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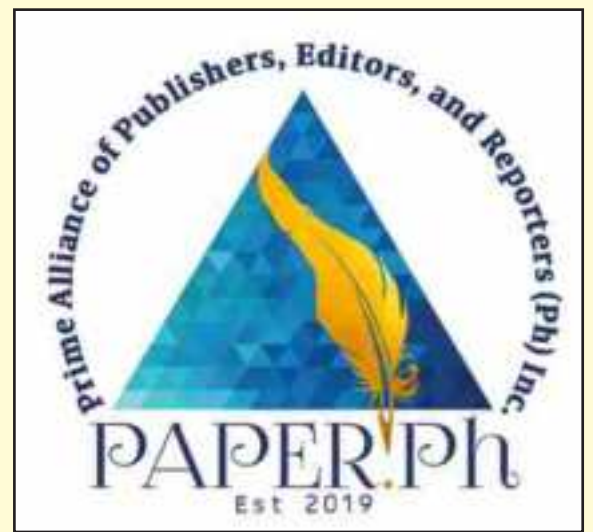
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CIRCULATED NATIONWIDE

June 3 - 9, 2026



DICT's Free Wi-Fi for All a big 'push' for Cavite schools



CARMONA CITY, Cavite (PIA) — The Free Wi-Fi for All program is set to boost the connectivity of public schools and State Universities and Colleges (SUC) in Cavite Province, driving further success to instruction and community-centered research programs.

Following the Free Public Internet Access Program launch of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) on May 21, the Cavite State University (CvSU) highlighted the critical role of unlimited internet access for academic institutions.

Dr. Jonathan Digma, Campus Administrator for CvSU Silang campus, underscored that the Free Wi-Fi for All program is crucial in driving their community extension programs.

"Napakalaking bagay po ito para suportahan ang mga programa ng Cavite State University. Alam naman po natin na sa tertiary education, research is very important."

State Universities and Colleges (SUC) fuel socioeconomic growth for surrounding communities. For CvSU, their partnership with local government units have paved the way for improving policies, programs, and sustainable development.

Through its partnership with the Municipal Government of Silang, CvSU is running four (4) ICT-related extension projects catering to various sectors, such as Barangay Health Workers, the Women's Desk, and other government agencies.

"Yung pagde-deploy ng internet, aside from helping the academe and the students, will be very helpful in pushing the programs of CvSU Silang and the Department of Information and Communications Technology to help the community."

Fifth District Representative Roy Loyola emphasized the benefits for students at a time when schools are increasingly relying on computer-aided instruction.

"Wi-Fi is no longer a luxury, ito po ay kailangan at bahagi na ng pag-aaral ng ating kabataan. This underscores the government's commitment to inclusive digital transformation and equitable connectivity nationwide. Sa ating kabataan, magiging madali na ang inyong pag-aaral at pagre-research."

The Public Internet Access program will also expand to 127 locations, including all public schools across Carmona, Silang and Gen. Mariano Alvarez, bringing improved access to online learning modalities. (PB-PIA CALABARZON)

CIDG-7 seizes 28 loose firearms, 4 explosives in Cebu

Customs Mactan seizes vapes

252 TLS for construction in Cebu Province



"Mabuhay ang Pilipinas!" Sigaw ito ng ating mga bayani at rebolusyonaryo noong panahon ng himagsikan—at hanggang ngayon ay patuloy nating isinasabuhay sa pamamagitan ng pagmamahal sa bayan at pagpapahalaga sa ating kalayaan. Nawa'y manatiling buhay sa puso ng bawat Imuseño at Pilipino ang diwa ng pagiging makabayan para sa susunod na henerasyon! #NationalFlagDay #Watawat2026 #Kalayaan2026 #LabananSaAlapan #LungsodNglmus



With benefits covering laboratory, outpatient consultation and access to free medicine, the Philhealth Yaman ng Kalusugan Program (YAKAP), which expanded primary care benefit packages, is seen to become a 'game changer' in the country's implementation of the Universal Healthcare (UHC) framework. In an interview with the Philippine Information Agency and Radyo Pilipinas Lucena's Sulong Southern Tagalog radio program, Arturo Ardiente, Field Operations Division chief for PhilHealth CALABARZON, noted that YAKAP will encourage more Filipinos to seek not only medical treatments but also preventive care.

Remember, you may choose your sin, but you cannot choose the consequences.

ON THE WATCH

Rico Osmeña



As recurring power outages and rotational brownouts continue to disrupt households, businesses, and critical services across the Visayas, the Cebu Electricity Rights Advocates (CERA) is urging policy-makers and regulators to look beyond power supply shortages and confront what they describe as the growing weakness of the country's transmission infrastructure.

CERA said recent grid disturbances in Luzon and Visayas including 29 May 2026, show that Visayas' energy reliability problems are increasingly linked not only to generation shortfalls, but also to structural and operational vulnerabilities within the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) transmission network.

CERA sees that transmission bottlenecks, limited

CERA calls on accountability vs. grid outages

grid redundancy, and failures involving major transmission assets have increasingly contributed to widespread outages and instability across the power system.

"We must recognize that many recent outages are increasingly linked to transmission vulnerabilities under NGCP," said CERA Convenor Nathaniel Chua.

"While public attention often focuses on reserve margins and power generation during peak demand periods, the stability of the grid is also heavily dependent on the reliability and resilience of the transmission backbone managed by NGCP," he added.

Citing the May 2026 tripping of key 500kV NGCP transmission lines, particularly the Ilijan-Dasmariñas and Ilijan-Tayabas lines, significantly limited the grid's ability to transmit more than 1,300 MW of power.

