal of fostering inclusivity, strengthening camaraderie, and promoting awareness on pressing issues such as the rising cases of HIV among the youth sector.

Ms. Ekeiko Paola Haidah P. Sadang, Social Welfare Officer III, warmly welcomes

Bringing Jobs Closer to Every Caviteño

The Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPPESM), rolled out the Cavite Career Caravan in General Mariano Alvarez on September 25, 2025, opening 7,503 job vacancies for Caviteños. A total of 277 jobseekers took part in the fair, with 35 hired on the spot (HOTS).

The event gathered 41 employers — 37 local and 4 overseas — together with nine national agencies including Social Security System, Philippine Health Insurance Corporation,

Pag-ibig Fund, Philippine Statistics Authority, TESDA, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Department of Trade and Industry, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, and the Office of the Provincial Legal Officer, which provided free legal cliniquing.

With the support of Vice Mayor Percival Cabuhat and the leadership of Ms. Rizalie Pinpin-Enero and her OPPESM team, the caravan underscored the provincial government's drive to bring jobs, services, and opportunities closer to every Caviteño community.—R Dones (CPIO)

Cavite Job Fair Delivers—101 Jobseekers Hired on the Spot

The Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPPESM), in partnership with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), successfully conducted a Job Fair on September 24, 2025 at SM City, Tanza, Cavite.

The activity brought together 43 participating companies and agencies, composed of 39 local employers, 4 overseas recruitment agencies, and 9 national government agencies (NGAs) including Social Security System, Philhealth Insurance Corporation, Home Development Mutual Fund, Philippine Statistics Authority, TESDA, Bureau of Internal Revenue,

Department of Trade and Industry, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration, and the Office of the Provincial Legal Officer.

A total of 7,370 job vacancies were offered during the event, providing a wide range of opportunities both locally and abroad. The job fair attracted 571 jobseekers, with 101 applicants hired on the spot (HOTS)—a clear indicator of the event's success in connecting Caviteños with meaningful employment opportunities.

The successful activity was spearheaded by Ms. Rizalie Pinpin-Enero, department head of OPPESM, with the strong support of Tanza local officials led by Councilor Derek Matro. Their leadership and collaboration ensured a well-organized event that not only provided employment opportunities but also made government services accessible to participants through the presence of various NGAs.

This emphasizes the Provincial Government of Cavite's steadfast commitment to address unemployment, empower the local workforce, and steer economic growth in the province. — **R. Dones (CPIO)**

of leaders through a formal oath-taking ceremony. Followed by an impressive showcase of talents of the participants.

The Linggo ng Kabataan Provincial Celebration reflected Cavite's continuing commitment to empowering its young leaders and strengthening their role in building a healthy, proactive, and united community.— R. Tanael (CPIO)



MANNY PACQUIAO POST IN ALI AND FREZEIR EXIBITS PHOTO DAHIL sa pagdiriwang ng "Thrilla in Manila" sa kanyang pagiging ika 50 anibersaryo ngayong October makaraang ganapin sa Araneta Coliseum ang naging bakkaban nila Muhammad Ali at Joe Frazier na ginanap sa Big Dome. Ito ay gugunitain sa magkatuwang na Dating Senador Manny Pacquiao at pamunuan ng Araneta Coliseum ng ganapin ang press conference sa World Kitchens Level 4, Gateway Mall 2. Dahil dito ginanap din ang pag post ni Pacquiao sa photo exhibit ng larawan nila Ali at Frazier **(REY NILLAMA)**

Muling Naging Sentro ng Atensyon ang Smart Araneta Coliseum para sa Kasabikan sa Ika-50 Anibersaryo ng Maynila

Nagdaraos ang The Big Dome at Araneta Coliseum ng isang kahanga-hangang pagdiriwang upang parangalan ang makasaysayang laban

Ang Oktubre na ito ay minamarkahan ang ika-50 Anibersaryo ng "Thrilla in Manila," ang maalamat na laban noong 1975 sa pagitan ng mga karibal sa boksing na sina Muhammad Ali at Joe Frazier na ginanap sa Big Dome. Itinuturing bilang isa sa pinakadakilang laban sa lahat ng panahon, ang laban ay hindi lamang nagdala ng pandaigdigang atensyon sa Pilipinas, kundi pati na rin nagpapatibay sa reputasyon ng Smart Araneta Coliseum bilang isang lugar na may makasaysayang kahalagahan.

