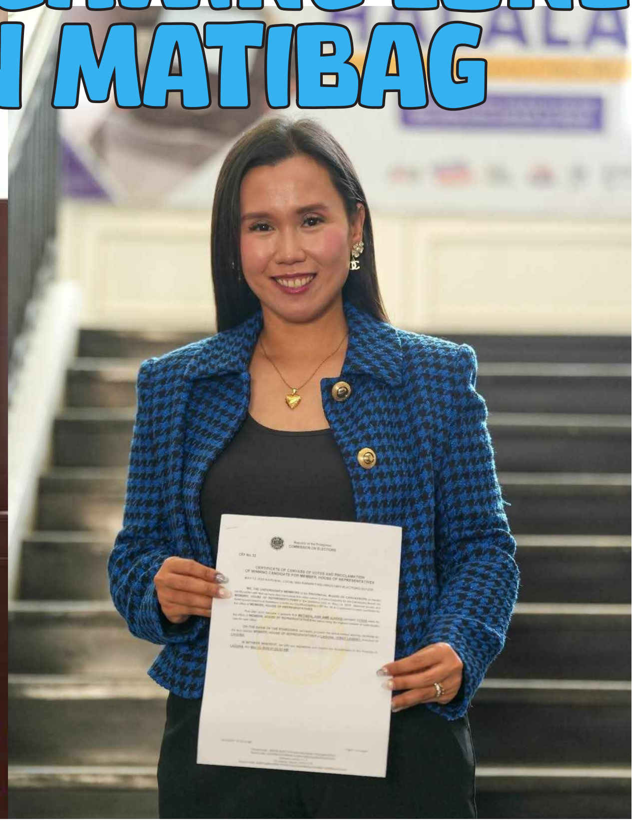
SAN PEDRO CITY, TARGET GAWING LONE DISTRICT NI CONG. ANN MATIBAG



STA. CRUZ, LAGUNA — Determinado si Congresswoman Ann Matibag na muling isulong ang panukalang maging ganap na Lone District ang kasalukuyang Unang Distrito ng Laguna ang San Pedro, kasunod ng kanyang muling pagkakahalal bilang kinatawan sa Kongreso.

Sa pahayag ni Cong. Ann matapos ang proklamasyon ng Commission on Elections (COMELEC) sa Sta. Cruz noong Mayo 13, inilahad ni Matibag na unang inihain ang panukala noong kanyang unang termino ngunit hindi ito naisabatas dahil sa kakulangan ng oras at hindi napabilang sa mga prayoridad na panukala ng Mababang Kapulungan.

"Hindi ito natuloy noong unang termino dahil kulang sa oras at hindi napabilang sa priority sa House of Representatives, pero ngayon sa atin 10 priority bills ay sisiguraduhin nating maisulong ito," ayon sa kongresista.

Ayon kay Matibag, kabilang ito sa sampung panukalang batas na agad niyang ihahain sa pagbubukas ng sesyon ng Kongreso sa Hulyo. Kung maaprubahan, kikilalaning Lone District ang Unang Distrito ng Laguna — isang hakbang na ayon sa kanya ay matagal nang nararapat.

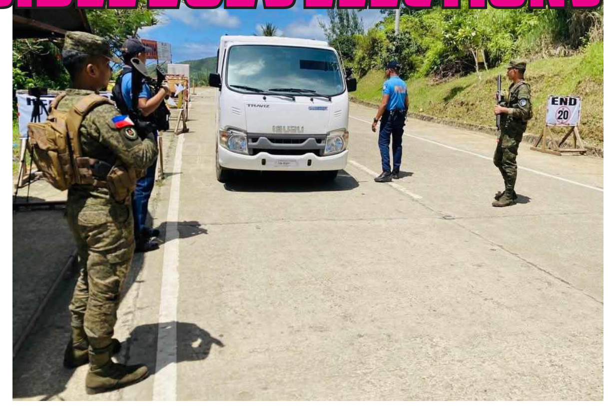
"Mag-isa na lang ang distrito ko sa kasalukuyang pagkakaayos, kaya marapat lamang na kilalanin itong lone district. Makakatulong ito para mas matutukan ang pangangailangan ng mga residente," dagdag pa niya.

