

SMFB SUSTAINS GROWTH IN Q1 2025 WITH 16% INCREASE IN NET INCOME



San Miguel Food and Beverage, Inc. (SMFB) began 2025 with strong momentum, posting robust first quarter results driven by sustained demand, improved efficiencies, and disciplined

cost management. For the period ending March 31, 2025, consolidated revenues rose 4% year-on-year to ₱98.9 billion. Gross profit grew 11% to ₱28.6 billion, while income from operations rose 16% to ₱15.2 billion. Net income reached ₱11.6 billion, up 16%, with EBITDA increasing to ₱19.6 billion, translating to a 20% EBITDA margin. “Our results this quarter reflect the strength of our diversified portfolio and our continued focus on execution,” said SMFB Chairman Ramon S. Ang. Our continued investments in key growth areas, from expanding production capacities to strengthening our distribution network, are designed to meet the evolving needs of the Filipino consumer. With our strong brands and disciplined execution, we are well-positioned to sustain our growth trajectory in 2025 and beyond.”

Key Business Highlights

Food: San Miguel Foods reported revenues of ₱46.3 billion, up 8% from the previous year.

The business delivered a strong start to 2025, driven by high-teens growth in poultry and steady performance across the Pure-foods processed meats, Magnolia dairy and coffee, and flour. Gross profit rose 22% to ₱10.6 billion, reflecting improved efficiencies and a favorable mix. Operating income grew 70% to ₱4.4 billion, while net income surged 83% to ₱3.0 billion. Beer: San Miguel Brewery Inc. generated sales of ₱36.3 billion, with domestic revenues at ₱32.0 billion and international sales at US\$74.9 million. Despite tempered market conditions, the Beer business sustained healthy earnings through improved operating performance. Gross profit reached ₱13.9 billion. Operating income rose 1% to ₱8.2 billion, while net income improved to ₱6.6 billion. Spirits: Ginebra San Miguel Inc. posted revenues of ₱16.3 billion, up 8% year-on-year, supported by sustained consumer demand and efforts to reach a broader base of customers. Gross profit increased 10% to ₱4.1 billion. Operating income rose 8% to ₱2.5 billion, while net income grew 11% to ₱2.1 billion. The Spirits business continues to benefit from ongoing brand investments that strengthen market presence and drive profitability. Looking ahead, SMFB continues to build on strong fundamentals, with ongoing investments focused on building scale, strengthening operations, and supporting its role in ensuring reliable access to essential food and beverage products for Filipino families. *PR*

“TRUTH OVER TROLLS: MAYOR ROSS RIZAL PUSHES FORWARD AMID SMEAR CAMPAIGNS IN CALAMBA”



Despite the wave of misinformation and relentless attacks from fake accounts and online trolls, Calamba Mayor Ross Rizal remains steadfast in his campaign for a second term—choosing to focus on service, unity, and grassroots connection over political noise. Supporters and concerned citizens have raised a pointed question in response to the online smears: “If the accusations against Mayor Ross are true, why hide behind fake accounts? Why not file proper charges?” The

silence of his detractors in real life is telling, but it hasn’t stopped the digital onslaught. Unshaken, Mayor Rizal continues his house-to-house campaign, meeting Calambenos in every barangay with sincerity and purpose. “It’s not easy, but I will never back down,” he shared. “Every door I knock on reminds me why I chose public service—it’s for you, my fellow Calambenos.” From dawn until nightfall, under the sweltering sun or pouring rain,

DA-4A, KAISA SA SELEBRASYON NG FILIPINO FOOD MONTH NA PINANGUNAHAN NI PANGULONG MARCOS SA QUEZON



Kaisa ang Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) sa pagbubukas ng taunang selebrasyon ng “Buwan ng Kalutong Pilipino” o Filipino Food Month (FFM) na pinangunahan ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. sa unang linggo ng Abril sa bayan ng Lucena City, Quezon. Ang pagdiriwang na may temang “Sarap ng Pagkaing Pilipino: Yaman ng ating Kasaysayan, Kultura, at Pagkatao” ay layong maipakikilala sa pamamagitan ng mga Pagkaing Pilipino ang kasaysayan at kultura ng bansa. Bawat putahe ay inaasahang sumalamin sa tradisyong mga Katutubong Pilipino bilang pagpapakita ng respeto at suportang mga

lokal na produkto. Naging tampok din ang bagong logo ng FFM na nagtataglay ng mga kulay na bumubuo sa bandila ng Pilipinas habang kumakatawan sa pamanang kultura, partikular ang mga lutuin mula sa Luzon, Visayas, at Mindanao. Ayon kay Pangulong Marcos, nagsisilbi ring paraan ang FFM upang mas paigtingin ang kanyang patuloy na adbokasiya ng pagkakaisa at masusing ugnayan sa pagitan ng mga ahensyang DA, Department of Tourism (DOT), National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), at ng Philippine Culinary Heritage Movement (PCHM). Samantala, sa

Mayor Ross Rizal Expresses Heartfelt Gratitude After Proclamation: Vows Stronger, More Inclusive “CalamBAGONG Pamahalaan” in Second Term



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DOLE partners with private sector to uphold workers' rights



DA-ATI CALABARZON has officially partnered with RHUARDARDA Integrated Agri-Coconut Farm, located in Polillo, Quezon, as a new Coconut-based Learning Site for Agriculture (CocoLSA). The partnership was formalized through the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), led by Center Director Dr. Rolando V. Maningas. The event also featured the unveiling of the LSA billboard and the awarding of the LSA certificate. In his message, Dr. Maningas emphasized the significant contribution of cooperatives to development. The farm is the second Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) in Polillo and the first CocoLSA in the entire Polillo Group of Islands (POGI). It was established to support the community by sharing skills and knowledge while strengthening the agricultural network in Polillo, Quezon.

