

DA: Rice subsidy aims to ease inflation, help farmers amid oversupply

MANILA – The “Bente Pesos na Bigas Meron Na” program aims to help address inflation and is a direct response to oversupply in local rice stocks, benefiting not only the consumers but the farmers as well, an official said Thursday.

“This is our way of addressing both supply and demand issues,” DA Spokesperson Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa said, ahead of the official launch of the program in Cebu later in the day.

“Gusto nating bigyang-diin na hindi lang yung mga ordinaryong Pilipino ang makikinabang dito... kundi mismo yung ating mga magsasaka (We want to emphasize that it is not

TURN TO PAGE 2

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Cavite  
Monday Times

crusading militant truthful

MAY 5-11, 2025 RE-ENTERED AS SECOND CLASS MAIL NO. 2011-37 AT BACOR POST OFFICE , CAVITE DATED MARCH 31, 2011 VOL 23 NO. 35 P15.00

PBBM:  
Gov’t holds  
69 job fairs  
nation-  
wide until  
May 2

SEE PAGE 5

PNPA’s Sinaglawin class of  
2025 top cadet: Called to serve

There is no easy road to success, only mountains to conquer to reach the peak.

There is no easy road to success, only mountains to conquer to reach the peak.

For Police Cadet Marc Joseph L. Vitto of Oriental Mindoro, the journey to the top of the Sinaglawin Class of 2025 of the Philippine National Police Academy (PNPA) is full of purpose, perseverance, and passion to serve.

Finishing as Rank 1, Vitto also received the Journalism Kampilan, Best in Forensic Science and Best in Education awards.

Vitto excelled academically even from a young age. He has been a consistent top of the class since elementary school, and these achievements became a way to give back to his parents—especially to his father, his role model and a dedicated police officer.

“I want to repay the hardship of my father. One way I could do that when I was young was through my achievements—to make them proud,” he shared. My achievements made my parents happy, and I want to protect

those smiles,” he recalled.

Though he has a good academic background, Vitto was not exempt from life’s challenges. He initially pursued a degree in medical technology at a well-known university in Manila, with a high hope of gaining a full scholarship.

“I decided to enroll despite our financial status. I know my parents can’t afford the cost of tuition. I forced it because I’m confident I’ll get a full scholarship,” he said.

But his scholarship didn’t push through. Everything went downhill since.

“I remember during my birthday I was kicked out of my apartment, my brother was not there, and my cellphone was broken, and I had no means of communication with my parents.”

Vitto questioned his decisions but chose not to give up. During this time, he saw the advertisement for PNPA on Facebook.

He did research about the academy and benefits of being a cadet and considered a different path.

“I realized that being a police officer, just like my father, is meaningful. It has the same goal as being a medtech—to save lives and to be of service to people.”

He then applied but failed. Though he was disappointed about the outcome, his father became a source of strength. When the opportunity came for another shot at his PNPA dream, everything aligned for him.

“I think the talent, skills, and abilities are there to help the people, and that is my calling.”

Though there are challenges in being a police officer, Vitto takes the pressure and high expectations positively.

“To be top of the class, I will use the lessons and knowledge



we gain in the academy and also the virtues and attitude instilled by PNPA—Justice, Integrity, and Service,” and I will live with the PNPA mantra and honor code, “We, the cadets, do not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate among us those who do.”

The challenges he conquered became a step closer to his dream and purpose.

“I am also thankful to PNPA for providing an environment where cadets can thrive, excel, and develop to our full

potential to be able to give quality service that the Filipino people deserve.

His experience is a testament to his dedication. Mountains may be high, but he conquered them with determination and hard work. (KA-PIA4a)

DOLE: Wage talks for NCR workers to begin mid-May

MANILA – The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) announced Thursday that consultations on a possible wage hike for minimum wage earners in Metro Manila will begin mid-May.

DOLE-National Capital Region (NCR) Director Sarah Buena Mirasol said preparations are underway for discussions between labor and employer groups regarding a potential salary adjustment for private-sector workers.

“Consultations between workers and employers will begin in May, followed by a public hearing in June,” Mirasol said on the sidelines of the Labor Day job fair at SMX Convention Center in Pasay City.

Should wage deliberations proceed smoothly and lead to a decision, Mirasol said a new wage order could be issued as early as July.

The last wage hike in the NCR took effect on July 17, 2024, setting the current minimum wage at PHP645. (PNA)

JOB HUNTING. Job seekers flock to the Labor Day job fair held at Manila Science High School on Thursday (May 1, 2025), as part of the 123rd Labor Day celebration. The event, organized by DOLE-NCR’s Manila Field Office in partnership with the Public Employment Service Office, features 54 local employers offering 9,115 job opportunities in sectors such as BPO, retail, construction, manufacturing, and food service. (PNA photo by Yancy Lim)





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BRIDGE PEOPLE, BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT  
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# Electronic ticketing to be introduced in PH seaports

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) has announced plans to reintroduce an electronic ticketing system at seaports including Batangas Port, aiming to streamline passenger processing and bolster safety measures.

“They [DOTr and PPA] want to relaunch the electronic ticketing management system or ETMS so that [passengers] can book ticket purchase through online and can save time and no longer need to line up to buy, just at least from the comfort of your home you can buy there your tickets”, DOTr Spokesperson for Business Infrastructure Maricar Bautista said during the PIA Ugnayan at Talakayan sa Laguna program.