Kung maisasabatas, magbabago rin ang pangalan at bilang ng mga iba pang distrito sa lalawigan: ang kasalukuyang Unang Distrito ay magiging Lone Distrito, ang Ikalawang Distrito ay magiging Unang Distrito, at ang Ikatlo ay magiging Ikalawa, at ang Ikaapat ay magiging Ikatlo.

Naniniwala si Matibag na sa pamamagitan ng hakbang na ito, magkakaroon ng mas malinaw at epektibong representasyon ang kanyang nasasakupan sa Kongreso.

(Shekinah Esteban)

901 BRIGADE IMPLIMENTST SECURITY MEASURES TO ENSURE FREE, ORDERLY, HONEST, PEACEFUL AND CREDIBLE 2025 ELECTIONS



The 901st Infantry Brigade, Philippine Army, together with its operationally controlled (OpCon) battalions—29IB, 30IB, 36IB, and 65IB—continues to uphold peace and security within its area of responsibility (AOR) in preparation for the May 12, 2025, midterm National and Local Elections. Ongoing joint AFP-PNP-Comelec checkpoints, patrols, security operations, and troop deployments to strategic locations are being conducted to ensure a free, orderly, honest, peaceful and credible elections.

The brigade remains fully committed to its duty and will continue to assist in safeguarding voters and polling precincts across the AOR, ensuring a secure environment for all during the election period.

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Vol. I - Series 44 - May 18-24, 2025

MATADERO ARESTADO MATAPOS MAHULIHAN NG 136K HALAGA NG HINIHINALANG ILIGAL NA DROGA NG CALAMBA PULIS P6

Sol Aragones, kinilala na bilang Gobernador ng Laguna P2

New 4PH housing project to rise in Bacoor

BACOOR, CAVITE (PIA) — A new chapter in Bacoor's journey toward inclusive and sustainable housing has begun with the groundbreaking of the Salinas-Bacoor housing project under the national government's flagship Pambansang Pabahay para sa Pilipino Program (4PH).

Key officials from the city government and the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development recently broke ground, signaling the start of the project's construction.

Situated on a 1.9-hectare property in Barangay Salinas I, the development is set to offer approximately 2,000 housing units. Each unit will feature two bedrooms and will be offered at a package price of Php 1,800,000.00—a significant step toward addressing the housing backlog and improving the living conditions of Bacooreños.

In his message, Mayor Strike Revilla described the project as a "lifelong dream finally realized" for the city.

He extended heartfelt thanks to Secretary Acuzar, the Pag-IBIG Fund, and all government and private stakeholders whose collaboration made the project possible.

"This is more than a construction project. This is about building hope, dignity, and opportunity for the people of Bacoor," he said.

The event was attended by officials from the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), led by Undersecretary Avelino Tolentino III, who represented Secretary Jose Rizalino Acuzar. He was joined by Assistant Secretary Krsnadasi De Leon in officially launching the project, which aims to transform lives through decent and affordable housing.

Revilla added that the Salinas-Bacoor housing initiative reflects the growing momentum of the 4PH Program, which seeks to build resilient and affordable communities for Filipino families across the country.

Cayetano-led bill to modernize PHIVOLCS now a law

Sampung field validation sa CALABARZON para sa 50th Gawad Saka ng DA, isinagawa

Nakapasok sa sampung kategorya ang mga representante ng Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) at sumailalim na sa field validation ng National Technical Committee (NTC) para sa 50 th Gawad Saka: Parangal sa mga Natatanging Magsasaka at Mangingisda.

Ang Gawad Saka ay isinasagawa upang parangalan ang mga natatanging kontribusyon ng mga magsasaka, mangingisda, nag-aalaga ng hayop, at maging ang mga dedikado sa serbisyo publiko na nagpamalas ng hu-warang gilas at galing para sa ikauunlad ng sektor ng agrikultura.

Sa buwan ng Marso ay paunang binisita ang Ginintuang Butil ng Sta. Teresa Irrigators Association Inc. para sa Outstanding Rice Cluster-Irriga-

cont. on page 3

Editoryal

Philippine Navy's BRP Emilio Jacinto sa panahon ng isang maritime patrol malapit sa Panatag o Scarborough Shoal sa West Philippine Sea.

Pinuna ng Phil-ippines kahapon ang isang mataas na peligro na maniobra ng isang daluyan na daluyan sa isang bihirang insidente na kinasasangkutan ng mga barkong pandigma mula sa dalawang navy.