Ang lugar ay kasing tanyag ng kilalang kaganapan sa boksing. Matatagpuan sa puso ng Araneta City, ang Big Dome ay nananatiling isa sa pinakamalalaking panloob na arena sa Asya at isa sa pinakamalalaking malinaw na span na dome sa buong mundo, na may maximum na kapasidad na 20,000 katao.

Mula nang buksan noong 1960, ito ay naging lugar para sa iba't ibang pandaigdigang kaganapan, mula sa mga laban sa boksing na may pamagat sa buong mundo at mga internasyonal na konsiyerto hanggang sa mga pambansang pagdiriwang at pagtatanghal ng kultura.

Ang tanyag nitong istruktura at sentrong lokasyon ang naging dahilan kung bakit ang big dome ay naging pangunahing lugar para sa mga makasaysayang sandali, kabilang ang maalamat na laban sa boksing na naganap 50 taon na ang nakalipas.

Bilang pag-alala sa Thrilla in Manila, makikilisa ang Smart Araneta Coliseum at Araneta City sa pambansang paggunita na pinangunahan ng Philippine Sports Commission.

Ito ay alinsunod sa Memorandum Circular blg. 99 na inisyu ng Malacañang, na nananawagan sa aktibong partisipasyon ng mga ahensya ng pamahalaan, mga lokal na yunit ng pamahalaan, at sektor ng pribado sa pagdiriwang ng ika-50 anibersaryo ng makasaysayang laban.

Bilang pangunahing lugar ng pagdiriwang, gaganapin sa Araneta City ang isang serye ng mga kaganapan kabilang ang mga buwanang pang-malayang eksibit sa loob ng Big Dome lobby, at isang live na eksibit sa boksing sa Oktubre 29 na tampok ang mga nangungunang manlalaro mula sa iba't ibang panig ng mundo na muling magbabalik ng diwa ng orihinal na Thrilla.

"Ang taong ito ay talagang espesyal para sa amin," sabi ni Irene Jose, COO ng Uniprom Inc., ang sangay ng libangan ng Araneta City.

"Ang Smart Araneta Coliseum ay naging bahagi ng napakaraming hindi malilimutang kwento, mula sa mga legendaryong konsiyerto hanggang sa makasaysayang laban. Ipinagmamalaki naming maging lugar ng Thrilla in Manila, at ipinagmamalaki naming maging sentro ng pagdiriwang ng ika-50 anibersaryo nito."

Limampung taon matapos ang Thrilla in Manila, nananatili pa rin ang Smart Araneta Coliseum sa puso ng lahat, handa para sa susunod na laban, at para sa susunod na kwentong magtatakdang isang henerasyon.

Pinas punong abala sa FIVB Volleyball Women's World Championship 2029

Ikinagagalak ng FIVB at Volleyball World na ipahayag na ang Pilipinas ay ginawaran ng karapatang mag-host ng FIVB Volleyball Women's World Championship 2029.

Ang bansang magiging host ay kinumpirma ni FIVB President Fabio Azevedo at ng maalamat na manlalaro ng volleyball na si Leila Barros bago ang Final ng FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship Philippines 2025.

Ang Women's World Championship ay gaganapin sa unang pagkakataon sa Pilipinas, isang bansa na may malalim na pagmamahal sa volleyball. Sa kasalukuyan, matagumpay na isinasagawa ng Pilipinas ang Men's World Championship 2025, na nagtatapos ngayong araw.

Ipinakita ng kompetisyon ang kahusayan ng bansa sa organisasyon, mainit na pagtanggap, at ang kamangha-manghang kasiglahan ng mga tagahanga nito. Ang edisyon ng 2029 ay kumakatawan sa isang pagkakataon na bumuo ng isang pangmatagalan at makabuluhang pamana para sa isport at sa mga tagahanga nito sa buong Pilipinas at mas malawak na rehiyon.