CAYETANO MEDIATES DISPUTE BETWEEN DENR AND MASUNGI OVER CONTRACT CANCELLATION

MAYOR STRIKE B. REVILLA JOINS MAX'S RESTAURANT IN SM MOLINO FOR GRAND RE-LAUNCHING



Bacoor City, May 8, 2025 - Mayor Strike B. Revilla joined the Max's Restaurant community today for the grand re-launching of their branch in SM Molino. The event, organized by Max's Restaurant, saw the Mayor participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony and the symbolic chicken slicing, marking a fresh start for the beloved restaurant. The re-launching was attended by various community leaders, Max's Village officers, customers, and Max's employees, all eager to celebrate the renewed dining experience. Mr. Joseph Forrosuelo, Mall Manager, and Mr. John Mendoza, Store Manager, welcomed the guests, highlighting the restaurant's commitment to providing delicious food and excellent service. The event also saw the presence of Max's Restaurant officials, including Ms. Carlyn Trota Salud, Ms. Cristina Trota Garcia, Mr. Bill Rodgers, Mr. Paolo Salud, and Ms. Kay Lee, who joined in the celebration. The re-launching of Max's Restaurant in SM Molino signifies a renewed commitment to serving the Bacoor community, offering a familiar and comforting dining experience with a fresh new look.

Editorial MAY P20/ KILO NA NG BIGAS SA VISAYAS SIMULA NGAYONG MAYO- 1

Mayroon ng bente- pesos na bigas na mabibili sa Capitol Grounds, Cebu City simula ngayong araw ng paggawa, Mayo 1, 2025. Target mailunsad ang rice program sa buong bansa ng Department of Agriculture(DA).

Ayon sa Malacañang, walang halong pulitika sa paglulunsad ng 20 kada-kilo ng bigas, ito ay unang ipatutupad na sa Visayas.

Alinsunod sa direktiba ni Pangulong Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. na mabigyan ng de-kalidad at abot-kayang pagkain ang mga Pilipino, nakatakda nang simulan ng Department of Agriculture (D.A.) ang pilot implementation ng pagbebenta ng P20 per kilo sa rehiyon ng Visayas.

Ito ay inanunsyo ni D.A. Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. nitong Miyerkules, Abril 23, matapos ang pakikipagpulong ni Pangulong Marcos sa 12 gobernador ng iba't ibang lalawigan sa Visayas sa Cebu Provincial Capitol.

"We launched it here (Cebu) because mas marami ngang nangangailangan sa mga regions na 'yon.

But, of course, ang eventual intention nitong programang ito — once we sort out all the issues logistically and para makita talaga how to operate it and launch it and manage it — nationwide ito eventually," saad ni Sec. Laurel.

"Our President has given the directive to the Department of Agriculture to formulate this to be sustainable and tuloy-tuloy hanggang 2028," dagdag ng Kalihim.

Ngunit marami ang nagsasabi na ito ay isang Political Gimmick ni PBBM dahil nagkaroon ng anunsyo kalahatian ng panahon ng pangan-gampanya para sa Eleksyon 2025.

Sa inyong palagay, ang paglulunsad ng bente pesos(P20) na bigas ay naayon nga ba sa sinasabi ng Pangulo na upang magkaroon ng maayos, murang halaga ng bigas at may maihahain na de-kalidad na kanin ang mga Pilipino.

AGRI RENEWS...

FROM PAGE 3

medicines and vaccines in Department of Health (DOH) warehouses and health facilities flagged by the Commission on Audit (COA).

The Bicolano lawmaker renewed his call after Senator Joel Villanueva recently filed Senate Resolution No. 1326 to probe the said issue.

"Buo ang suporta natin sa panawagang ito ni Senator Joel Villanueva para imbestigahan din sa Senado ang malaking kapabayaang at malaking kasalanan na ito sa taumbayan," Lee said.

"Such negligence is both unacceptable and unlawful. Pondo ito na nasayang at serbisoyong

NCIP INTENSIFIES CAMPAIGN AGAINST VOTE-BUYING IN IP COMMUNITIES

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) – To combat vote-buying and ensure Indigenous Peoples (IP) communities can exercise their right to vote in the 2025 National and Local Elections, the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) is intensifying its voter education campaign.

In an interview with the Philippine Information Agency, Eddie Ito Sumangil, NCIP Provincial Officer, emphasized the agency's efforts to educate IP communities about the dangers of electoral exploitation. "One of our strategies is to provide them [IP communities] with information on how they can help prevent vote buying.

But of course, we cannot totally watch over them [since] politicians will do whatever it takes to win," Sumangil said.

He further stressed the importance of empowering IP voters to report incidents of vote-buying. "We continue reminding our IPs not to let themselves be used, and keeping them informed on how they can report incidents [of vote buying] so we can properly address them," he added.

The NCIP has also partnered with the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) to expand its Information and Education Campaigns (IEC) on the new election system.

This collaboration includes webinars designed for IP representatives and community

health facilities. Among the reasons cited for such wastage are inadequate procurement planning and poor distribution and monitoring systems.