Batangas Port, one of the Philippines’ busiest maritime hubs handling an average of 20,000 to 25,000 passengers daily, is among the key ports that stand to gain significantly from the reimplementation of the ETMS especially during peak travel seasons such as Holy Week and Christmas, where this number can surge significantly.

ETMS is a digital platform designed to manage booking, payment and issuance of ferry



or port tickets online, primarily for passengers using roll-on/roll-off (RoRo) ports and vessels.

It was previously suspended in September 2022 and officially discontinued in 2023 under former Transportation Secretary Jaime Bautista. However, DOTr’s new chief Vivencio Dizon emphasized the system’s potential to restore order and transparency at busy ports,

particularly during peak travel periods.

“Let’s take advantage of what we have modernized. The PPA plan is to revive it [ETMS] and even Secretary Dizon said before the year ends it will be implemented so let’s just wait for it and will just give more updates”, Bautista stated.

By introducing a unified digi-

tal ticketing platform through ETMS, the government seeks to reduce inefficiencies, promote cashless transactions, and ensure real-time monitoring of passenger volume which not only enhances travel experience for passengers, but also strengthens safety protocols by helping prevent overloading and streamlining boarding processes. (AM/PIA-4A)

## ‘Punit passport’ threat to PH tourism industry, says Gatchalian



MANILA – Senator Sherwin Gatchalian said on Thursday the reported “punit (rip) pass-

port” or deliberate tampering with passenger’s passport is a threat to the country’s tourism industry.

In a statement, Gatchalian said if left unchecked this could drive away tourists and undermine confidence in the country’s airport system.

“The reported ‘punit passport’ scheme is a serious threat to our country’s reputation as a tourist destination,” he said.

Gatchalian said authorities should immediately hold those responsible accountable, adding the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and airport authorities should formulate security protocols that ensure the safety of passengers without compromising convenience and comfort.

DOTr Secretary Vince Hizon has issued warning on the reported scheme, which

happened in some airports in the country resulting in the offloading of passport holders.

Hizon advised passengers bound for international flights to always check the validity and condition of their passports before traveling and to consult with passport centers or airport authorities when in doubt.

Under the Philippine Passport Act, a passport is considered damaged if its physical condition is altered due to wear and tear, aging, negligence, or other factors that leave it mutilated or defective.

A passport is deemed mutilated if its data page becomes unreadable or if any information is missing. (With report from Leonel Abasola/PNA)

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TIPS TO HAVE A HEALTHY BRAIN

Healthy food

Exercise regularly

Health check

Avoid alcohol

Meditation

Read and study

Enough sleep

Republic of the Philippines  
Fourth Judicial Region  
Regional Trial Court of Cavite  
Office of the Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff  
New Justice Hall, J.P. Rizal Avenue,  
Kaybagal South, Tagaytay City

EJF NO. TG-24-105

FOR: Extrajudicial Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (PAG-IBIG FUND),  
Petitioner/Mortgagee,

-versus-

ADONIS C. MONTEMAYOR,  
Respondents/Mortgagors,  
x-----x

SECOND NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial foreclosure sale under Act 3135, as Amended by Act No. 4118, filed by Petitioner/Mortgagee, Home Development Mutual Fund (otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund), a government financial institution duly organized and existing under and by virtue of Republic Act No. 9679 with principal office at The Petron Mega Plaza Building No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Loan and Mortgage Agreement executed and notarized on June 13, 2008 by Respondent/Mortgagor, ADONIS C. MONTEMAYOR, single, of legal age, Filipino citizen with postal address/es at (1) 6126 Osias Poblacion, Makati City; and (2) Lot 25 Blk 5, Gainesville Subd., Brgy. Bulihan, Silang, Cavite, in favor of the Petitioner/Mortgagee, over a real estate property including improvements thereon, described in and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-77154, of the Registry of Deeds for Tagaytay City, in order to satisfy the outstanding loan obligation of the Respondents/Mortgagors in the amount of SIX HUNDRED FORTY TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SEVENTY EIGHT PESOS & 21/100 (Php 642,378.21), inclusive of interest and other charges, as of July 25, 2024, the undersigned Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court of Cavite thru her deputy, Rhiz Sañel C. Toledo, will sell at public auction on June 10, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, at the New Hall of Justice of Tagaytay City, to the highest bidder, for Cash or Manager's Check and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all its improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-77154  
Registry of Deeds for Tagaytay City

"IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in the Municipality of Silang, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon, more particularly bounded and described as follows:

A parcel of land (Lot 25 Blk 5 of the cons./subd. plan Pcs-04-018178 being a portion of the cons. of Lots 1, 2, & 3, Psd-59052 & Lot 4-C Psd-04-042371 (LRA Rec. No. 20852), sit. in the Brgy. of Bulihan, Mun. of Silang, Prov. of Cavite. Bounded on the NW., along line 1-2 by Lot 27 Blk 5; on the NE., along line 2-3 by Road Lot 6; on the SE., along line 3-4 by Lot 23; on the SW., along line 4-1 by Lot 26 both of Blk 5 all of the cons./subd. plan. Beginning at a point marked "1" on the plan, being S. 49 deg. 28'W., 7,579.26 m. from BLBM No. 1, Bo. Cabilang Baybay, Mun. of Carmona; thence N. 25 deg. 07'E., 10.00 m. to point 2; thence S. 66 deg. 54'E., 6.00 m. to point 3; thence S. 23 deg. 06'W., 10.00 m. to point 4; thence N. 66 deg. 54'W., 6.00 m. to point of beginning, containing an area of SIXTY (60) SQUARE METERS. All point referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground by PS cyl., conc., mons., 15 x 40 cm.; bearings true; date of original survey, June 7-15, 1943 and that of the cons. subd. survey, July 2-4, Aug. 27-28, & Sept. 3-Nov. 30, 2001 and was approved on

is registered in accordance with the provisions of the Property Registration Decree in the name of  
ADONIS C. MONTEMAYOR, of legal age, Filipino citizen, single

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on June 17, 2025 without further notice.