Dalawang barkong pandigma ng Tsino at isang sasakyang pang -baybayin ang naglayag nang mapanganib na malapit sa BRP na si Emilio Jacinto ng Pilipinas na si Emilio Jacinto sa kung ano ang maaaring maging pinakabagong provocative act ng Beijing sa mga tubig kung saan ang mga puwersa ng Pilipinas at US ay nakulong lamang sa magkasanib na pagsasanay sa militar.

Sinabi ng armadong pwersa ng Pilipinas na ang Emilio Jacinto ay nasa patrol malapit sa Panatag (Scarborough) Shoal o Bajo de Masinloc sa West Philippine Sea (WPS) noong Lunes - bilang suporta sa Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) at ang Bureau of Fisheries at Aquatic Resources - kapag ang mga sasakyang Tsino ay nagsara at gumawa ng mapanganib at hindi ligtas na maneuvers.

Kinondena ng AFP ang aksyon na Tsino, na nagsasabing ito ay namamatay sa buhay sa dagat. Ang mga sasakyang pandagat ng Tsino na kasangkot ay Jiangkai II-class frigates na may mga bow number 554 at 573, at isang China Coast Guard ship na may bow number 5403.

Sinabi ng AFP Public Affairs Office Chief Col. Xerxes Trinidad na ang pinakabagong insidente ay naganap ng humigit -kumulang na 11.8 nautical miles timog -silangan ng Panatag Shoal. Ang isa sa mga frigates ng Tsino ay na-dokumentado na malapit sa pag-aayos ng Emilio Jacinto habang ang isa pa ay mapanganib na tumatawid sa busog ng barko ng Pilipinas sa isang mataas na peligro na maniobra na maaaring natapos sa isang pagbangga. Sinabi ni Trinidad na tinangka din ng daluyan ng CCG na hadlangan ang landas ng pag -navigate ni Emilio Jacinto.

Sinabi ng AFP na ang mga walang ingat na aksyon ay paglabag sa mga internasyonal na regulasyon para maiwasan ang mga banggaan sa dagat o colreg. "Ang armadong pwersa ng Pilipinas ay nagpapahayag ng malubhang pag -aalala sa mga hindi responsableng pagkilos na ito ng mga puwersang maritime ng Tsino. Samantala, pinuri ng AFP ang "propesyonalismo, disiplina at pagpigil" na ipinakita ng mga opisyal at tauhan ni Emilio Jacinto.

Sinabi ni Trinidad na ang AFP ay "nananatiling matatag sa pagtatanggol sa soberanya, soberanong mga karapatan at hurisdiksyon ng Pilipinas sa malawak na domain ng maritime, kasama na ang mga teritoryal na dagat sa West Philippine Sea, alinsunod sa internasyonal at domestic law at sa pagtugis ng pagkakasunud-sunod na batay sa mga panuntunan sa maritime domain.

Noong Miyerkules, ang mga tauhan ng militar ng Pilipino at US ay nakulong sa kanilang halos dalawang linggo ng magkasanib na pagsasanay sa ilalim ng mga pagsasanay sa Balikatan, na may "masayang shoot" sa Camp Aguinaldo. Ang Balikatan, na kasangkot sa higit sa 14,000 mga sundalo ng Pilipino at US, opisyal na nagtatapos ngayon. "Ang kaganapan ay pinagsama ang mga kalahok mula sa parehong mga bansa sa isang friendly na kumpetisyon sa pagmamarka na idinisenyo hindi lamang upang patalasin ang mga kasanayan, kundi pati na rin upang palakasin ang mga interpersonal na bono sa labas ng pormal na pagsasanay," sinabi ni Lt. Col. "Ang shoot, na gaganapin sa isang nakakarelaks ngunit masiglang kapaligiran, ay bahagi ng patuloy na pagsisikap upang maisulong ang pagkakaisa at interoperability sa pagitan ng dalawang magkakatulad na pwersa," dagdag ni Salgado.

Noong Lunes, ang mga puwersa ng Australia ay sumali sa isa sa mga kaganapan sa Balikatan na tinatawag na Maritime Key Terrain Security Operations malapit sa Puerto Princesa, Palawan.

Ang Japan Self Defense Force ay nakibahagi rin sa isang multilateral maritime event o magkasanib na layag.