AGRI Party-list, which is running for reelection in the 2025 National and Local Elections underscored the importance of probing this issue to hold the involved officials and personnel accountable,

MAYOR ROSS...

Calamba City, Laguna – Following the official proclamation of elected officials by the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), Mayor Ross Rizal extended his deepest gratitude to the people of Calamba for their unwavering trust and support.

"From the bottom of my heart, I sincerely thank every Calambefio who walked with me on the path toward fulfilling our shared dreams for our beloved city," Mayor Rizal said in a heartfelt message.

He emphasized that it was through unity that the city was able to bring to life the essence of Ramdam na Reporma—a brand of governance that is close to the people, transparent in service, and open to change.

Now entering his second term, Mayor Rizal pledged to further strengthen their mission of building a more modern,

inclusive, and progressive city under what he calls the CalamBAGONG Pamahalaan—a government rooted in compassion, courage in facing challenges, and a sincere

heart in public service.

He reaffirmed his commitment to continue delivering "RAMDAM NA REPORMA", alongside Vice Mayor Atty. Angelito "Totie" Lazaro Jr., Congresswoman Cha Hernandez-Alcantara, and the entire Sangguniang Panlungsod.

Together, they promise to uphold a governance founded on the ideals of #AlagangLazaro and a more #LevelUP-naDistrito, ensuring that the dreams and promises made to the people of Calamba are fulfilled with integrity and dedication.

"To all who have stood by us—from individuals to partner organizations—we thank you wholeheartedly," the mayor added. "Long live Calamba! Long live CalamBAGO!"

With renewed energy and a clear vision, Mayor Ross Rizal and his team are set to lead Calamba into a new chapter of continuous growth, inclusive development, and meaningful public service.

(Edjun Mariposque)

FROM PAGE 1



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AGRI RENEWS CALL TO PROBE P11-B EXPIRED MEDICINES, VACCINES IN DOH WAREHOUSES, HEALTH FACILITIES

AGRI Party-list Rep. Wilbert Lee reiterated his call for an investigation into the P11 billion worth of expired medicines and vaccines in Department of Health (DOH) warehouses, following a recent Senate resolution by Senator Joel Villanueva.

Lee emphasized that the expiration of essential drugs, including over 7 million vials of COVID-19 vaccines, is a clear case of negligence and misuse of public funds. Lee, who filed House Resolution No. 2117, highlighted the importance of accountability and efficient use of health resources.

He also called on the DOH to submit a comprehensive report on the expired supplies and the steps taken to address the issue.

AGRI Party-list continues to push for free medicines and healthcare services for all Filipinos, stressing the need for proper government action to ensure public health resources are used effectively.

AGRI Party-list Representative Manoy Wilbert Lee reiterated his call to investigate the P11 billion worth of expired medicines and vaccines in Department of Health (DOH) warehouses and health facilities flagged by the Commission on Audit (COA).

The Bicolano lawmaker renewed his call after Senator Joel Villanueva recently filed Senate Resolution No. 1326 to probe the said issue.

"Buo ang suporta natin sa panawagang ito ni Senator Joel Villanueva para imbestigahan din

sa Senado ang malaking kapabayaang at malaking kasalanan na ito sa taumbayan," Lee said. "Such negligence is both unacceptable and unlawful.

Pondo ito na nasayang at serbisoyong ipinagkait para sa kalusugan ng mga Pilipino," he added.

Lee filed House Resolution No. 2117 on December 2024, stressing that the expiration of these essential drugs, medicines and vaccines, which the DOH allowed to deteriorate without proper utilization or timely action, constitutes a clear dereliction of duty and a violation of their mandate.

According to the COA audit report for the year 2023, P11.18 billion worth of drugs, medicines and medical supplies, including over 7 million vials of COVID-19 vaccines

that were unused, expired in DOH warehouses and health facilities.

Among the reasons cited for such wastage are inadequate procurement planning and poor distribution and monitoring systems.

AGRI Party-list, which is running for reelection in the 2025 National and Local Elections underscored the importance of probing this issue to hold the involved officials and personnel accountable, identify underlying systemic issues, and ensure that public health resources are utilized efficiently, properly accounted for, and distributed in a timely and effective manner.

It also called on the DOH anew to submit a comprehensive report to Congress detailing the status of all expired supplies, including COVID-19

vaccines, and the steps taken to address the situation.

It can be recalled that during the last House Plenary Deliberations on the DOH Budget last September, Lee inquired about the lack of medicines in public hospitals.

"Mayroong bilyon-bilyong pondo para sa mga gamot pero bakit kinakailangan pang bumili ng mga kababayan natin sa labas ng ospital? Bakit kailangan pa nilang gumastos para sa gamot kahit na sa charity wards sila naka-admit? Isa pa ito sa dumaragdag sa out-of-pocket expenses nila; dagdag isipin ng may sakit; dagdag pasanin ng pamilya," AGRI Party-list earlier pointed out.

AGRI Party-list has been pushing for free medicines and healthcare services.

Through Lee's leadership, AGRI Party-list was the first to expose that the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) had billions of available funds in September 2023, which then led to the implementation of PhilHealth's increased benefits after over a decade that it was not updated and no longer responsive to the hospitalization cost of the beneficiaries.

"Hindi magiging posible ang ipinaglalan nating libreng gamot at libreng pagpapagamot kung magpapatuloy ang kapalpakang ito sa gobyerno.