Prospective bidders or buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate and verify for themselves the Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-77154 the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and date.

Tagaytay City, Philippines, March 11, 2025.

ATTY. APRIL GRACE TENORIO  
Clerk of Court V & OIC

RHIZ SAÑEL C. TOLEDO  
Sheriff-in-Charge

Copy Furnished:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (Pag-IBIG FUND)  
Petitioner/Mortgagee  
The Petron Mega Plaza Building No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

MARIA VICTORIA D. CAPIRAL c/o ATTY. KEVIN T. TANINGCO  
Attorney-in-Fact  
Summit Collection & Allied Services, Inc. Suites 301-303 Summit One Tower, 530 Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City

ADONIS C. MONTEMAYOR  
Debtor/Mortgagor  
(1) 6126 Osias Poblacion, Makati City  
(2) Lot 25 Blk 5, Gainesville Subd., Brgy. Bulihan, Silang, Cavite

CAVITE MONDAY TIMES  
MAY 5, 12, 19, 2025



Republic of the Philippines  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
Fourth Judicial Region  
BRANCH 117, City of Bacoor  
rtc1bcr117@judiciary.gov.ph  
09274749806

IN RE: PETITION FOR ISSUANCE  
OF WRIT OF POSSESSION OVER  
REAL PROPERTY COVERED BY  
TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF  
TITLE NO. T-1309642 OF THE  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS FOR THE  
PROVINCE OF CAVITE,

LRC Case No. 8843-2024-172

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL  
FUND (Pag-IBIG FUND)  
represented by FIDEL P. TAN and  
RYAN JOSHUA F. CALDO  
Petitioners,  
X-----X

INITIAL ORDER

Before this Court is a verified Petition for Issuance of Writ of Possession over Real Property covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-1309642 of the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Cavite filed by Home Development Mutual Fund (Pag-Ibig Fund) represented by Fidel P. Tan and Ryan Joshua F. Caldo.

The Court finds the Petition to be sufficient in form and substance, set the same for hearing on July 16, 2025 at 8:30 in the morning, at 2nd floor Mainsquare Filinvest Malls, Bacoor Blvd. (Molino Blvd.), Brgy. Bayanan, Bacoor City, Cavite. All interested persons are enjoined to appear and show cause why the same should not be granted.

Let a corresponding Notice of Hearing be issued and be published in two (2) successive issues of newspaper of general circulation and to have said Notice of Hearing be posted together with a copy of this Order by the process server of this Court in the bulletin boards of:

- 1. City Hall of Bacoor, Cavite;
- 2. The Register of Deeds of Bacoor;
- 3. Office of the Clerk of Court, Hall of Justice of Bacoor;
- 4. Regional Trial Court, 2nd floor Main Square Filinvest Malls, Bacoor Blvd. (Molino Blvd.), Brgy. Bayanan, Bacoor City, Cavite;
- 5. Barangay Hall which has jurisdiction over the subject property.

The posting should be at least thirty (30) days prior to the trial date of hearing.

Accordingly, let the Notice of Hearing be sent via registered mail to parties affected by the Petition at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of hearing.

The Registry of Deeds of Bacoor is hereby directed to submit its comment, if there be any, before the scheduled date of hearing.

The Petitioner is hereby directed to furnish a copy of the Petition to all concerned with proof of receipt thereof and submit a compliance before the date of hearing.

SO ORDERED.

Done in Chambers, City of Bacoor, Cavite, 02 April 2025.

BERNA B. CABILES-TORNEROS  
Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

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ATTY. HEIDILIZA G. DALANAO  
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REGISTRY OF DEEDS OF BACOOOR  
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San Nicolas II, Bacoor, Cavite

LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY  
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records@lra.gov.ph

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Republic of the Philippines  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
Fourth Judicial Region  
BRANCH 117, City of Bacoor  
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09274749806

IN RE: PETITION FOR ISSUANCE  
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PROVINCE OF CAVITE,

LRC Case No. 8843-2024-172

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL  
FUND (Pag-IBIG FUND)  
represented By FIDEL P. TAN and  
RYAN JOSHUA F. CALDO  
Petitioners,  
X-----X

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND  
Office of the Legal & General Counsel Group Litigation  
Department  
Atty. Marcial C. Pimentel, Jr.  
Atty. Heidiliza G. Dalanao  
(Counsel for the Petitioner Home Development Mutual Fund)  
29th flr., BDO Life Megaplaza (formerly Petron Mega Plaza Building)  
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RYAN JOSHUA F. CALDO  
Petitioner  
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SPS. CARLITO R. ASTILLA AND MA. CRISTINA N. ASTILLA  
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rdbacoorcity@gmail.com

LAND REGISTRATION AUTHORITY  
East Avenue corner NIA Road, Diliman, Quezon City  
records@lra.gov.ph

GREETINGS:  
You are hereby notified that this case will be heard on 16 July 2025 at 8:30 in the morning, before this court located at 2nd Floor, Main Square Filinvest Malls, Bacoor Blvd., (Molino Blvd.), Brgy. Bayanan, Bacoor City, Cavite pursuant to the Initial Order dated April 2, 2025.