Ipinahayag ni Pangulo ng FIVB na si Fabio Azevedo: "Ang pagho-host ng Volleyball Women's World Championship 2029 sa Pilipinas ay isang pagkakataon upang muli ipakita hindi lamang ang pinakamahusay sa volleyball kundi pati na rin ang positibong epekto ng ating isport sa lipunan.

Ang volleyball ay natatangi sa kanyang pagiging madaling lapitan, inklusibo, at sa kakayahan nitong pagsamahin ang mga tao mula sa iba't ibang pinagmulan. Ito ay labis na naramdaman dito sa Pilipinas habang nagho-host ang bansa

ng Volleyball Men's World Championship 2025, at wala kaming dudang magiging ganoon din ito sa edisyon ng 2029.

Ipinahayag nang may sigla ni Ramon Suzara, Executive Vice President ng FIVB at Pangulo ng Asian Volleyball Confederation, "Lubos kaming ipinagmamalaki na mapiling maging host ng isa pang FIVB World Championship. Marami kaming natutunan sa pagho-host ng Men's World Championship noong 2025, at tiyak na mas paigingtin pa namin ito para sa Women's World Championship 2029.

Kami ay determinado na dalhin ang sigla ng World Championship 2025 at i-channel ito sa isang bagay na tatagal para sa aming mga atleta, aming mga tagahanga, at aming bansa.

Isang karangalan din na makita ang sport na aking minamahal na makapag-ambag ng makabuluhan sa pambansang ayendya ng isports at turismo. Ipinakita ng 2025 Championship na handa ang Pilipinas na maging pangmatagalang tahanan ng world-class na volleyball. Kumpiyansa akong muli nating maihahatid ang isang tunay na kamangha-manghang Championship. Tinukoy ni Chairman ng Philippine Sports Commission na si Patrick "Pat" Gregorio,

"Ang maging tagapag-host ng Volleyball Women's World Championship 2029 ay isang malaking regalo.

Para sa mga Pilipinong mahihilig sa volleyball sa buong bansa, at ang pangmatagalang pakikipagtulungan na ito sa FIVB at Volleyball World ay isang programang nagbibigay kapangyarihan sa ating mga atleta, at isang matapang na hakbang para sa sports tourism tungo sa paglago ng ekonomiya at



FIVB PRESIDENT FABIOS AZEVEDO ANNOUNCEMENT FOR WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2029 PHILIPPINE HOST

hindi lamang magbibigay-daan sa aming bansa na maging sentro ng pandaigdigang paglago ng volleyball, Ito ay magtatakdang makasaysayang balangkas para sa kabuuang pag-unlad ng isports sa Pilipinas. Magbuubuo kami ng isang konsorsyum kasama ang mga pribadong sektor at mga organisasyon upang pamunuan at panatilihin ang proyektong ito,

Upang lumikha ng mas maraming pagkakataon para sa aming mga atleta at tagahanga na maging bahagi ng isang bagay na tunay na espesyal. Susundin namin ito nang may buong kasigasigan, na may malaking pasasalamat sa FIVB, Volleyball World, at sa buong Global Volleyball Movement para sa kanilang pagkakaibigan at suporta.



7th Roll Ball World Cup, Lalahukan ng Pinoy Roll Ballers

Ipinagmamalaki ng Philippine Roll Ball Men's National Team ang makasaysayang tagumpay sa 4th Asian Roll Ball Championship sa Goa, India, noong nakaraang taon, kung saan ang pagsumunikap at pagpursigang koponan ay nagresulta para makakuha ng inaaam na puwesto sa paglahok sa paparating na 7th Roll Ball World Cup na itinakda sa Disyembre 2025 sa Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

Ang karangalan ay hindi lamang una para sa Pilipinas kundi pati na rin sa buong Southeast Asian region, dahil ang Philippine squad ang naging pioneering Roll Ball team mula sa Southeast Asia na makakalalaro sa World Cup.