Kasama sa mga drills ang integrated air at missile defense, maritime strike at counter landing live na pagsasanay sa sunog.

Seminar ng Pamumuno Samantala. Orihinal na binuo sa USCG Academy, ang kurso ng LAMS ay isinagawa sa PCG's Fleet Training Center of Excellence sa Balagtas, Bulacan mula Abril 21 hanggang Mayo 2. "Ang Lams ay huminga ng bagong buhay sa kung paano tayo lumalaki ang mga pinuno sa edukasyon ng armada, pagsasanay, at pag-unlad ng doktrina. "Ang pagmamarka ng isang milestone sa internasyonal na kooperasyon, ang PCG at ang USCG ay hindi lamang nagbabahagi ng pinakamahusay na kasanayan, kundi pati na rin ang pag -alis ng isang pinag -isang diskarte sa pagbuo ng nababanat, adaptive na pamumuno sa mga kumplikadong kapaligiran ng maritime," sabi ng USCG Instructor Senior Chief Operations Specialis

Sol Aragones...

FROM PAGE 1

Santa Cruz, Laguna — Pormal nang ipinroklama ng Commission on Elections (COMELEC) si Ma. Rene Ann Lourdes "Sol" Aragones bilang bagong gobernador ng Lalawigan ng Laguna matapos ang matagumpay na halalan noong Mayo 12, 2025. Tinalo niya ang tatlo na matitinding katunggali sa isang mapayapang halalan na nagpamalas ng malawak na suporta mula sa mga mamamayan ng probinsya.

Ang mga nakalaban ni Gobernador Aragones sa halalan ay sina Ruth Mariano Hernandez ng Lakas–CMD, kasalukuyang kinatawan ng ikalawang distrito ng Laguna at maybahay ng incumbent na gobernador na si Ramil Hernandez; Danilo "Dan" Fernandez ng National Unity Party, kinatawan ng lungsod ng Santa Rosa; Katherine Agapay ng Partido Federal ng Pilipinas, kasalukuyang bise gobernador ng lalawigan.

Batay sa pinakahuling datos mula sa Commission on Elections (COMELEC) Laguna, nakakuha si Aragones ng kabuuang 635,570 boto sa nagdaang halalan.

Si Gobernador Aragones ay kilala sa kanyang dating karera bilang mamamahayag bago pumasok sa larangan ng politika, kung saan siya ay nagsilbi bilang kinatawan ng ika-3 Distrito ng Laguna sa loob ng tatlong termino sa Mababang Kapulungan ng Kongreso.

Sa kanyang talumpati matapos ang proklamasyon, inialay ni Gobernador Aragones ang kanyang tagumpay sa bawat Lagunense na nagnanais ng tapat at makataong pamamahala na nakatuon sa edukasyon, kalusugan at turismo.

"Naniniwala ako na may mga bagay na kailangang magtapos dahil may mga bagay na kailangang magsimula. Kailangang magtapos ang labanan sa politika, dahil kailangang nang magsimula ang pagkakaisa at pag sasama-sama para sa lalawigan ng Laguna. Ang kwento ng pagkapanalo ko bilang Gobernador ay kwento at tagumpay ng mga taong umaasa sa isang maayos na pampublikong ospital at maging mayabong ang turismo sa bawat bayan at lungsod," aniya.

Kabilang sa mga ito ang agarang pagpapatayo ng 30 Akay ni Sol Botika, isang proyektong magbibigay ng libreng maintenance na gamot para sa mga nangangailangan. Layunin nitong maibsan ang pasaning pinansyal ng mga pamilyang may miyembrong may malalang karamdaman.

Sunod naman sa kanyang listahan ng priyoridad ang pagsasaayos ng mga pampublikong ospital, hindi lamang sa pisikal na pasilidad kundi pati na rin sa kalidad ng serbisyo. Kabilang dito ang direktang pagtulong sa mga pasyente, lalo na sa mga indigent o walang kakayahang magbayad, gayundin ang pagbibigay suporta sa mga empleyado ng ospital, tulad ng sapat na bilang, mas maayos na pasahod, at benepisyo.