Bacoor City, Cavite, April 2, 2025.

ATTY. ZARAH JANE S. PAVOREAL-GARCIA  
Clerk of Court V

Republic of the Philippines  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
Fourth Judicial Region  
BRANCH 117, City of Bacoor  
rtc1bcr117@judiciary.gov.ph  
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represented By FIDEL P. TAN and  
RYAN JOSHUA F. CALDO  
Petitioners,  
X-----X

TRANSMITTAL

ATTY. MELY C. HERMOSURA-VICAT  
Clerk of Court VI  
Office of the Clerk of Court  
Regional Trial Court, Bacoor City

GREETINGS:

Transmitting herewith is the attached originally signed copy of the Initial Order dated 02 April 2025 for LRC Case No. 8843-2024-172 to be included in the raffle of publication.

Thank you.

Please acknowledge receipt hereof.

Bacoor City, April 3, 2025.

ATTY. ZARAH JANE S. PAVOREAL-GARCIA  
Clerk of Court V



READY FOR LAUNCH. Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. (3rd from left) leads the tasting of the PHP20 per kilogram rice at the DA Central Office in Quezon City on April 29, 2025. President Ferdinand R. Marcos is expected to lead the launching of the P20/kg rice program in Cebu on Thursday (May 1, 2025), DA Spokesperson Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa said. (PNA photo by Ben Briones)

## DA: Rice subsidy aims to ease inflation, help farmers amid oversupply

just the ordinary Filipinos who will benefit from this... but also our farmers themselves),” he added.

The DA is piloting the initiative in the Visayas, targeting around 800,000 households – or roughly four million individuals – in areas with high poverty and food inflation, such as Cebu.

Citing Philippine Statistics Authority data, De Mesa said the region was selected based on its vulnerability to food insecurity and rising consumer prices.

De Mesa clarified that the program is not new, but rather an expansion of existing DA efforts such as the “Rice for All” and the PHP29 rice programs.

He explained that the initiative comes when the National Food Authority (NFA) is holding surplus rice stocks from recent peak harvests and is expected to purchase an additional 500,000 metric tons because its budget has been increased.

He said NFA currently buys palay (unhusked rice) from farmers at PHP23 to PHP24 per kilo, above the prevailing farm-gate prices.

While the rice is sold to the public at a subsidized PHP20 per kilo, De Mesa said the real selling price to the Food Terminal Inc. (FTI) is PHP33.

The gap is funded through a PHP5-billion subsidy - - PHP4.5 billion for rice cost-sharing and PHP500 million for logistics and packaging. Participating local government units also contribute PHP6.50 per kilo in shared subsidy.

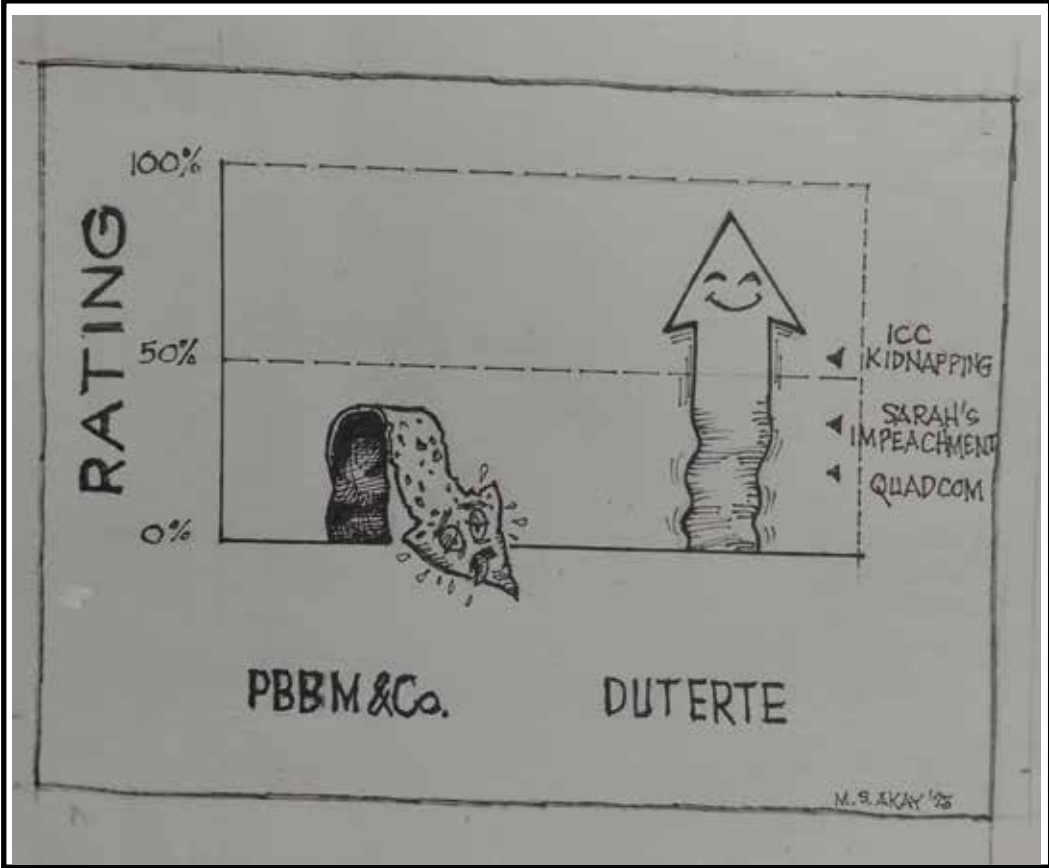
Although the DA remains a technical agency, De Mesa said its mandate now requires decisive action.