Dapat may managot sa mga kapabayaang na nagkakait ng mga serbisoyong pangkalusugan para sa mga Pilipino. Buhay at kabuhayan ang nakataya dito," AGRI Party-list stated. PR

DILG FETES 16 GENDER-RESPONSIVE GOVERNANCE CHAMPIONS

In support of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s call to eliminate gender-based discrimination and uphold women's rights, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) recognized 16 of its regional offices through the Gender and Development (GAD) Seal Certification Program.

The GAD Seal Certification is a flagship initiative that promotes institutional gender mainstreaming within the DILG, grounded on three major components: Assessment Criteria and Documentary Requirements, Scoring System, and Certification Procedure.

"Each seal conferred today tells the story of a regional office that has translated gender-responsive governance into action. These offices have implemented innovative programs, advanced inclusivity, and upheld the principles of equality and social justice," said DILG Undersecretary Atty. Jon Paulo Salvahan. In a memorandum, DILG Secretary Jonvic Remulla emphasized that recognizing and incentivizing gender mainstreaming efforts contributes to a more coherent and nationwide approach to gender equality, ultimately empowering women and marginalized sectors across the country. The program features a three-tier recognition system – Gold, Silver, and Bronze-based on performance scores.

A minimum of 70 points is required to qualify for certification, while regional offices scoring below 70 are not conferred with the GAD Seal.

For this year, the DILG GAD Seal Gold awardees are the regional offices of the Cordillera Administrative Region and Regions II, VII, X, and XII.

Silver awardees include the National Capital Region, CALABARZON, and Regions I, IX, and XIII.

Bronze awardees are the regional offices in MIMAROPA and Regions III, V, VI, VIII, and XI.

The GAD Seal is awarded annually, with each certification valid for one year from the date of issuance.

GSIS POSTS RECORD-HIGH P10.5B IN NON-LIFE INSURANCE PREMIUMS – STRENGTHENS ROLE IN PUBLIC ASSET PROTECTION FOR 3RD STRAIGHT YEAR

The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) has once again outperformed its non-life insurance premium target—marking its third straight year of exceeding goals and reinforcing its crucial role in protecting public assets nationwide.

For 2024, GSIS posted P10.5 billion in non-life insurance premiums, significantly surpassing its P8.9 billion target.

This follows its strong performance in 2023, when it recorded P9.7 billion against a P6 billion target, and in 2022, with P6.84 billion production over a P6 billion goal.

"These achievements reflect the growing trust of government agencies in GSIS as a reliable partner in risk management," said GSIS President and General Manager Wick Veloso. "Our insurance programs

are not just financial safeguards—they are strategic tools that enable agencies to recover faster from calamities and continue public service with minimal disruption."

To further enhance its capabilities, GSIS is collaborating with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) through a Technical Cooperation Project (TCP).

The initiative focuses on improving GSIS's risk assessment models, refining its underwriting process, and promoting the importance of insuring public properties.

In recognition of government efforts to safeguard their assets, GSIS held the second Seal of Protection Awards in November 2024, honoring local government units and national agencies that have demonstrated exem-

play commitment in securing their infrastructure through GSIS insurance.

As climate risks and other unforeseen events continue to threaten public infrastructure, GSIS vows to expand the reach of its insurance coverage, support post-disaster recovery efforts, and strengthen partnerships with national and local government agencies.

As an added layer of protection for cities, GSIS now offers Parametric Insurance in addition to traditional indemnity insurance coverage.

This type of insurance allows for the quick release of funds that cities can use for disaster recovery.

"We urge more agencies to insure their properties, with GSIS. Preparedness is no longer optional—it's essential," Veloso added.



A VISION FOR FREE HEALTHCARE: ATTY. KAREN AGAPAY BACKS "NO BALANCE BILLING" DREAM FOR ALL PROVINCES



Laguna, Philippines — Gubernatorial candidate and current Vice Governor, Atty. Karen Agapay, expressed her strong support for the implementation of Sultan Kudarat's "No Balance Billing Policy," calling it a model that should be adopted nationwide.

"This is a dream of every province in the country," Agapay said. "I am one of the fortunate ones who witnessed that this is real — free hospital-

ization is possible."

The "No Balance Billing Policy" ensures that patients, especially those admitted through government assistance programs, will not be charged any out-of-pocket expenses during their hospital stay.

Agapay believes that such a program aligns perfectly with her vision of the inclusive, accessible, and compassionate healthcare for all.

As she cam-

paigns for the gubernatorial seat, Agapay pledges to work towards bringing this healthcare model to her own province, aiming to eliminate the financial burden that medical care places on many Filipino families.

Her statement has sparked discussions on health equity, with many citizens expressing hope that more provinces will follow Sultan Kudarat's example.

(Edjun Mariposque)

A LIFE BUILT ON HARD WORK AND PERSEVERANCE



From the gateway of Bicolandia, Dominga Perez continues to strive in life with the help of her grass broom business that started in 2011.

"Age is just a number," a phrase that rings true for 76-year-old Dominga Perez of Camarines Norte, who pushes forward in her business journey with relentless grit and determination.

Not everyone is blessed with decades of physical strength, and Dominga remains grateful for the body that endured the test of time. She had a fair share of struggles, beginning with her days as a miner, then as a house-

keeper, and now as a microentrepreneur. After getting married, she learned to become a miner with her husband. However, after 13 years together, her first husband passed away. Despite the loss, she remained strong and continued her duties as a mother.