Sa larangan naman ng edukasyon, kanyang binigyang-diin ang programang Iskolar ni Sol, na layuning bigyang pagkakataon ang mga kabataan na makapag-aral, kahit pa mababa ang grado. Aniya, ang edukasyon ay karapatang dapat ipaglaban at hindi dapat isinusuko dahil lang sa marka. Bukod pa rito, tiniyak niyang ang mga ayuda at serbisyong ito ay ipamamahagi sa paraang mabilis at hindi na masyadong pahirapan sa requirements, upang mas maraming kababayan ang agad na makinabang.

Aniya, sa patuloy na pag-unlad ng sektor ng turismo, mahalagang maisalaysay at maipakalat ang mga kwento ng bawat bayan at lungsod sa lalawigan—mula sa 24 na bayan at 6 na lungsod na bumubuo sa probinsya.

Ang mga natatanging kasaysayan, kultura, tanawin, at tradisyon ng bawat lugar ay hindi lamang dapat manatiling lokal na yaman, kundi dapat maibahagi rin sa mga karatig-lalawigan at sa buong bansa.

Sa ilalim ng kanyang pamumuno, katuwang ang bagong halal na Bise-Gobernador na si Atty. JM Carait, umaasa ang mamamayan ng Laguna sa isang administrasyong bukas sa dayalogo at pakikipag-ugnayan, maagap sa pagtugon sa mga pangunahing pangangailangan ng mamamayan, at tunay na kumakatawan sa boses ng masa.

Sa pagbubukas ng bagong yugto ng pamamahala sa Lalawigan ng Laguna, buo ang pag-asa ng mamamayan sa isang lideratong tapat, makabago, at tunay na kumakatawan sa interes ng nakararami.

(SHEKINAH ESTEBAN)

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EDITORIAL OFFICE

Business Office : #025 Coastal Green St., P. F. 1 Espiritu, Bacoor City Cavite
Mobile No. -------- 09365035056
Email ad: deretsahan2024@gmail.com

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MATADERO...

FROM PAGE 1

Camp BGen Paciano Rizal – Arestado ang isang matadero matapos mahulihan ng 136K halaga ng hinihinalang iligal na droga ng Calamba pulis sa barangay Tres Calamba City bandang 10:15 ng gabi ng Mayo 13, 2025.

Kinilala ni Laguna Police Provincial Director PCOL RICARDO I DALMACIA ang suspek na si alyas Leo, 46, taong gulang, isang matadero (butcher) at residente ng Calamba City, Laguna.

Sa ulat ng Calamba Component City Police Station sa pamumuno ni PLTCOL VICTOR M SOBREPEÑA, Chief of Police, nakatanggap sila ng impormasyon mula sa isang confidential informant patungkol sa isang iligal na gawain na nagaganap sa nasabing lugar. Agad nagpadala ng covert PNP personnel ang Calamba CCPS upang magsagawa ng surveillance at beripakahin ang nasabing ulat.

Samantala, sa pagdating ng mga tauhan ng Calamba CCPS, agad nilang nakita ang nasabing indibidwal na may kahina-hinalang ikinikilos at may hawak na isang bagay. Dahil dito, agad na tinawag ng mga tauhan ng Calamba CCPS ang nasabing indibidwal at sila ay nagpakilalang mga pulis, habang sila ay papalapit, agad namang tumakbo ang suspek ngunit agad din itong nahabol na nagresulta sa pagkakaaresto.

Isinailalim sa preventive search ang nasabing suspek at nakumpiska sakanya ang isang (1) piraso ng medium heat-sealed transparent plastic sachet na naglalaman ng hinihinalang Shabu na may timbang na aabot sa humigit kumulang 20 gramo at may standard drug price na aabot sa one hundred thirty-six thousand (Php136,000.00) pesos; isang (1) piraso Cigarette Pack (Marlboro White), isang (1) piraso ng paper bag, isang (1) Cellular Phone at Six-Hundred- Fifty-Pesos (Php650.00) na recovered money. Naisagawa ang imbentaryo at markings ng mga kumpiskadong ebidensya sa lugar kung saan naaresto ang suspek at ito ay nasaksihan ng Barangay Elected Officials ng nasabing Barangay.

Ang naarestong suspek ay agad binasahan ng kanyang mga karapatan at kasalukuyang nasa kustodiya ng Calamba CCPS habang inihahanda ang mga kaukulang dokumento sa pagsasampa ng kaso na may paglabag sa Section 11 ng Republic Act 9165 o ang Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

Binabati natin ang kapulisan ng Calamba CCPS sa kanilang agarang aksyon sa kanilang natanggap na impormasyon patungkol sa kasong ito. Isa din itong patunay na ang komunidad at mamamayan ay kaisa ng PNP sa pagsugpo sa iligal na droga" Pahayag ni PD DALMACIA.