“Tutulong ang DA sa ating mga magsasaka, sa ating mga kababayan para matugunan (ang problema) kasi ang adhikain ng ating Pangulo (ay masiguro na ) ang pagkain maging available, affordable, at accessible sa bawat Pilipino (The DA will help our farmers, our countrymen, to meet our President’s aspiration for food to be available, affordable, and accessible to every Filipino),” he said.

The national rollout of the PHP20 per kilo rice is eyed by January 2026, after logistics, storage, and distribution systems are stress-tested in the pilot phase, De Mesa said. (PNA)







EDITORIAL

We're in trouble

Consequently, from consistent upward trust rating since assuming the Presidency, PBBM's dropped at an unprecedented level recording the lowest survey rating in 3 years.

The survey, done 4 days after the "kidnapping" of Duterte led by that PNP's abusive idiot Gen Torre from March 15 to 20 conducted by PUBLiCUS Asia Inc., indicated a huge shift in public sentiment. The approval and trust ratings of most Administration officials notably, Speaker Martin Romualdez, Senate President Chiz Escudero and even Chief Justice Alexander Gesmundo produced downward trend could possibly be attributed to the serious political divisions among the power elite, aside from the unresolved high prices of the basic goods, making most Filipinos believed they are more miserable than before. Most view the objective conditions as worsening and it's not getting any better indicated in PBBM approval and trust ratings plunging to 19 percent and 14 percent,

respectively, The public sentiment.

We've never wish for this precarious situation, preferred to support any government initiative which we believed would bring improvement in our people's lives. In fact, in many of our previous published materials, we've been trying to raise hope for this Administration to succeed in the thinking, of course, that its success would be beneficial to us Filipinos, majority of whom are mired in poverty.

Despite the harsh and unrelenting attacks by officials identified with the Administration and with the CPP, Vice President Sara Duterte, however, came out as the only high official where there's an improvement in approval ratings this quarter. The positive survey rating reversed the continuing slide of the Vice President prior to the delivery of FPRRD to the skin white pigs.

Obviously, the reversal from negative to positive of Inday Sara indicate that whatever maybe the wrong perception of people attributed to black propaganda and untoward behavior of Rep. Castro, Flores, Manuel, Paduano, et al

against her suggests that enough is enough. It exposed political persecution aided and sustained by dole outs, if not directly bribes from the Lower House leadership.

Filipinos, here and from all over the world expressed dismay and anger over the shabby treatment by the stupid abusive idiot General Torre on FPRRD. Sadly, Administration officials admitted coordination with the International Criminal Court. The incident generated the massive support which is unprecedented in world history. No person, a past leader at that, has ever been so adored and loved by his people that they took the initiative to show how indignant they are of those responsible for bringing the former President to the skin white pigs at ICC.

Of course, the drug dealers and syndicates supporters we hear and see from the legislative, legal profession, NGO/PO and individuals who see just one side of the coin, never relent in showing how unfair and evil they are against a previous leader who brought in peace and tranquility among the people, during his reign.

Well, we should keep up because this nation is in trouble.

Ang tulay mo

by Billy Andal



Deeper trouble

We would have believed that we hear and read news reports, both from mainstream and soc-med regarding the government stand on ICC were not fallacious. Sadly, however, what's before us appears the exact opposite.

Filipinos were at much ease hearing a couple years earlier, that our leaders were consistent in telling the whole world that the Philippines will not cooperate with the International Criminal Court, particularly, the much bally-hooded mass murder alleged by bogus human rights lawyers and advocates. These political idiots conspired with the biased international court, who by the way, can only run after small and weak nations like the Philippines. As we've written before, this ICC is inutile in enforcing warrants of arrest against the likes of Trump and mass murderer, Israeli Benjamin Netanyahu who up to now continue his heist against the Palestinians, Yemenis, Lebanese and Syrians.

Hearing some Cabinet officials who appeared before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations chaired by the President's elder sister Imee, will, for certain, not give any good moral and value education or model, at that, to the young and senior subjects. The behavior, the false and evasive

statements and responses, the obvious and patented lies will teach us the negatives, nothing more, nothing productive to be exact.

Listening to Ambassador Lacanilao denial of his knowledge whether the former President Duterte was brought to a competent judicial Philippine authority, which the Constitution stipulates, was stomach throwing. Despite obviously lying, the Committee, were forced to cite He was cited with a Contempt Order but a mediocre Escudero ordered just 2 days in jail.

Perhaps, the President should fire Lacanilao to reduce the heat which he contributes to the trouble and mess that bugs the Administration on the issue.

The hearing produced more lies and untruths from the Cabinet officials presided over by Sen. Imee and only deepens the divisions and trouble affecting this nation. How this crisis will last will depend on the capacity of the national leaders to resolve the national concerns.

The Filipinos concern on the issue have risen in peaceful assemblies, not only in here but in almost all places where there are Filipinos. That's unprec-

edented in our entire history as a sovereign nation. Never had an issue concerning a beloved leader galvanized our people to come together and expressed indignation over his forcible turn-over to a foreign power. Pretty obviously, FPRRD was denied due process under our laws.

In another hot issue, it's good that the PhilHealth new President, Dr. Edwin M. Mercado is on to the improvement of its health insurance benefits. But, as it is, the additional benefits based on recent decisions are still considered peanuts because that's not what we, over a million members truly deserve from the insurance agency.