The incident forced several distribution utilities (DUs) to implement Automatic Load Dropping (ALD) measures to help prevent a wider grid collapse despite generation capacity elsewhere in the system.

Also, CERA pointed to vulnerabilities in the Visayas grid as in the late May 2026, NGCP implemented Manual Load Dropping (MLD) affecting 18 Electric

Cooperatives following unplanned generation outages and concerns over the loading of the NGCP-operated Daanbantayan-Tabango 230kV transmission line.

The incident highlighted the need for greater transmission redundancy and stronger grid resilience to absorb operational shocks and prevent cascading outages.

The Philippines cannot achieve long-term energy stability by simply building more power plants. The transmission system must also be strengthened to reliably deliver power to homes, businesses, and communities across the country.

Please watch and listen to Karon SUGBO or TODAY CEBU business news and public affairs radio program over Rico Osmeña/ Daily Tribune livestream/ DYLA Cebu radio 909Khz AM band, every 11 00am-12 00nn from Mondays to Fridays. Hosted by yours truly RICO MIRASOLOSMENA.

For informations/ feedback/ advises/ suggestions/ complaints... please email at rico.osmena@yahoo.com or text at 09273788432. Thank you so much. GOD bless our FAMILIES! (By RICO MIRASOLOSMENA)

Customs Mactan seizes vapes

The Bureau of Customs of the Support of Mactan reported on Wednesday that it has confiscated 200 pieces of signature pod for Vape devices at the International Arrival Area of Mactan Cebu International Airport (MCIA).

The luggage of a South Korean passenger was recommended for examination after an X-ray inspector detected suspicious images during the screening.

A Customs Examiner conducted a physical inspection, with the traveler's consent, leading to the discovery of 200 pieces of signature pods for Vape devices

valued at over ₱66,000.

Further verification disclosed that the items were not declared in the traveler's electronic Customs Baggage Declaration Form (e-CBDF).

The traveler admitted as having no permits and clearances from concerned Regulatory agencies.

"Customs regulations are in place to protect our borders and ensure that regulated goods entering the country comply with Philippine Laws," said Cebu District Collector Alexandra Yap-Lumontad.

"We remind all travelers to truthfully declare their

goods and secure the necessary permits and clearances," she added.

The confiscated items are now subject to seizure and forfeiture proceedings in accordance with existing customs laws, rules and regulations.

Under the guidance of Commissioner Ariel Nepomuceno and in line with the directive of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. to curb illicit trade, the Port of Cebu remains committed to enhancing border protection efforts and ensuring the strict enforcement of customs laws while continuously facilitating legitimate trade and travel. (By RICO MIRASOLOSMENA)

252 TLS for construction in Cebu Province

Cebu Province will begin construction of 252 Temporary Learning Shelters (TLS) this middle of June.

This was disclosed by Capitol Executive Assistant Christopher Baricuatro, who is the concurrent Focal Person of the Provincial School Board (PSB).

"This would augment schools with classrooms damaged by the 2025 twin disasters," he said.

The initial rollout will proceed with slight delay on island-based schools due to budget shortfall in transporting

construction materials to the islands.

"I didn't take into account that TLS is more expensive if you contract it in the islands," he added.

Originally, the plan was to construct 269 temporary classrooms, but the approved ₱295.9 million budget, thus it was reduced to 252.

Budget per classroom is at ₱1.1 million.

Each TLS is designed as a single-classroom structure, its construction May take 30 to 45 days, with the province targeting completion by the end of July.

The TLS units will be built within existing school grounds, no need for the province to acquire the properties which will take time.

The Department of Education in Central Visayas (DepEd -7) identified the recipient sites based on urgency, prioritizing areas with most severe classroom shortages.

Cebu Province in its long-term Infrastructure project will involve two-story "smart buildings."

The province plans to construct 51 smart buildings, allocating one each for the 44 municipalities, seven component cities. Each smart building will contain four smart classrooms. (By RICO MIRASOLOSMENA)

CIDG-7 seizes 28 loose firearms, 4 explosives in Cebu

The Criminal Investigation and Detection Group in Central Visayas (CIDG-7) bared on Tuesday that it has confiscated 28 loose firearms and four explosives within 72 hours in separate operations in Cebu.

Police Major General Robert AA Morico II said that from May 21 to 23, 2026, the CIDG conducted law enforcement operations implementing search warrants and buy-bust operation against violation of Republic Act No. 10591 or the Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulation Act.

This resulted into the arrest of 20 individuals and

confiscation of 28 loose firearms including three light weapons and 25 small arms, and found grenades.

Noteworthy is the search warrant implementation of the CIDG Lapu-Lapu City Field Unit on May 23, 2026 from 8:37 A.M. to 10:45 A.M. in Barangay Butong, Ronda, Cebu that yielded three unlicensed firearms at once-- M1 carbine rifle, caliber 22 magnum rifle, and caliber 38 pistol; magazines; and assorted live ammunition.

During the operation, the team also discovered and recovered one-heat-sealed plastic sachet containing white powdered substance suspected to be shabu.

The subject of the warrant was arrested, who is allegedly into gunrunning activities. The confiscation and removal from the circulation and use of these instrumentalities of killing and violence significantly prevented crimes, contract-killing and gun-for-hire activities.