DBM Sec. Mina: Upon directive of PBBM, teachers, other poll workers, get P2,000 increase in election allowance

Department of Budget and Management (DBM) Secretary Amenah "Mina" F. Pangandaman reiterated that as directed by President Bongbong Marcos, the DBM has approved a Php2,000 across the board increase on the compensation of teachers and other poll workers serving in the upcoming May 12, 2025 National and Local Elections (NLE).

"As directed by our beloved President Bongbong Marcos, finally, our teachers and poll workers will receive a Php2,000 across the board increase on their compensation for the 2025 midterm elections," Sec. Mina said.

"Alam po natin na sa pagbantay ng ating mga boto, haharap sa pagod, puyat at sakripisyo ang ating mga guro at poll workers.

Kaya noon pong inutusan tayo ng Pangulo na itaas ang kanilang benepisyo, hindi po tayo nagdalawang-isip," Sec Mina added.

"This is a realization of the directive of President BBM, who is truly committed to ensuring we provide needed support for the welfare of our teachers," she continued.

With this, the new honoraria rates for those in the Electoral Board are:

-Php12,000 from the previous Php10,000 for the chairperson;

-Php11,000 from the previous Php9,000 for the poll clerk;

-Php11,000 from the previous Php9,000 for the 3rd member; and,

-Php8,000 from the previous Php6,000 for the support staff.

The Budget Secretary likewise appealed to concerned agencies to ensure the timely release of higher compensation for teachers and poll workers this coming NLE.

"I urge Comelec to ensure that our teachers and poll workers will get their compensation as quickly as possible. Dapat timely ang release ng kanilang benepisyo. They deserve nothing less," Sec. Mina stated.

The budgetary requirement for the poll workers' compensation and as authorized under the FY 2025 General Appropriations Act is Php7.480 billion.

The COMELEC has estimated the total number of poll workers for the national and local elections at 758,549.

Based on the Election Service Reform Act and COMELEC Resolution No. 10194, persons rendering election service shall be entitled to honoraria, travel allowance, communication allowance, meal allowance, and service credit.

Statement of DBM Secretary Amenah "Mina" F. Pangandaman on the 2025 First Quarter GDP

While the 5.4 percent GDP growth rate for the first quarter of 2025 is at the low end of the 6.0 to 8.0 percent target for the year, the fact that all major economic sectors grew during the first quarter is both notable and promising. This shows progress towards our overriding objective of ensuring that we achieve not only growth but, more importantly, an economic transformation that is inclusive and sustainable.

It is worth noting that Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (AFF) saw an impressive rebound with a 2.2 percent growth while Industry and Services posted Year-on-Year (YoY) growths of 4.5 percent and 6.3 percent, respectively. On the demand side, Household Final Consumption Expenditure (HFCE) grew YoY by 5.3 percent in the first quarter of 2025. We also note that investments or gross capital formation grew by 4.0 percent; exports of goods and services grew strongly by 6.2 percent; and imports of goods and services grew by 9.9 percent.

On the expenditure side, the National Budget clearly played a substantial role in the improvement of the GDP in the first quarter of 2025 as compared to the fourth quarter of 2024, as reflected in the high growth of 18.7 percent of Government Final Consumption Expenditure (GFCE) during the quarter.

In fact, this is the highest recorded GFCE YoY growth since the second quarter of 2020.

This is why we cannot emphasize enough the important role that government spending performance plays in stimulating the economy, especially amidst the expected slowdown in growth globally due to increasing economic uncertainty, U.S. trade policy changes, slowdown in China's economy, persistent geopolitical tensions, and fluctuations in commodity prices, among others.

We still expect GDP to accelerate throughout the year as domestic demand strengthens and public investments are sustained. This is even amidst global uncertainty, as domestic growth prospects supported by improving private consumption, including government infrastructure spending, provide a buffer against external headwinds.

Finally, we remain optimistic that the Philippines will meet its growth target for 2025 of 6.0 to 8.0 percent, especially as the government remains strongly committed to achieving our medium-term plans and long-term vision.