There is nothing better than having all its members get out of hospital with zero balance. Nothing else. There are enough funds proven intact before DOF Secretary Ralph Recto took away its "idle funds" and now the subject of oral arguments before the Supreme Court. Listening to the justices gives us the impression that the act to snatch PhilHealth's P90-B fund is illegal because the insurance agency monies are solely for the health benefits of the members. We'll see how, indeed, the highest tribunal will decide on the complaint filed by Dr. Tony Leachon on the fund hijacking case.



Voices and Views:  
The conversation continues  
By MGen Delfin Lorenzana (Ret)

Araw ng Kagitingan: A Testament to  
Courage and Sacrifice

Each year on April 9, the Philippines observes \*Araw ng Kagitingan\*, or the Day of Valor, to honor the resilience and sacrifice of Filipino and American soldiers during World War II. This day marks the 1942 surrender of the defenders of Bataan Peninsula, a pivotal event followed by the infamous Bataan Death March. More than a historical milestone, the day serves as a solemn reminder of the horrors

of war and the enduring spirit of those who faced unimaginable adversity.

In December 1941, Japan launched a swift invasion of the Philippines, a strategic target due to its proximity to vital Pacific trade routes and natural resources in the Dutch East Indies or what is now Indonesia. Under General Douglas MacArthur, combined Filipino and U.S.

forces mounted a desperate defense, retreating to the Bataan Peninsula and Corregidor Island. Despite shortages of food, medicine, and ammunition, the defenders held out for three months, delaying Japan's timetable to conquer the whole south east asia and buying Allies crucial time. When MacArthur was ordered to Australia, General Edward King assumed command, facing an

inevitable surrender by April 1942.

On April 9, 1942, approximately 76,000 exhausted troops (60,000 Filipinos and 16,000 Americans) surrendered, marking the largest U.S. military surrender in history. What followed was the Bataan Death March—a 65-mile forced trek to Camp O'Donnell. Prisoners endured extreme heat, starvation, and brutal treatment; many were executed for faltering. Historians estimate 10,000 Filipinos and 650 Americans perished, their suffering emblematic of wartime inhumanity. The march, later deemed a Japanese war crime, became a symbol of both cruelty and endurance.

Designated a national holi-

day in 1987, the Day of Valor is marked by ceremonies at Mount Samat's \*Dambana ng Kagitingan\* (Shrine of Valor), featuring a towering cross and museum. Government officials, veterans, and foreign dignitaries gather for wreath-laying, speeches, and moments of silence. Schools host educational programs, ensuring younger generations understand this legacy. In the U.S., states like New Mexico—home to many survivors—also hold memorials, reflecting the shared history between nations.

The Day of Valor transcends remembrance; it underscores lessons in unity and resilience. The collaboration between Filipino

and American forces highlights solidarity in adversity, while the survivors' testimonies humanize historical narratives. As veterans age, preserving their stories becomes urgent, fostering a culture of peace and vigilance against tyranny. The day also critiques the glorification of war, emphasizing the cost of conflict on human lives.

Bataan Day of Valor is not merely a historical footnote but a living tribute to courage. It challenges societies to reflect on the past while honoring sacrifices that shaped national identities. Through annual observances and education, the legacy of Bataan endures—a beacon of hope and a cautionary tale, urging humanity to strive for a world where such valor is never again necessitated by war.



*Narito na ang Schedule of Activities para sa paparating na selebrasyon ng Bacoor Town Fiesta ngayong buwan ng Mayo.*





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8:00 AM

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April 22	Talaba 1,2,3; Zapote 1 & 2, Aniban 1,2	Arsenio Hall, Talaba 3
April 25	Molina 3 & 5	Molina 3 Covered Court
April 29	Sinbanoli, Poblacion, Kalingin, Digman	Sineguelasan Covered Court
May 2	Molina 1, Bayanan, San Nicolas 1,2 and Proper	Molina 1 Covered Court
May 6	Ugas 1 & 2	Ugas 1 Covered Court
May 9	Molina 2 & San Nicolas 3, Greenvillage, molino 6	Barangay Villa Esperanza Covered Court, Molina 2
May 13	Niyag 1 & 2, Maliki 1 & 2	Niyag Elem. School
May 16	Queens Row Central, East, West, Molina 7	Queens Row Central Covered Court
May 20	Panapaan 1, 2, 3 & 4	Panapaan 2 Covered Court
May 23	Molina 4	Molina 4 Covered Court
May 27	Salinias, Real, Panapaan 6	Salinas 2 Covered Court
May 30	Hobay 1 & 2, Dulong Bayan, Malolo	Dulong Bayan Covered Court

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# NSCR gets final funding tranche from ADB

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) announced that the Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved the 1.4-billion US dollar second and final tranche for the construction of the North-South Commuter Railway (NSCR).

Maricar Bautista, DOTr Spokesperson for Business Infrastructure said during the Ugnayan at Talakayan sa Laguna program that the funding is for the construction of the Malolos to Clark segment of the railway project slated to be finished by 2028.

“Two weeks ago, Secretary Dizon visited the project sites at the Malolos and Clark stations of the NSCR and ordered the contractors to speed up the construction of the projects so the commuters can use the rail system as early as possible.”

The NSCR project, spanning 147 kilometers, will connect key cities in Pampanga, Bulacan, Metro Manila, Laguna, reducing end-to-end travel time between Clark International Airport in Pampanga and Calamba City in Laguna to less than two hours.