Special commendations were issued to Police Col. Arbel Mercullo and CIDG Lapu-Lapu City Field Unit head Police Major Emmanuel Rabaya. (By RICO MIRASOLOSMENA)

SSS rolls out nationwide Palengke Caravan to bring mobile services closer to grassroots communities

QUEZON CITY, 25 May 2026 – The Social Security System (SSS) has deployed its mobile e-Wheels to public markets and barangays across selected towns and cities nationwide as part of weeklong Palengke Caravan, aimed at reducing travel time, long queues, and transaction difficulties experienced by workers, pensioners, and beneficiaries.

The caravan supports the directive of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to bring public services faster and closer to the people, particularly in underserved and hard-to-reach communities.

"For many pensioners, informal workers, and members in underserved communities, even a single branch visit can mean transportation expenses, lost income, and hours spent in line," SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. De Claro said.

"Through the SSS e-Wheels / Palengke Caravan, we are bringing government services directly to communities so people can access assistance and complete transactions closer to where they live and work," he added.

He explained that the SSS is holding a caravan in public markets to bring its services directly to market vendors and ambulant sellers who are unable to visit branch offices because they cannot leave their small businesses unattended.

The SSS e-Wheels will be deployed in Metro Manila starting on May 25, which targets to serve around 21,500 clients. It will be followed by caravan activities in Calapan, Oriental Mindoro; Legazpi, Albay; Silay City, Negros Occidental; and Siargao Island, Surigao del Norte on May 27. The nationwide caravan will conclude on May 28 in Virac, Catanduanes.

The mobile caravan will offer services including employer registration, inquiries and verification, Annual Confirmation of Pensioners or ACOP, updating of member data records, issuance of SSS numbers and forms, and online-related transactions such as My.SSS registration, password resetting, Payment Reference Number generation, pension loan applications, and benefit claim applications.

SSS will also deploy for the first time the newly launched facial authentication with liveness check for ACOP verification during mobile service operations, allowing eligible pensioners to complete



verification faster and more conveniently without visiting branches.

From January to April 2026, the SSS conducted a total of 3,294 e-Wheels activities nationwide, serving 239,367 members and residents in last-mile communities. In 2024, the SSS e-Wheels Program received the ASEAN Social Security Association Recognition Award in the innovation category.

"By bringing services closer to the people, we are making SSS more accessible, more responsive and convenient for workers, pensioners, and their families," De Claro said.

Bagong Mukha ng BOC: Mas Matatag na Seguridad Laban sa Kontrabando sa Cebu at NAIA

Tutok Aduana

by Sensei Ryu

Madalas nating marinig ang mga biro at reklamo tungkol sa Bureau of Customs (BOC). Sa nakalipas na mga dekada, tila naging kakabit na ng pangalan ng ahensyang ito ang mga isyu ng red tape, mabagal na sistema, at kawalan ng tiwala. Kaya naman kapag may magandang balitang lumalabas mula rito, marapat lamang na atin itong bigyang-pansin at ipagmalaki.

Kamakailan, pinarangalan si BOC Commissioner Ariel F. Nepomuceno sa prestihiyosong Asia's Golden Icon Awards bilang Asia's Outstanding Leader for Customs Modernization and Public Service. Gaganapin ang pormal na parangal sa darating na Hulyo 7 sa Okada Manila, kung saan magsasama-sama ang mga pinuno at diplomat mula sa iba't ibang panig ng Asya.

Ngunit higit sa glitz at glamour ng gabi ng parangal, ano nga ba ang tunay na kahulugan ng award na ito para sa simpleng mamamayang Pilipino?

ANG TATLONG HALIGI NG PAGBABAGO

Hindi nakukuha ang ganitong pagkilala sa pamamagitan ng mababangong salita lamang. Ayon mismo sa award committee, ibinatay ito sa mga konkretong resulta ng pamumuno ni Commissioner Nepomuceno, na nakatutok sa tatlong mahahalagang aspeto:

1. Modernisasyon: Ang paglipat mula sa lumang sistema patungo sa mga digital at automated na proseso. Ang layunin? Bawasan ang pakikialam ng tao (human intervention) para mapabilis ang galaw ng kalakal at maalis ang pagkakataon para sa korapsyon.

2. Transparansya: Ang pagbubukas ng pinto ng BOC sa publiko upang maging hayag ang bawat transaksyon. Kapag may pananagutan (accountability), bumabalik ang tiwala ng mga negosyante at mamumuhunan.

3. Kahusayan (Excellence): Ang pagtataas ng pamantayan sa araw-araw na operasyon upang mas maging swabe ang karanasan ng mga stakeholders.

"Ang tunay na pamana ng isang pinuno ay hindi nasusukat sa kanyang posisyon, kundi sa pangmatagalang epekto ng kanyang tapat na

paglilingkod." – Isang mahalagang paalala mula sa komite ng parangal.

HIGIT SA TITULO, ISANG HAMON

Ang parangal na ito kay Commissioner Nepomuceno ay patunay na ang reporma sa gobyerno ay hindi imposibleng pangarap. Kapag ang liderato ay may malinaw na pananaw at walang kompromisong integridad, sumusunod ang buong ahensya. Nagagawa nitong itaas ang bandera ng Pilipinas at magtakda ng bagong pamantayan para sa buong rehiyon ng Asya.

Gayunpaman, ang bawat parangal ay may kalakip na hamon. Ang hamon ngayon sa BOC ay ang pagpapatuloy at pagpapalawak ng mga nasimulang pagbabagong ito. Ang modernisasyon ay hindi isang destinasyon kundi isang patuloy na paglalakbay.