Love found its way back to her life when she met her second husband, with whom she was blessed with six children. Mining remained their primary livelihood, as it was common in their community. Dominga has firsthand experience of the job. Unfazed by the dangers and hazardous environment, she would dig the ground and enter holes in search

of gold.

There were times when she was lucky enough to find a few grams of gold, but there were also times when all she gained from mining was exhaustion. Nevertheless, she continued doing this work for many years.

In 1996, her husband had to stop working due to an injury. Dominga, too, had to leave mining behind. To support her family, she worked as a house helper while peddling grass brooms made by her neighbors. She travelled to Sta. Rosa Sur and as far as Paracale, seizing every opportunity to sell grass brooms and earn a living.

Knowing that being a house helper was not a long-term solution, she sought to build something of her own. In 2011, she learned the craft of broom-making and turned it into a business. That same year, she became a client of CARD Bank, a microfinance-oriented rural bank that provided small loans to aspiring entrepreneurs like her.

Her initial loan was used to purchase raw materials needed to make the product, while her income as a house

helper covered their daily expenses.

When her husband was still alive, he worked with her to make grass brooms, ensuring the products were of good quality and durability. Now, one of her children has stepped in to help keep the business alive.

Crafting grass brooms is a good business decision for her, as it is an everyday, practical, and affordable cleaning tool for the home.

With patience and persistence, Dominga not only sustained her business but also gradually paid for and acquired the land where her home now stands.

"I may be economically challenged, but with my skills and the support of CARD Bank, I started a business and learned how to handle my finances wisely.

That is how my life has constantly improved," she concluded, highlighting how a skill that is supported financially can create a positive change in life.

At 76, Dominga proves that resilience, skill, and financial support can lead to success at any age.



Pointer

Pau Dela Cruz

PNP, LTO, HPG AT LGU NG TANAY PINAIGTING ANG CLOSE MONITORING SA MARILAQUE

Matapos ang pangyayari sa nagviral na aksidente na tinaguriang Superman sa Marilaque nagsagawa at nagtulongan ang Tanay Philippine National Police, Land Transportation Office - Philippines Tanay District Office, High Patrol at Tanay Rizal LGU para nabawasan na o napigilan ang mga malubhang aksidente sa MARILAQUE HIGHWAY na minsang tinaguriang most dangerous o killer highway.

Ayon Kay Tanay Police Community Relations Officer PMSgt Michael Official, naprevent o na lessen ang mga malalalang aksidente sa Marilaque highway sa ngayon dahil sa tuluy tuloy ang monitoring ng PNP, LTO ,HPG at kinatawan ng LGU.

Bagay na kinumpirma naman ni Tanay LTO Chief Joel Quimpan, ayon sa kanya, naaddress na ung isyu sa Marilaque sa pamamagitan ng close collaboration ng mga nabang-

ggit na ahensya ng pamahalaan at araw araw ay may deployment na enforcer sa checkpoint para maiwasan ang mga road crash sa Marilaque at maiwasan na rin ang mabibilis na paktakbo ng mga motorista.

Tinuran ni Chief Quimpan na karamihan sa violations sa Marilaque ay katulad ng reckless driving, over speeding kaya ginagamitan nila ng speed limiter device.

Bukod dito ay naglunsad din ang Tanay MPS sa pamumuno ni PLICol Gaylor F Pagala ng Project L.A.N.G.I.S (Laban ng Aktibo at Nagkakaisang Grupo ng mga drayber kontra anumang ilegal at para sa Seguridad ng Tanayans) sa Bayan ng Tanay!

Layunin ng proyektong ito na organisahin, paigtingin, at Kilusin ang sektor ng transportasyon, partikular na ang mga kasapi ng Tricycle Operators and Drivers Association (TODA),

sa laban kontra kriminalidad, ilegal na droga at iba pang ilegal na gawain na mag-aambag sa pagpapanatili ng kapayapaan, kaayusan, at kaligtasan ng publiko sa buong bayan ng Tanay. Sa pagpapatupad ng proyektong ito, ang mga kasapi ng TODA ay bibigyang-kapangyarihan sa pagtitipon at pag-uulat ng impormasyon kaugnay sa mga ilegal na aktibidad. Palalakin rin ang kanilang partisipasyon sa mga programang pangkaalaman at mobilisasyon para sa pag-iwas sa krimen, katuwang ang Tanay PNP, Highway Patrol Group (HPG), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Land Transportation Office (LTO), Lokal na Pamahalaan ng Tanay sa pamamagitan ng Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO), Public Safety Office, at ang Tau Gamma Phi Fraternity - Tanay Municipal Council.

Ang proyektong ito ay hindi lamang pabor sa mga ahensyang katuwang, kundi malaking benepisyo rin sa mga kasapi ng TODA na magpapahayag ng kanilang suporta, dahil sila ay makakatanggap ng libreng change oil para sa kanilang mga motorsiklo. Bukod dito, magkakaroon din sila ng mga sticker "ISUMBONG MO KAY TOL CHIEF, na naglalaman ng hotline numbers ng Tanay PNP, HPG, BFP, LTO, MDRMO at PSO na ididikit sa kanilang mga traysikel.