Ang Roll Ball World Cup ay kompetisyon ng pinakamahusay na mga atleta sa mundo sa mabilis na sumisikat na isport, at ang Pilipinas ay buong pagmamalaki na dadalhin ang bandila, habang sinisikap nitong makalikha ng marka sa pandaigdigang yugto.

"We are driven not only by the passion to compete but by a greater mission—to bring honor to our beloved country and to give glory to God," sambit ni Antonio T. Ortega, President and Executive Director of the Philippine Roll Ball Association. "Through this sport, we aim to inspire young people, evangelize, and make disciples of Christ across the world."

Habang tumitindi ang paghahanda para sa World Cup, ang Philippine Roll Ball Men's Team ay umaapela sa kabutihang-loob ng mga Pilipino, pribadong

institusyon, at pinuno ng gobyerno para sa pinansiyal na suporta at sponsorship. Ang mga mapagkukunan ay magiging mahalaga sa pagsagot sa mga gastusin sa pagsasanay, kagamitan, paglalakbay, at kumpetisyon habang kinakatawan ng koponan ang bansa sa pagkakataong ito na minsan-sa-isang-buhay.

Ang bawat kontribusyon ay hindi lamang makatutulong sa pag-angat ng Philippine sports sa pandaigdigang entablado kundi pati na rin sa pagpapatibay ng pananaw ng koponan sa paggamit ng Roll Ball bilang isang plataporma para sa disiplina, pagkakaisa, at pananampalataya sa pagkilos.

Ang pagsabak sa Dubai ay higit pa sa pagwawagi sa mga laro—ito ay tungkol sa pagbuo ng isang pamana ng pag-asa, tiyaga, at pananampalataya para sa mga susunod na henerasyon ng mga atletang Pilipino.

Sama-sama, tinawag ang bansa na mag-rally sa likod ng pangunguna sa Roll Ball Team bilang mga ipinagmamalaking ambassador ng Pilipinas at mga saksi ng kaluwalhatian ng Diyos.

Para sa mga sponsorship, donasyon, at pagkakataon na kolaborasyon, mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa: Mga tseke na babayaran sa: Philippine Roll Ball Association Inc. Bangkok: Chinabank Current Account No. 1453-00-00474-8, Email: phil.rollball.fed.021023@gmail.com Telepono: +63 916 568 7370



BATANG PINOY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS SPONSORSHIP SIGNING AND 3 TROPHIES FOR THE TOP 3 WINNERS

SABAY-SABAY na nilagdaan ng mga sponsor ang kani-kanilang pagiging partnership sponsor kasama si PSC Chairman John Patrick Gregorio kaugnay ng magaganap na Batang Pinoy National Championships 2025, makaraang ganapin ang press conference para sa naturang okasyon na ginanap sa Century Park Hotel, Manila. Ibabang larawan ipinakita na nila PSC Chairman at apat na Commissioner na sina Fritz Gaston, Olivia Bong Coo, Edward Hayco at Walter Torres ang tatlong trofeo para sa magtatala ng unang puwesto, pangalawa at pangatlo. **(REY NILLAMA)**

Paparada ang may 19,700 kabuuan na atleta ng Batang Pinoy National Championships 2025 sa GenSan ngayong Oktubre 25

Inaasahang magiging handa ang lahat para sa Batang Pinoy National Championships sa pag organisa ng Philippine Sports Commission (PSC), na magaganap sa Lungsod ng General Santos na sisimulan sa Oktubre 25 hanggang 30.

May kabuuang na 19,700 atleta mula sa 191 lokal na yunit ng pamahalaan (LGUs) ang makikipagtagisan sa 27 na isport: aquatics-paglango, archery, arnis, atletiks, badminton, basketball (3x3), boksing, chess, siklista, dancesport, futsal, gimnasya, jiu-jitsu, judo, kickboxing, karate, muay, pencak silat, sepak takraw, soft tennis, tennis, table tennis, taekwondo, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling at wushu. Sinabi ni Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) Commissioner Olivia "Bong" Coo na mas handa sila sa ngayon kaysa dati ng mag salita ito sa ginanap na press

conference kamakailan sa Century Park Hotel sa Maynila.