Sa huli, ang pinakamalaking gantimpala na maaari nating matanggap ay hindi ang gintong tropeyong iuwi mula sa seremonya, kundi ang patuloy na pagbabalik ng tiwala at kumpiyansa ng mamamayang Pilipino sa mga institusyon ng ating pamahalaan. Isang sumasaludo at mainit na pagbati kay Commissioner Nepomuceno—patunayan natin na ang husay ng Pilipino ay pang-Asya at pang-buong mundo!

Kung pakatitigan natin ang mga balita sa ating mga paliparan nitong mga nakaraang linggo, may isang malinaw na mensaheng ipinapaabot ang Bureau of Customs (BOC): Hindi natutulog ang batas, at walang nakalulusot sa masisipag na mata ng ating mga awtoridad. Sa ilalim ng pamumuno ni Commissioner Ariel F. Nepomuceno, sunod-sunod ang naging tagumpay ng kawanihan sa pagharang ng mga ilegal at hindi idineklarang kontrabando. Mula sa tila simpleng vape products sa Cebu hanggang sa milyun-milyong pisong halaga ng shabu sa Maynila, iisa ang ipinapakita nito—pinalalakas at pinatitibay ang seguridad sa ating mga pintuan o borders.

Upang mas maunawaan natin ang lawak ng operasyong ito, narito ang dalawang magkahiwalay ngunit magkakonektang tagumpay ng BOC na nagpapatunay sa kanilang mas pinatinding kampanya laban sa ilegal na kalakalan.

ANG VAPE SA CEBU: PAALALA SA LAHAT NG BIYAHERO

Magsimula tayo sa Timog. Noong Mayo 3, 2026, hinarang ng BOC Port of Cebu, sa pamamagitan ng Support of Mactan na pinamumunuan ni Support Collector Gerardo Campo, ang isang pasaherong nagmula sa South Korea sa Mactan-Cebu International Airport (MCIA).

• Ang Istilo: Nagkunwaring ordinaryong bagahe, ngunit nang dumaan sa X-ray screening, nakita ng inspektor ang

mga kahina-hinalang imahe.

• Ang Huli: Nang buksan ang bagahe sa pahintulot ng biyahero, tumambad ang 200 piraso ng signature pod para sa mga vape device na nagkakahalaga ng higit sa ₱66,000\$.

• Ang Paglabag: Walang deklarasyon ang mga ito sa kanyang electronic Customs Baggage Declaration Form (e-CBDF), at wala ring maipakitang kaukulang permit mula sa mga regulatoring ahensya ang dayuhang biyahero.

Ayon kay District Collector Alexandra Yap-Lumontad, ang mga regulasyong ito ay narito upang protektahan ang ating bansa. Isa itong paalala sa lahat: maging tapat sa deklarasyon dahil hindi uubra ang palusot sa modernong kagamitan ng BOC.

ANG SHABU SA NAIA: MILYUN-MILYONG DROGA SA LOOB NG MAKINA

Kung sa Cebu ay regulasyon at buwis ang tinangkang takasan, isang mas malaking banta sa pambansang seguridad naman ang matagumpay na nagipilan sa Maynila. Noong Mayo 19, 2026, nasabat ng BOC-NAIA, sa pamumuno ni District Collector Atty. Yasmin Obillos-Mapa, ang isang inabandunang kargamento sa isang bodega.

• Ang Modus: Ang kargamento ay nanggaling pa sa bansang Uganda at naka-konsisa sa isang tatanggap sa Cavite. Upang ilihis ang pansin ng mga otoridad, idineklara itong "Auto Gear Bearings" o mga piyesa ng makina.

• Ang Katotohanan: Sa ilalim ng masusing pisikal na inspeksyon, natuklasan sa loob ng mga parcel ang humigit-kumulang 1,234 gramo ng hinihinalang shabu na may tinatayang halaga na ₱8,391,200\$.

Agad na itinaling sa Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) ang mga nakumpiskang droga para sa pagsusuri at pagsasampa ng kaukulang kaso. Ang operasyong ito ay isang malaking dagok sa mga sindikato ng droga na sumusubok gamitin ang ating mga pasilidad sa lohistika.

PAGTUGON SA KAUTUSAN NG PANGULO

Ang dalawang magkaibang huli na ito—isang kontrabandong vape sa Cebu at bilyong halaga ng shabu sa NAIA—ay malinaw na tugon ng BOC sa direktiba ni Pangulong Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. na paigtingin ang kampanya laban sa smuggling at ilegal na droga.

Ipinapakita nito na maging sa pamamagitan ng sopistikadong X-ray o sa matalas na pakiramdam ng mga Customs examiners, mas naging mahirap na para sa mga magdaraya at kriminal ang magpuslit ng anuman sa Pilipinas. Ang hamon ngayon sa publiko ay makiisa: sumunod sa batas, magdeklara ng tama, at kilalanin ang pagsisikap ng mga bantay-pintuan ng ating bansa.

ONE BODY, ONE PHILIPPINES – WHY WE NEED A NEW SYSTEM FOR THE PEOPLE



KATROPA N'YO

Vic Billones III

It's time to ask ourselves a hard question: If our leaders spend all their time fighting instead of making laws that help us, do we even need them?

For years, our Senate and Congress have been trapped in partisan battles. Bills drag on for months while millions of Filipinos struggle with poverty. Politicians argue endlessly, but little changes. We spend billions on salaries and operations for two separate bodies – yet ordinary people see few benefits.

What if there was a better way?

My vision is simple: One single legislative body that includes ordinary Filipinos from every sector – farmers, teachers, nurses, small business owners, students – plus media as independent watchdogs. No more senators vs. congressmen. No more "kampi-kampi" fights. Just one group working for the good of all.