Bilang parte ng paglulung-sad ay nagkaroon ng makabuluhang pag aaral ukol sa; Pagkilala sa mga Maaaring Kriminal, Pagkilala sa Fire Hazard o Panganib sa Sunog, Kaligtasan sa Kalsada, RA 4136-Land Transportation and Traffic Code of the Philippines at Paraan ng Pag-renew ng Driver's License na binalangkas ng mga tauhan mula sa Tanay PNP, BFP, Rizal HPG, LTO at Top Speed Driving Academy.

DOLE...

out the need for costly and time-consuming litigation.

"When there are complaints [from the workers], we immediately mediate or conciliate conferences to resolve issues quickly and properly through Single Entry Approach or SENA," Aquino said.

"It can also be done online, before filing a case in court or with a labor

arbitrer, it is first discussed through a conciliation-mediation conference. The goal of SENA is to resolve issues within just 30 days, without the need for a long process and costs," the director explained.

FROM PAGE 6

He added: "Through these programs, we ensure that workers' rights are protected, and at the same time we strengthen labor-management relations for a stronger industry."



PUBLISHER CORNER

IPAG LABAN ANG ATING KARAGATAN NG PILIPINAS



Ang Philippine Coast Guard ay kumikilos laban sa daluyan ng pananaliksik ng Tsino sa baybayin ng Ilocos Norte Ang Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) ay nag -deploy ng BRP Teresa Magbanua at isang sasakyang panghimpapawid ng PCG upang masubaybayan, hamon, at escort ang Chinese Research Vessel (CRV) Tan Suo 3 sa labas ng Philippine Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ).Ang daluyan ay napansin na pumapasok sa EEZ noong Mayo 1, 2025, humigit -kumulang na 92 nautical miles mula sa baybayin ng Burgos, Ilocos Norte. Ngayong umaga, sa pagdating ng sasakyang PCG sa lokasyon ng daluyan ng pananaliksik ng China, inilunsad ang sasakyang panghimpapawid ng PCG mula sa Laoag upang suportahan ang operasyon ng pagpapatupad ng batas sa maritime, na nagsagawa ng paglipad ng maritime domain kamalayan (MDA) sa lugar. Ang parehong mga pag-aari ay nakikibahagi sa mga hamon sa radyo, na kinumpirma na ang kanilang mga operasyon sa loob ng Pilipinas 'eez ay nakahanay sa Philippine Maritime Zones Act, ang United Nations Convention sa Batas ng Dagat, at ang 2016 Arbi-

tral Award. Ang mga tripulante ng daluyan ng pananaliksik ng Tsino ay agad na ipinagbigay -alam na nagpapatakbo sila sa loob ng Pilipinas 'EEZ. Ang kanilang hindi regular na paggalaw ay itinuturing na hindi naaayon sa kalayaan ng pag -navigate at nagpapahiwatig ng mga aktibidad sa pananaliksik sa pang -agham na dagat, na lumalabag sa mga soberanong karapatan ng Pilipinas. Inutusan silang itigil ang kanilang labag sa batas na mga aktibidad, linawin ang kanilang mga hangarin, at tiyakin ang patuloy na pagbiyahe sa loob ng EEZ bilang pagsunod sa parehong mga batas sa internasyonal at Pilipinas.

Sa panahon ng operasyon, nakita ng PCG ang isang manned deep-sea na nasusumite ng daluyan na mabilis na papalapit sa daluyan ng pananaliksik ng Tsino, na kalaunan ay nakuha ng mga tauhan nito. Ang nasusumite na ito, na kilala bilang Shenhai Yongshi o Warrior ng Depeas, ay inihinyero para sa pagsalikis sa malalim na dagat at pananaliksik na pang- agham, na may kakayahang sumisid sa kalaliman ng 4,500 metro. Bilang karagdagan, ang isang mahigpit na hull inflatable boat (RHIB) ay na-deploy upang mabawi ang isang dilaw na kulay na hindi

nakikilalang piraso ng kagamitan, na maaaring maiugnay sa mga aktibidad na pang- agham na pang- agham sa dagat. Ang mga pagkilos na ito ng CRV ay nagsisilbing malinaw na katibayan na ang People's Republic of China ay nagsasagawa ng mga iligal na pang -agham na pananaliksik sa pang -agham sa loob ng eksklusibong pang -ekonomiyang zone ng Pilipinas, na kulang sa lugal na awtoridad na magsagawa ng mga nasabing aktibidad sa lugar na ito. Ang mapagbantay na pagkakaroon ng sasakyang PCG ay epektibong pumigil sa daluyan ng pananaliksik ng Tsino mula sa pagpapatuloy ng labag sa batas na mga aktibidad sa loob ng Pilipinas 'EEZ. Ang utos ng PCG na si Admiral Ronnie Gil Gavan, ay muling nakumpirma ang pangako ng PCG na ipatupad ang mga batas sa maritime at tinitiyak ang proteksyon ng soberanya ng Pilipinas at soberanong karapatan sa West Philippine Sea.

AGRI RENEWS CALL TO PROBE P11-B EXPIRED MEDICINES, VACCINES IN DOH WAREHOUSES, HEALTH FACILITIES

AGRI Party-list Rep. Wilbert Lee reiterated his call for an investigation into the P11 billion worth of expired medicines and vaccines in Department of Health (DOH) warehouses, following a recent Senate resolution by Senator Joel Villanueva. Lee emphasized that the expiration of essential drugs, including over 7 million vials of COVID-19

vaccines, is a clear case of negligence and misuse of public funds.