Given the substantial 8.2 percent YoY growth registered by the capital spending of the government—a testament to the successful implementation of public infrastructure projects—we are certain we can sustain our high growth trajectory.

204K HALAGA NG HINIHINALANG ILIGAL NA DROGA KUMPISKADO SA MAGKAHIWALAY NA BUY-BUST OPERATION NG SAN PABLO AT CALAUAN PULIS

Camp BGen Paciano Rizal – Arestado ang dalawang indibidwal sa magkahiwalay na buy-bust operation ng San Pablo at Calauan PNP na nagresulta sa pagagakumpiska ng may pinagsamang halaga ng hinihinalang iligal na droga na aabot sa PhP204,000.00 bandang 5:33 AM ng Mayo 15, 2025 sa San Pablo City at bandang 12:15 AM ng Mayo 16, 2025 sa Calauan, Laguna.

Kinilala ni Laguna Police Provincial Director PCOL RICARDO I DALMACIA ang mga suspek na sila alyas Archie, 44 taong gulang na residente ng Pasay City at si alyas Dolly, 47 taong gulang na residente ng Victoria, Laguna.

Sa ulat ng San Pablo Component City Police Station sa pamumuno ni PLTCOL REDENTOR G TIRAÑA, Officer-In-Charge, nagkasa ang kanilang Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) ng drug buy-bust operation bandang 5:33 ng umaga ng Mayo 15, 2025 sa Brgy. San Lucas 1 San Pablo City, Laguna. Sa nasabing operasyon, naaresto ang suspek matapos magbenta ng hinihinalang shabu sa pulis na nagpanggap bilang poseur buyer kapalit ang marked money.

Matapos maaresto, nakumpiska sa suspek ang tatlong (3) piraso ng heat-sealed transparent plastic sachet na naglalaman ng hinihinalang shabu na may tinatanyang timbang na humigit kumulang sa 15 gramo at may estimated Standard Drug Price (SDP) na aabot sa PhP102,000.00, dalawang (2) piraso ng PhP1,000.00 peso bill, isang (1) piraso ng Php500.00 peso bill na ginamit bilang buy-bust money at isang (1) piraso ng PhP1,000.00 peso bill bilang recovered money.

Samantala, sa ulat naman ng Calauan Municipal Police Station sa pamumuno ni PLTCOL JOJO I SABENIANO, Officer-In-Charge, nagkasa ang kanilang Drug Enforcement Unit (DEU) ng drug buy-bust operation bandang 12:15 madaling araw ng Mayo 16, 2025 sa Brgy. Silangan, Calauan, Laguna. Naaresto ang suspek matapos magbenta ng hinihinalang shabu sa pulis na nagpanggap bilang poseur buyer kapalit ang PhP500.00 na marked money.

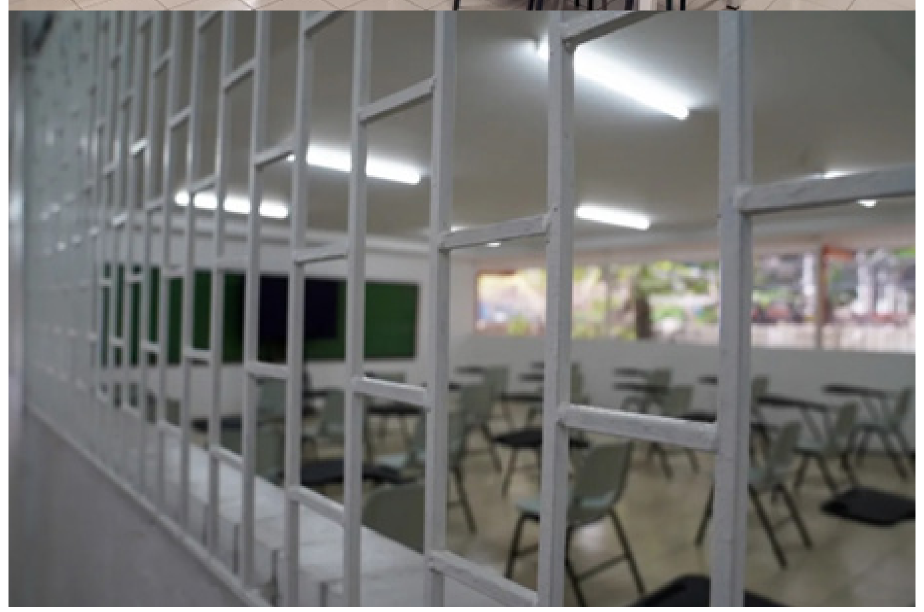
Nakumpiska sa naarestong suspek ang apat (4) na piraso heat-sealed transparent plastic sachet na naglalaman ng hinihinalang shabu na may tinatanyang timbang na humigit kumulang sa 15 gramo at may Estimated Standard Drug Price value na PhP102,000.00; isang (1) piraso ng Five Hundred Peso (PHP 500.00) bill na ginamit bilang buy-bust money, PhP100.00 pesos bilang recovered money at isang (1) leather wallet na kulay itim.