When people are part of making the rules, no one can complain – because we helped shape them. Farmers would help write agriculture laws. Teachers would improve education policies. Parents would ensure laws support families. Media would keep everything open and honest.

We'd save billions that could build schools, hospitals, and roads. Decisions would be made faster, focused on lifting people out of poverty – not helping political parties.

Some will question if this is possible. But what's more dangerous – keeping a system that fails us, or trying something new that puts us in charge?

Tsk! Tsk! Tsk! It's time to stop fighting and start building together. One body, one goal – a better life for every Filipino.

oOo

DAPAT TAPUSIN NG SENADO ANG PAGKAKAHATI-HATI AT AKSYUNAN ANG ISYU SA FLOOD CONTROL SA BULACAN

It is long past time for the Philippine Senate to set aside factionalism and prioritize the people it was elected to serve – starting with urgent issues like the anomalous flood control projects in Bulacan.

Year after year, Bulacan's communities are devastated by monsoon floods. Billions of pesos have been allocated for critical initiatives: river dredging, dike construction, and drainage systems meant to protect residents. Yet despite massive investments, there has been little to no meaningful progress – these projects designed to shield families and livelihoods have instead become vehicles for corruption and abuse.

While senators clash over political divides and fall into "kampi-kampihan" factions, critical work stalls. Majority

and minority blocs waste time on quarrels rather than addressing systemic failures. Factionalism has created a culture where alliances trump action, leaving ordinary Filipinos – especially the poor – to bear the brunt of negligence.

Bulacan's floods destroy homes, erase livelihoods, and deepen hardship for families who can ill afford loss or delay. Funds meant to safeguard communities were siphoned off by opportunists, yet the Senate has failed to conduct thorough investigations or hold culprits accountable.

The "kampi-kampihan" culture must end. Factional divides have no place in a body tasked with serving all Filipinos. The Senate must unite to investigate these anomalies, get to the truth, and pass laws imposing strict penalties on those who steal from public coffers.

Tsk! Tsk! Tsk! Only by setting aside differences and acting with integrity can our leaders fulfill their duty to the people.

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MPTC convenes multi-sectoral Flood Mitigation Forum to boost resilience in Southern Metro Manila and surrounding provinces



The Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPTS), the south arm of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation, brought together stakeholders from national government agencies, local government units (LGUs), and host communities of CALAX and CAVITEX to strengthen collaboration in addressing perennial flooding concerns in Southern Metro Manila and nearby provinces.

This marks the first Flood Mitigation Forum conducted in the South, providing a platform for multi-sectoral dialogue, data sharing, and coordinated planning on flood mitigation efforts.

"This year's forum aims to solidify cooperation among government agencies and LGUs in addressing recurring flooding challenges across Metro Manila and nearby provinces," said MPTC Chief Tollways Development and Engineering Officer Gil F. Amilbangsa.

The MPTC Flood Mitigation Forum 2026 gathered key representatives from the Office of Civil Defense (OCD), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), and Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office (PENRO). Participants from the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB), Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA), and PEA Tollway Corporation (PEATC) also took part in the discussions and the sharing of initiatives.

LGU representatives from Las Piñas, Parañaque, Pasay, Taguig, Cavite, and Laguna provided valuable insights during the forum, along with key leaders including Cavite Governor Francisco Gabriel "Abeng" Diaz Remulla, Office of Civil Defense Director Jose Harry M. Barber, Biñan City Councilor Titus Bautista, and Former Senator Cynthia Villar of Villar SIPAG Foundation.

Flood risk area data and assessments were provided by AMH Philippines, which was engaged by MPT

South, to support evidence-based identification of critical flood-prone areas and inform mitigation planning.

Discussions highlighted the impact of improper waste disposal on flooding, particularly in low-lying communities. LGUs reiterated efforts to strengthen enforcement of anti-littering and solid waste management ordinances, alongside regular declogging of drainage systems and monitoring of critical waterways.

"Effective flood mitigation depends heavily on good governance, which is a core principle in Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (DRRM) implementation. Participation is essential, as community involvement strengthens ownership and improves the relevance of mitigation measures," said Office of Civil Defense Director Jose Harry M. Barber.

In partnership with barangays and volunteer groups, LGUs continue community-based environmental education campaigns in promoting proper waste segregation, infrastructure planning, and disaster risk reduction initiatives.

"We recognize that multi-sectoral collaboration creates a ripple of hope for communities in the South, especially during typhoon season. We, at MPT South, will continue to work closely with LGUs and national government agencies to translate discussions into action," said MPT South President and General Manager Andrew B. Pangilinan.

The forum concluded with commitments from stakeholders to improve drainage systems, strengthen flood control management, enhance disaster resilience, and reinforce inter-agency coordination.

The Flood Mitigation Forum 2026 underscores the Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation Group's commitment to providing a platform for collaboration and sustained action to address flooding challenges in surrounding communities.

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DTI sets sights in tapping international markets for PH economy boost

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) – The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in Laguna underscored the importance of expanding access to international markets to further strengthen the country's economy and create more opportunities for Laguna entrepreneurs.

In an interview during the Philippine Information Agency's (PIA) radio program, DTI Laguna Provincial Director Christian Ted Tungohan stated that the expansion of local products and services into the global market significantly helps increase the income of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), attract more investments, and create additional jobs across various sectors.