Once fully completed, the



NSCR is expected to benefit approximately 800,000 passengers daily by significantly reducing travel time between the northern and southern parts of Metro Manila and Calabarzon region. It will also help decongest Metro Manila and alleviate the daily struggles of the commuting public.

The railway system is also seen to play a vital role in helping the Philippine economy thrive.

Baustista added: “All possible

measures and efforts are being made to speed up the project, so we can reduce travel time and instead spend it with our families and for ourselves because when we save more time, we become more productive and more progressive.”

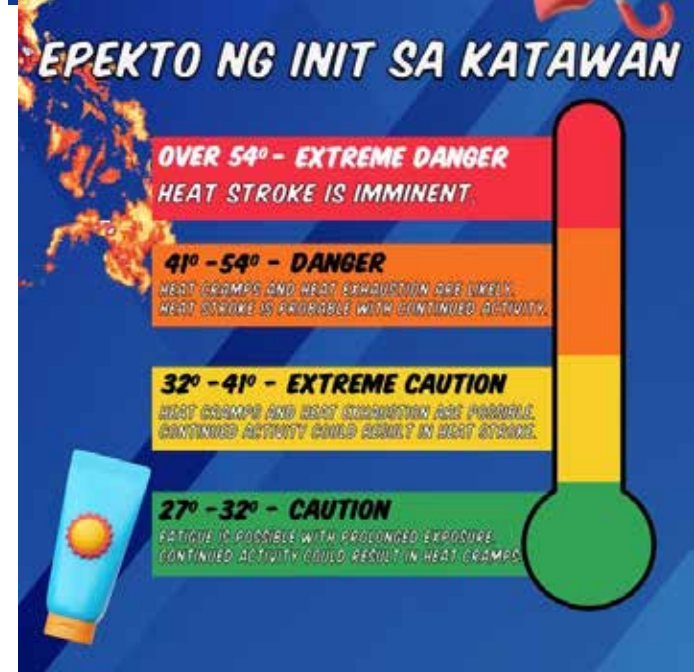
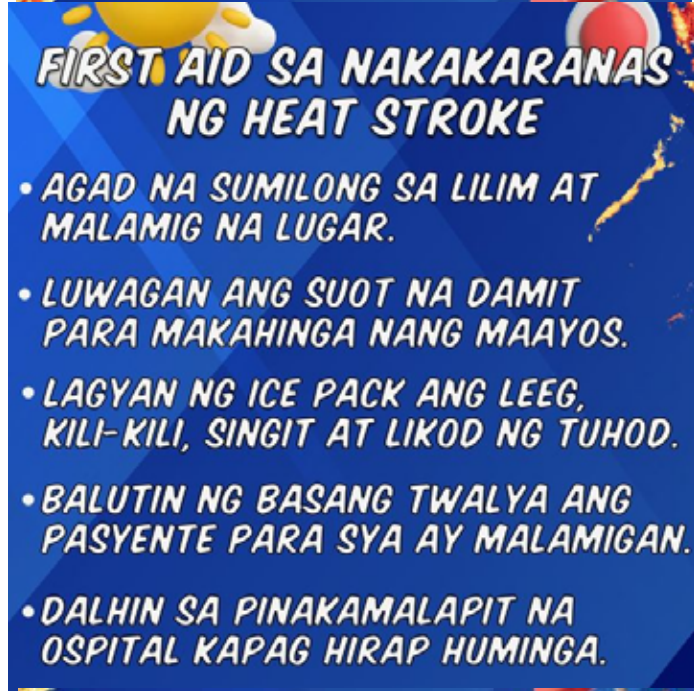
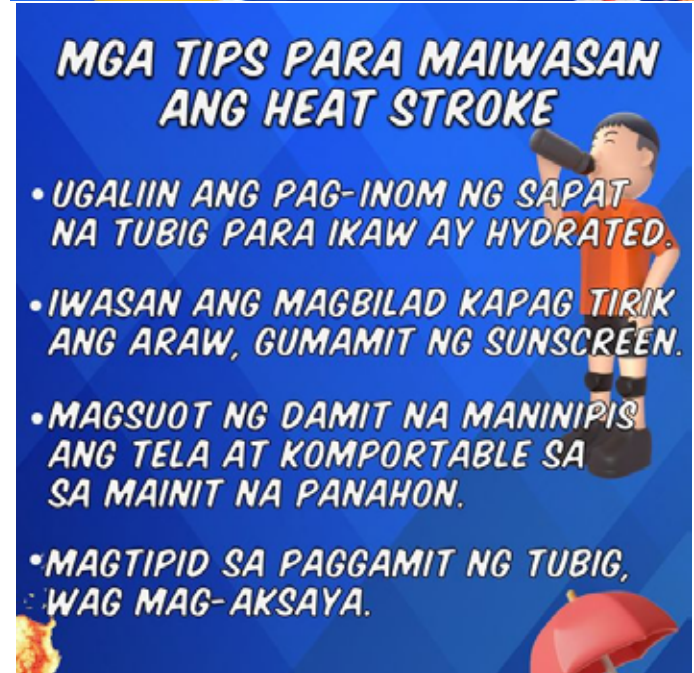
Based on the latest data from the Philippine National Railways (PNR), the NSCR segments including Clark to Malolos has an overall progress of 54 percent, NSCR Phase 1 (N1) Malolos to West Venezuela is

at 78.48 percent while NSCR Calamba Extension (SC) Blumentritt to Calamba is at 11.90 percent.