Lee, who filed House Resolution No. 2117, highlighted the importance of accountability and efficient use of health resources. He also called on the DOH to submit a comprehensive report on the expired supplies and the steps taken to address the issue. AGRI Party-list

continues to push for free medicines and healthcare services for all Filipinos, stressing the need for proper government action to ensure public health resources are used effectively.

AGRI Party-list Representative Manoy Wilbert Lee reiterated his call to investigate the P11 billion worth of expired

cont. on page 2

SM SUPERMALLS AND ASP INK PARTNERSHIP FOR AUTISM-INCLUSIVE EMPLOYMENT



Strengthening our commitment to a more inclusive community, SM Supermalls and ASP sign the Memorandum of Understanding for Inclusive Hiring of talents on the spectrum.



Ms. Shereen Sy shares a thoughtful message that encourages proper understanding of each member of the community to be able to serve them better.

CAYETANO ...

Senator Alan Peter Cayetano on Friday stepped in as a mediator during a Senate Blue Ribbon Committee hearing seeking to resolve a dispute between the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and Blue Star Construction Development Corporation over a scrapped government housing development contract in the Masungi Georeserve in Rizal. In his opening statement, Cayetano set the tone to ease tensions by reading the preamble of the Constitution and a passage from the Bible. "In a time where there is so much waste

and abuse of human rights, abuse of power, we are finally realizing that we cannot abuse nature. It is not sustainable. We are a country and people who are looking for good (environmental) models and examples," Cayetano also told the DENR and the Blue star panel on April 11, 2025.

The senator also emphasized that the dispute presented an opportunity to address long-standing issues in the conservation area. "I felt this is an opportune time, but also a caution to all of us, including the Senate and the government, that people are watching.

I [hope] we can conclude this in a very sober way and find real models. If this is really a good model and mali ang pagka-cancel, then it should be resolved. Kung mali ang model na ito at may pagkakamali na nakita lang in hindsight, it should be cancelled," he said.

The dispute arose from the DENR's termination of its 2022 Supplemental Joint Venture Agreement with Blue Star, citing the company's alleged failure to build 5,000 housing units in Masungi. The Masungi Georeserve Foundation, affiliated with Blue Star since 2017, claimed that

FROM PAGE 1

the government failed to clear illegal settlers as promised and accused the DENR of evading meaningful dialogue. Given that the problems surrounding Masungi Georeserve span nearly three decades and multiple administrations, Cayetano expressed hope for clarity. "We are all made in the image and nature of God so we should all be good stewards [of his creation]... Whatever we do here will be a lesson to the next generation so I hope that we can really come up with not only finding the solutions and identifying issues, coming up with the facts, but really coming up with a sustainable solution," he said. PR



SM Supermalls and ASP Leaders are dedicated to sharing valuable insights, inspiring us to continually enhance and transform our customer experiences.

MANILA, Philippines—SM Supermalls has partnered with the Autism Society Philippines (ASP) to create work opportunities for individuals on the autism spectrum and help them succeed in the retail industry. This collaboration reflects SM's enduring commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion across its operations. This newly inked partnership builds on that legacy, ensuring more meaningful, sustainable roles for talents on the spectrum within the SM ecosystem. SM Markets pioneered autism-inclusive hiring back in 2016.

A ceremonial signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was held at Book Nook in SM Podium, marking the beginning of an inspiring new chapter in inclusive employment. Book Nook, a flagship community learning hub under SM Cares, will soon welcome individuals on the spectrum as Book Nook concierges, bringing SM's inclusive vision to life in a space that champions learning, connection, and belonging.

"Book Nook was always meant to be a space where everyone feels they belong," Ms. Shereen T. Sy shared. "Through this initiative, we bring that vision into sharper focus—creating not just a library, but a living story of inclusion, empowerment, and opportunity."

"The Autism Society Philippines is excited about this collaboration," said Ms. Mona Magno Veluz, Country Manager of ASP Autism Works. "We need more companies carving a space for Filipinos with disabilities in their businesses, allowing them to contribute and grow."

The partnership is part of SM Cares' broader advocacy for inclusive employment, which aims to create work environments where people with disabilities are welcomed and celebrated for their unique strengths.

"At SM, inclusion is more than a policy—it's our purpose," said Mr. Steven T. Tan, President of SM Supermalls. "This partnership with ASP reaffirms our commitment to being a 'Mall for All'—a place where everyone can succeed and feel they belong."

SM Supermalls continues to redefine inclusive, compassionate public spaces—not just in its malls but in communities throughout the Philippines. Its strategic partnership with the ASP ensures that they are guided in best practices for recruiting, developing, and retaining talents on the autism spectrum.

AGRI RENEWS... of PhilHealth's increased benefits after over a decade that it was not updated and no longer responsive to the hospitalization cost of the beneficiaries.

"Hindi magiging posible ang ipinaglalan nating libreng gamot at libreng pagpapagamot kung magpapatuloy ang kapalpakang ito sa gobyerno.

FROM PAGE 5

Dapat may managot sa mga kapabayaang nagkakait ng mga serbisyon pangkalusugan para sa mga Pilipino.

Buhay at kabuhayan ang nakataya dito," AGRI Party-list stated. PR

8 ALYANSA SENATE BETS STATISTICALLY POISED TO ENTER MAGIC 12: SWS

MANILA — Eight candidates endorsed by the Marcos administration's Alyansa Para sa Bagong Pilipinas (ABP) coalition are statistically poised to win Senate seats in the May 12 elections, according to the final pre-election survey by Social Weather Stations (SWS).