"Meron po tayong iba't ibang mga programa na tumutumbok para tayo po ay makapag-export, isa po dyan yung tinatawag na One Town, One Product, yung OTOP, isa po 'yan sa matagal na at ngayon ay batas na po, kung saan tinitignan po natin yung readiness ng ating mga MSMEs kung sila po ba ay pwede na o may kakayahan na mag-export," Director Tungohan said.

OTOP is one of the Trade department's flagship program for the MSMEs which aims to stimulate inclusive economic growth by enhancing their products and services through DTI's assistance, which equips them to receive support in improving product design, product quality, packaging, production processes, and even marketability.

Aside from this, Tungohan added that DTI also implements various initiatives that empower entrepreneurs, increase their income opportunities, and help them develop products that are competitive in the international market.

Tungohan said: "Talagang ang atin pong DTI ay ahensya ng gobyerno na kung saan ating tinutulungan yung mga Business Establishments na makapag-export kase gusto din natin ipagmalaki yung mga produkto na meron ang ating probinsya."

These efforts reflect the administration of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s thrust to empower MSMEs to grow from micro to small and eventually large enterprises, in support of the goal of transforming the country into a high-middle-income economy.

Affirming this vision, DTI Laguna Business Development Division Chief Teresita Tawingan shared that the department through its active partnership with the provincial government of Laguna and other stakeholders,



have helped MSMEs expand their reach in both local and international markets.

Citing 'Likhang Laguna' as a successful platform that helps MSMEs reach international market, particularly Filipino-Americans interested in importing products.

"Nadala natin sa US for promotion sa PTIC Silicon Valley, nakapag-dala po tayo ng ating mga lifestyle and fashion products. One of them, nakapag-import tayo ng designers like Frederick Berches, yung kanyang mga likhang gowns ay na-feature sa New York Fashion Week na-appreciate doon at ito ay humakot din ng madaming

paghanga at connections to be able to actually lead to sales and orders," Tawingan shared.

Along with expanding their presence in the international market, the agency also promotes the participation of MSMEs in various local trade fairs to gain strong exposure in local market and help prepare them for greater opportunities in the global market.

This ensures local businesses are market-ready, with careful assessment of their products to ensure they can fulfill orders and meet export standards. **(COP, AM/PIA CALABARZON)**

Capitol Continues Rice Distribution for 705 Tagbilaran City Families



The Provincial Government of Bohol distributed 10 kilograms of rice each to 705 Tagbilaran City families on May 30, 2026, at the Provincial Capitol. These beneficiaries missed the initial May 19 rollout at the Bohol Cultural Center.

The initiative is the first of four tranches, providing 40 kilograms total per beneficiary. It targets the 25%

indigent sector, including senior citizens, PWDs, fisherfolk, 4Ps beneficiaries, solo parents, and laborers.

The distribution falls under the National Welfare and Development, the Tagbilaran City Government's Rice Subsidy Program, funded via the Local Government Support Fund—Financial Assistance to Local Government Units. Bohol received a ₱196-million national allocation, supplemented by an ₱11-million provincial

counterpart fund to expand reach.

Facilitated by the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development, the Tagbilaran City Government, and barangay officials, the program aligns with Bohol's Strategic Governance Roadmap to enhance food security and social protection across Bohol, a UNESCO Global Geopark.

Mekeni showcases Filipino manufacturing excellence at Tatak Pinoy Expo 2026



Mekeni Food Corporation reinforced the strength of Filipino manufacturing on the global stage as it showcased its world-class food production capabilities during the DTI Tatak Pinoy Expo 2026 at the SMX Convention Center Manila.

Organized by the Department of Trade and Industry, the expo highlights leading Philippine industries and enterprises under the government's Tatak Pinoy Strategy, which aims to strengthen local industries, boost domestic manufacturing, and position Filipino companies for global competitiveness.

At the event, Mekeni presented its export-quality

food products already distributed across international markets in Asia, the Middle East, North America, Europe, Pampanga, and Oceania. The company also highlighted its adherence to global standards in food safety, innovation, quality and world-class manufacturing control, and large-scale manufacturing.

During the opening day walkthrough, government officials visited various industry exhibits, including the food and agro-processing sector identified as a key driver of economic growth and industrial development.

Mekeni President Prudencio "Pruds" Garcia said the company's participation reflects its commitment to proving that Filipino manufacturing can compete globally.

Garcia emphasized that from its roots in Pampanga, Mekeni has grown into an internationally recognized brand through its focus on quality, innovation, and world-class manufacturing standards.

Mekeni products are now available in more than 20 countries worldwide, further expanding the company's international presence and strengthening the reputation of Philippine-made products in the global market.

Through its participation in the Tatak Pinoy Expo, Mekenis reaffirmed its role not only as a proudly Filipino brand but also as a key contributor to elevating Philippine manufacturing excellence worldwide.

HINIHALANG FIXER SA LTO, HULOG SA BITAG NG MGA AWTORIDAD SA SANTIAGO CITY

SANTIAGO CITY — Matagumpay na dinakip ng pinagsanib na puwersa ng Land Transportation Office (LTO) Santiago City District at Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) ang isang lalaking pinaghihinalang kumikilos bilang "fixer" dito, bilang tugon sa dumaraming reklamo ukol sa iligal na gawain sa paligid ng tanggapan.

Dahil sa matagal nang pagdami ng mga sumbong laban sa mga nagsasabing tagapamagitan, agad na nakipag-ugnayan ang pamunuan ng LTO sa pangunguna ni Hepe Dennis Buendia sa mga awtoridad upang maglunsad ng operasyon at linisin ang sistema mula sa mga manloloko.