Aside from the NSCR, DOTr and PNR are working on the construction of the South Long Haul Project that will connect Manila down to ports of Batangas and Matnog in Sorsogon and the revival of the Calamba-Legazpi passenger train line. (CO,CH/PIA-4A)

Kayo ba ay madalas na nasa labas? Alamin ang mga kailangan gawin para makaiwas sa pagkakaroon ng HEAT STROKE at ano ang pwedeng gawin kapag ikaw ay nakakaranas na nito.

Narito ang ilang paalala mula sa Lungsod ng Bacoor kung paano tayo magiging ligtas ngayong panahon ng tag-init. Handog sa atin ng ating 24/7 City Mayor Strike B. Revilla



## Third-ranked grad of PNPA's Sinaglawin Class of 2025 has come a long way

For Cadet Jay Cheever Goyha Rocaberte, ranked 3rd in the Philippine National Police Academy's SINAGLAWIN class of 2025, his calling is to live for others.

He also received the Institutional Award as Secretary of the DILG Kampilan.

Rocaberte of Negros Oriental carried a big dream to be part of the PNPA. He is the youngest of six siblings, raised by a single mother who worked as a vendor in a school canteen.

“I saw how my mother struggled just to raise us and support our needs.”

That humble moment in his life became his drive to persevere and survive the life in the academy.

During Rocaberte's four-year stay at PNPA, he recalled facing challenges not only in academics but also emotionally as it was a big adjustment to be apart from his mother.

“During visitations, I sometimes felt envious because other cadets' parents can visit them anytime since they lived nearby. For my family, they had to cross from island to island and travel was expensive.”

However, Rocaberte found a sense of belonging through the strong support system provided by his upperclassmen and classmates.

For Rocaberte, “graduating from this prestigious institution is already an honor, and ranking third in the class is more



than a blessing. I am honored and humbled I made my family and hometown proud.”

According to Police Major Maila B. Alog, PNPA's chief Public Information Officer, “the PNPA is a learning institution that has a responsive environment for learners, raising future leaders of the country.”

She noted that the PNPA administration, led by Police Brig. Gen. Christopher C. Birung, ensures that the academy produces well-groomed public safety officers through extensive training.

“[Students at PNPA] have a regimented way of living. It is not only about academic performance; they need to be physically strong, psychologically resilient and socially skilled,” she explained.

The academy focuses on char-



acter development to build and shape cadets as they will be the next leaders of Philippine National Police (PNP).

Alog emphasized, “It is hard to be a police officer, if there is no support and compassion from the upperclassmen. The good thing about the culture here at

PNPA is that we take care of and look out for each other to survive.”

Sinaglawin Class of 2025 will prove that integrity still exists in the badge,” Rocaberte said. We will show the country true, honest and excellent service.” (KA-PIA4A)



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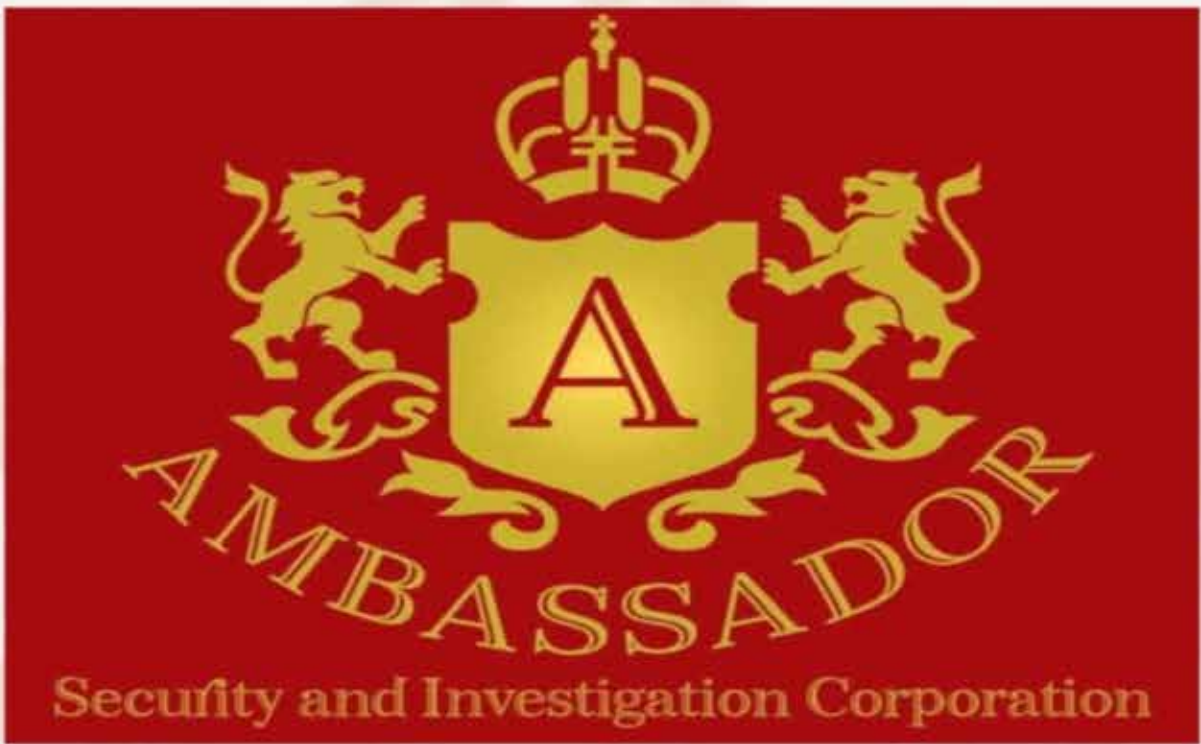
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