Administration-backed senatorial candidate and ACT-CIS party-list Rep. Erwin Tulfo topped the May 2 to 6 survey with 45 percent of voter preference, rising two points from 43 percent in April. He was followed by former Senate president Vicente "Tito" Sotto III, who rose to 3rd place with 37 percent preference.

Senator Lito Lapid placed in the 4th to 5th range with 34 percent, while former Senator Panfilo Lacson ranked 6th with 32 percent.

Rounding out the Alyansa-aligned bets in the top 12 are Makati Mayor Abby Binay at 7th to 8th with 31 percent; Las Piñas Rep. Camille Villar and Senator Pia Cayetano, tied at 9th to 10th with 30 percent; and Senator Ramon "Bong" Revilla Jr. at the 11th to 12th spot with 29 percent.

The only Alyansa senatorial bets outside the statistical winning circle in this final survey are former senator Manny Pacquiao, former Interior Secretary

Benhur Abalos, and Senator Francis Tolentino.

Pacquiao, Abalos, and independent candidate Willie Revillame were tied for 13th to 15th place, each garnering 24 percent support.

Tolentino ranked 21st with 15 percent. Among non-administration candidates, Senator Christopher Go ranked second overall with 43 percent.

Other non-Alyansa candidates in the statistical winning circle include independent candidate Ben Tulfo in the 4th to 5th spot with 34 percent, Senator Ronald dela Rosa in the 7th to 8th range with 31 percent, and Senator Imee Marcos at the 11th to 12th rank with 29 percent.

The survey was commissioned by the Stratbase Group and conducted via face-to-face interviews with 1,800 registered voters nationwide, using a ballot based on the revised official list released by the Commission on Elections.

The respondents filled out their ballots in private and sealed them in envelopes. Sampling error margins were ± 2.31 percent nationally.

The survey also showed 1 percent of voters were undecided or refused to answer, while 5 percent of ballots were invalid due to overvotes or improper markings. (PNA)

AGRI RENEWS...

vaccines, and the steps taken to address the situation.

It can be recalled that during the last House Plenary Deliberations on the DOH Budget last September, Lee inquired about the lack of medicines in public hospitals.

"Mayroong bilyon-bilyong pondo para sa mga gamot pero bakit kinakailangan pang bumili ng mga kababayaran natin sa labas ng ospital? Bakit kailangan pa nilang gumastos para sa gamot kahit na sa charity wards sila naka-admit? Isa pa

FROM PAGE 2

ito sa dumaragdag sa out-of-pocket expenses nila; dagdag isipin ng may sakit; dagdag pasanin ng pamilya," AGRI Party-list earlier pointed out.

AGRI Party-list has been pushing for free medicines and healthcare services.

Through Lee's leadership, AGRI Party-list was the first to expose that the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) had billions of available funds in September 2023, which then led to the implementation

METROBANK TOPS 2025 PDS ANNUAL AWARDS

The Philippine Dealing System (PDS) Annual Awards recognized anew Metropolitan Bank & Trust Co. (Metrobank) for its exceptional performance, innovation, and leadership in the Philippine debt capital market — reinforcing the bank's continued dominance in the industry.

This year, Metrobank secured top distinctions across six major categories, including the prestigious Cesar E.A. Virata Award for Best Securities House (Bank category), the highest honor conferred by the PDS Group to a bank for spurring the local fixed-income market.

Metrobank brought home the Cesar EA Virata award for the tenth time now, the most out of any bank — consistently demonstrating its excellence in dealing, brokering, and coverage of different sectors and market segments for fixed-income securities.

The Bank was also named the: Top Fixed Income Dealing Participant; Top Corporate Securities Market Maker; Top Dealing Participant for Corporate Securities; Top



In this photo, from L to R: Metrobank Head of Client Solutions Division, Paolo Narciso; Metrobank Head of Securities Brokering Department, April De Leon; Metrobank Head of Investment Distribution, Chorie Chan; Metrobank Head of Rates and Credit Division, Kathryn Abes; Metrobank Head of Financial Markets Sector, Toto Tansingco; Metrobank Head of Local Currency Trading Department, Kevin Rosario; Metrobank Desk Head for Local Corporate Credits, Bernice Nobleza; and Metrobank Head of Trading and OIC Head of Treasury Group, John Lu.

Fixed Income Cash Settlement Bank (3rd Place); and Top Fixed Income Brokering Participant (5th Place).

"I would like to take this award as an opportunity to thank our clients who have chosen Metrobank to be their partner. This recognition further underscores our commitment to the securities market, that in good times and in bad, Metrobank will uphold the highest standards of excellence that we have been known for throughout the years," said Fernand Antonio Tansingco, Metrobank Financial Markets Sector Head.

Metrobank's Financial Markets Sector has been proving year after year its expertise in securities trading and investment and wealth management as it continues to receive recognition from the government as well as local and international

award-giving bodies. The bank itself has likewise earned awards through the years, establishing its strength, stability, and reliability. It was named the country's strongest bank by the Asian Banker for the fourth consecutive year and earned the title the Most Recommended Retail Bank by the same publication. Most recently, it was crowned as the Best Bank for the Ultra High Net Worth for the third straight year by Euromoney.



PGC proudly joins the nation in celebrating Ease of Doing Business Month 2025! PGC affirms its commitment to efficient, transparent, and responsive public service. Together, let's champion a business-friendly environment that drives innovation and inclusive growth.