Sa panayam ng Facts & Figures Newsweekly, mariing kinondena ni Buendia ang ganitong gawain. Ayon sa kanya, walang katotohanan ang pagmamalaki ng mga suspek na may kakilala sila sa loob ng opisina; sadyang nagkakat lamang ito ng maling impormasyon upang linilangin at pagkakitaan ang mga taong nais makakuha ng serbisyo.

Naganap ang pagdakip matapos ialok ng suspek

sa isang biktima na aasikasuhin nito ang lisensya kapalit ng pera. Sa araw ng itinakdang palitan, agad siyang sinukol ng mga operatiba sa oras na tanggapin niya ang marked lehitimong serbisyo.

Ang hakbang na ito ay bahagi ng kampanya kontra katiwalian ng administrasyon ni Pangulong Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr., sa ilalim ng pamumuno nina DOTr Acting Secretary Giovanni Z. Lopez, LTO Chief Assistance Secretary Markus V. Lacanilao, at mga opisyal ng Rehiyon 2 na sina Acting Regional Director Geronimo C. Santos at OIC Assistant Regional Director Venancio S. Tuddao.

Binigyang-diin ni Buendia na hindi kukunsintihin ng LTO ang anumang uri ng katiwalian. Malinaw na paglabag sa batas ang ganitong gawain, at patuloy silang makikipagtulungan sa kapulisan upang tuluyang mapuksa ito at masiguro ang maayos at tapat na serbisyo. Mariin niyang sinabi na walang puwang ang mga fixer sa gobyerno. Muling nagpaalala ang ahensya sa publiko na iwasan ang pakikipagtransaksyon sa mga hindi awtorisadong tao, dahil ito ay tiyak na magdudulot lamang



PhilHealth, IBP partner to boost legal aid, strengthen patient rights

MANILA – The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) has partnered with the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) to expand its legal support for members and strengthen patient rights.

Based on a Wednesday news release, Philippine Health Insurance Corporation signed on Tuesday a two-year Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Integrated Bar of the Philippines to strengthen support systems for its members, particularly to address concerns involving healthcare benefits, patient rights, and access to information.

The agreement was formalized between PhilHealth President and Chief Executive Officer Edwin Mercado and IBP National President and Chairperson of the 27th Board of Governors Allan Panolong at the IBP Building in Pasig City.

“A key feature of the agreement is the provision of free legal aid activities for qualified PhilHealth members, particularly those who are indigent or marginalized, on matters related to healthcare benefits and claims,” the news release said.

“PhilHealth will support these initiatives by providing the necessary information and documentation to facilitate legal assistance,” it said.

PhilHealth and IBP will also conduct information and education campaigns to help Filipinos better understand their rights and entitlements under the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act.

Meanwhile, PhilHealth said the partnership also covers cooperation on health law and policy development, capacity-building programs, continuing legal education for PhilHealth lawyers, and fraud prevention measures to strengthen safeguards within the system.

“These initiatives are expected to strengthen PhilHealth’s ability to deliver responsive services and ensure that members receive the benefits and protections they are entitled to under the law,” it said. *(PNA)*



Pagiging ‘RICEponsible,’ Isinapuso ng Mahigit 100 Residente ng Dasmariñas City



Kasabay ng pagdiriwang ng Buwan ng mga Magsasaka at Mangingisda, sama-samang isinapuso ng mahigit 100 kalahok mula sa Brgy. Langkaan I, Dasmariñas City, Cavite, ang diwa ng pagiging “RICEponsible” matapos ang kanilang aktibong pakikibahagi sa ikalawang pangkat ng Rice Information Campaign: Masaganang Palayan sa pamamagitan ng Tamang Kaalaman ng DA-Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) CALABARZON.

Mas ipinaunawa sa mga kalahok ang simpleng pamamaraan upang maiangat ang industriya ng pagpapalay, maisulong ang wastong nutrisyon, at makaambag sa seguridad sa pagkain, sa pamamagitan ng pagtalakay sa ABKD ng Be RICEponsible at mga masustansyang pananim na madaling anihin at mainam na ipares sa kanin.

Nagsilbing mga tagapagtalakay sa nasabing mga paksa ang mga kawani ng DA-ATI CALABARZON na sina Bb. Janine Cailo, RAgr, Chief ng Information Services Section; at Bb. Cristine Jan Beler, RAgr, Technical Support Staff II.

Bilang bahagi ng programa, namahagi ng red rice ang ahensya sa mga kalahok at hinikayat din silang makilahok sa iba’t ibang programa ng DA-ATI upang mas mapalakas ang kanilang kaalaman at kasanayan sa pagsasaka.

Sa kanyang pambungad na pananalita, mainit na tinanggap ni Bb. Jennifer Ibayan, RAgr, City Agriculturist, ang aktibidad at binigyang-diin na bagama’t lumiliit ang sukat ng palayan sa lungsod, nananatiling mahalaga na maihatid sa mga residente ang pagkilala at pasasalamat sa industriya ng pagpapalay at sa mga taong nasa likod nito.

Samantala, dumalo at nagbigay rin ng mensahe si Center Director Dr. Rolando Maningas, RAgr. Aniya, maraming paraan upang suportahan ang lokal na industriya ng pagpapalay at isa na rito ang pagiging RICEponsibleng mamamayan na may pagpapahalaga sa dedikasyon ng magiging na magsasaka.