Matatandaan na si Coo, ay tanyag bunsod ng kanyang pagiging apat na beses na kampeon sa buong mundo at miyembro ng World Bowling Hall of Fame, kung saan siya ay nagsisilbing project director ng Batang Pinoy, ang torneo na para sa mga kabataang atleta na may 17 taong gulang pababa.

Ibinahagi naman ni Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) Chairperson John Patrick Gregorio, kasama sina Coo at mga Komisyoner na sina Matthew Gaston, Edward Hayco, at Walter Torres, ang magiging trofeo para pangkalahatang kampeon.

Inihayag din nito ang magiging premyo na matatanggap para sa unang puwesto ay PHP5 milyon, para sa susunod ay tatanggap ng PHP4 milyon, sa ikatlong naman ay PHP3 milyon, PHP2 milyon sa pang apat habang sa ikalima naman ay tatanggap ng PHP1 milyon.

Magugunita na sa nakaraang taon 2024 ay tinanghal na kampeon ang Pasig City na sila ang nagtala ng may pinaka maraming gintong medalya na naiwi ng ganapin sa sa Puerto Princesa, Palawan

Ikalimang kampeonato naitala ng Italya sa FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship 2025

NAGAWANG pagtibayin ng koponang Italya kung kaya naging daan upang pagwagi bilang ikalimang pagkakataon sa kampeon sa katatapos na FIVB VMWC 2025, ito ay harap ng opisyal na bilang ng 15,682 na mga manonood

sa final ng FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship Philippines 2025 sa Mall of Asia, Pasay City. Matapos nilang talunin ang batang koponan ng Bulgaria sa apat na set upang maagaw ang korona.

Ito ang kanilang ikalawang magkasunod at ikalimang pangkalahatang titulong pandaigdig, matapos ang kanilang mga panalo noong 1990, 1994, 1998, at 2022. Ang Bulgaria ay nakakuha ng pilak, ang kanilang ikalawang pagkakataon sa kasaysayan ng World Championships, matapos noong 1970. ng mas maaga , tinalo ng Poland ang Czechia sa apat na set upang maagaw ang bronse.

Sa kabila ng karaniwang sobrang dami ng pagkakamali sa linya ng serve, nagawang humakbang ng dalawang puntos ang Bulgaria sa kalagitnaan ng unang set, ngunit pagkatapos ay kinuha ng Italy ang kontrol sa pamamagitan ng limang sunod-sunod na puntos sa serbisyo ni outside hitter Mattia Bottolo at hindi na muling bumalik. Si Bottolo rin ang nagwakas ng set sa pamamagitan ng apat na puntos na lamang ang lamang para sa Italya.

Nakabawi ang Bulgaria mula sa maagang limang puntos na kalamangan ng Italya sa ikalawang set, ngunit muli nilang

hinayaang tumaas ang kalamangan ng kalaban. At nang sila ay malapit nang makahabol muli, ang Italianong opposite na si Yuri Romano, na ipinagpatuloy ang kanyang mahusay na pagganap mula sa unang set, ay halos nagdesisyon ng set sa pamamagitan ng kamangha-manghang limang sunod-sunod na ace. Tatlong rally ang lumipas, isa pang ace, nitong pagkakataon mula kay Bottolo, ang naglagay sa Italya sa dalawang-set na pamumuno. Nang ang mataas na panganib sa serbisyo ay nagsimulang magbunga para sa Bulgaria sa ikatlong set, nakuha nila ang kontrol sa court at nanalo ng may malaking lamang.

Isang ace mula kay Martin Atanasov ang naglagay sa koponan sa punto ng set at isinara ng opposite na si Asparuh Asparuhov ang set sa isang matalinong galaw sa atake.

Dalawang kahanga-hangang serve ni Bottolo ang nagpasya ng ika-apat na set sa isang kapani-paniwalang paraan. Sa una, nakakuha ng maagang kalamangan



ITALY FIVB VOLLEYBALL MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP 2025