Sabay-sabay namang binigkas ng mga kalahok ang Be RICEponsible Pledge bilang panata sa impormasyong kanilang nakuha mula sa kampanya. **Ulat ni: Archie C. Linsasagin**

ADVISORY
16th 2026 - 007

PHILHEALTH ADOPTS FOUR-DAY WORKWEEK FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION

In line with Memorandum Circular No. 1-14, s. 2026 issued by the Office of the President which directs all government agencies to implement strict energy conservation measures while ensuring the continuous delivery of public services, PhilHealth Regional Office IVA and its Local Health Insurance Offices (LHOs) will adopt a Compressed (Four-Day) Workweek Arrangement.

Starting June 15, 2026, PhilHealth offices in Region 4A will be open to the public from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Monday to Thursday only. Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays will be observed as non-working days.

This arrangement aims to reduce energy consumption, optimize the use of office facilities, and support a more sustainable and efficient work environment while maintaining the PhilHealth’s commitment to uninterrupted public service.

The public is advised to plan their visits and transactions accordingly. For online services and inquiries, you may visit the official PhilHealth website or use our digital channels.

Please be guided accordingly.

(Sgt.) EDWIN M. ORIÑA, MD
Acting Regional Vice President

Date signed: 05/25/2026

EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF ERLINDA ZAPANTA-DIONES WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

Notice is hereby given to the public that the late **ERLINDA Z. DIONES**, who died on May 5, 2022, died intestate without leaving any last will and testament, and left two (2) parcels of land, the first comprising **Two Hundred (200) Square Meters** covered by **Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-835726** and the second comprising **Three Hundred Ten (310) Square Meters** covered by **Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-424799** both situated in the **Municipality of Ternate, Province of Cavite, Philippines**, and was extra-judicially settled among the undersigned legal heirs, namely: **GENRICO P. DIONES, KRISTOPHER ERIC Z. DIONES, RICALENE ANN D. DINGLAS** and **KING GEORGE Z. DIONES**, all of legal age, and residents of **0111 Velasco Subd. Poblacion 1A, Ternate, Cavite, Philippines**, et al., executed before Notary Public **ATTY. FIONA CRISCELLE C. FEDERICO**, under Doc. No. 110, Page No. 23, Book No. VII, Series of 2026.



CONGRATULATIONS: Heartfelt greetings from Cong. Roy M. Loyola to Elle Caylen P. Velazco of Lady Reapers from Silang, Cavite, who was recognized as MVP and Homerun Queen Awardee in the Perfect Game Cordillera 2026 Tournament, where their team was also presented as Champion. Your hard work, dedication, and excellence in the field of sports are truly inspiring to our district’s young athletes. We are very proud of your success and the honor you bring to Silang and the entire CarSIGMA! #AmaNgCarsigma #20thCongress #WeLoveCarSIGMA



BUILDING A STRONGER BOC: Bureau of Customs Commissioner Ariel F. Nepomuceno leads the oath-taking ceremony of 165 newly hired and promoted BOC personnel. The mass appointment—consisting of 120 new hires and 45 promoted employees—is a key part of the bureau's operational and administrative buildup under its Integrity, Accountability, and Modernization (IAM) Movement. (BELOW PHOTO) **CRACKDOWN ON ILLICIT TRADE:** Personnel from the Bureau of Customs (BOC), led by MICP District Collector Geoffrey de Vera and the Customs Intelligence and Investigation Service (CIIS-MICP), in coordination with the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), inspect a portion of the P841 million worth of counterfeit perfumes and lotions seized from a Valenzuela City warehouse. The massive operation, commended by BOC Commissioner Ariel F. Nepomuceno, forms part of the directive of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to intensify border protection and disrupt illicit supply chains distorting fair trade in the country.

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Sinuportahan natin ang Iskolar ng Bayan program ni Cong. Jolo Revilla at DSWD, at kinumusta rin natin ang ating mga kababayang magulang sa Toclong! Tuloy-tuloy ang pakikipagtulungan natin sa tanggapan ni Cong. Jolo upang magpatuloy at mas marami pang mag-aaral na Kawiteño ang maabot ng programang ito. #AlagangArmieAguineldo #InangPusoAtMalasakit #RatedTripleA #PusoAtMalasakitParaSaAtingKawit



Basura Palit Bigas sa Barangay Nicolasa Virata, GMA, Cavite: Sa pangunguna ni Congressman Roy M. Loyola at sa pagsusulong ng mga programang makatutulong sa komunidad katuwang si Mayor Dahlia A. Loyola at ang Samahan ng Nagkakaisang Kababaihan ng Carmona, Inc. (SNKCI), matagumpay na naisagawa ang CarSiGMA Basura Palit Bigas Program sa Barangay Nicolasa Virata, GMA, Cavite sa pakikipagtulungan ng mga partner NGOs na Samahan ng Mamamayan para sa Kalusugan at Kabuhayan – San Jose at Proyektong Isusulong ng Nagkakaisang Kababaihan, kung saan mahigit 250 residente ang nakiisa sa programa. Sa pamamagitan ng pagkakaisa, disiplina, at wastong segregasyon ng basura, nagiging daan ang programang ito upang mapanatili ang kalinisan ng komunidad habang nakapagbibigay ng dagdag na tulong, biyaya, at pag-asa sa bawat mamamayan. #AmaNgCarsigma #20thCongress #BasuraPalitBigas #WeLoveCarSiGMA



Oath-taking Ceremony of the Friends of Dasmariñas - Brgy. Sta. Lucia Chapter held at the Brgy. Sta. Lucia Covered Court #OnwardForwardCityofDasmariñas #SulongNaSulongPaDasmariñas

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