Ang mga naarestong suspek ay agad binasahan ng kanilang mga karapatan at kasalukuyang nasa kustodiya ng San Pablo CCPS at Calauan MPS habang inihahanda ang mga kaukulang dokumento sa pagsasampa ng kaso sa paglabag sa Republic Act 9165 o ang Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

"Ang pagkaka-aresto ng mga suspek na ito ay alinsunod sa direktiba ng ating mahal na pangulo na palakasin ang mga operasyon kontra iligal na droga, ito ay upang mailigtas ang ating mga kababayan na maaaring maging biktima ng iligal na droga lalo na ang ating mga kabataan." ayon sa pahayag ni PCOL Dalmacia

SMC TURNS OVER UPGRADED SCHOOL BUILDING FOR BILIBID STUDENT-INMATES

The Better World Bilibid is a newly renovated school building which now features upgraded learning facilities — among them a fully-equipped computer room.



San Miguel Corporation (SMC), through its San Miguel Foundation (SMF), has formally turned over a newly renovated school building and upgraded learning facilities to benefit student-inmates at the Medium Security Compound of the New Bilibid Prison (NBP).

The facility, now known as Better World Bilibid, is operated as the Bilibid Extension School (BES) and managed by the University of Perpetual Help System Dalta (UPHSD) in partnership with the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor) since 1984. Over the years, the school's condition deteriorated due to lack of funding.

The renovation is part of SMC's ₱150-million donation to NBP and the Women's Correctional. It follows a pledge made by SMC Chairman and CEO Ramon S. Ang during his visit in 2024.

Recently unveiled in simple turnover rites, the upgraded school now features new classrooms, a computer room, library, audio-visual room, and a spacious multipurpose hall. The event was led by SMF Chairperson Cecile L. Ang, UPHSD President Dr. Anthony Jose M. Tamayo, UPHSD founder Dr. Daisy M. Tamayo, BuCor Director-General Gregorio Pio P. Catapang, Jr., Sandiganbayan Associate Justice Karl B. Miranda, and UPHSD School Director Arnaldo S. de Guzman.

Hundreds of persons deprived of liberty (PDLs) enrolled in tertiary education and skills training programs are expected to benefit from the upgraded facilities. At the same time, the recurring donation for learning materials, uniforms, and TESDA-certified skills courses will benefit over 6,000 PDLs.

In her message, Ms. Ang expressed SMC's commitment to support reformation efforts through education and skill-building. "Real change begins within each of us. We're here to support you, to provide the facilities and materials that can help.

But beyond what you now see — beyond the new buildings and tools — the most meaningful transformation must start from inside you. It's your dreams, your choices, and your will to grow that will make this truly work," she said in Filipino.

Of the total donation, P50 million was allocated for the BES program, including the school's renovation and learning tools.

An additional P85 million is funding a five-year meal augmentation program that benefits 31,219 PDLs over 48 days. Last Christmas, SMC also distributed P15 million worth of food packs as holiday gifts to the PDLs.

Better World Bilibid joins SMC's growing network of community centers under the Better World initiative, which includes facilities in Tondo, Smokey Mountain, Diliman, and Cubao that address hunger, education, health, and livelihood needs in underserved communities.

The Better World initiative is one of the ways SMC is pursuing its major sustainability goals, which includes helping uplift the lives of 15 million Filipinos by 2030.

be still and know

PSALM 46:10

Pointer

Pau Dela Cruz

USAPANG WEST PHILIPPINE SEA

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 nagsasagawa 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 Arbitral 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 ininhinyero para sa pagsaliksik 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 maaari ring 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 ligal 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.

PUBLISHER CORNER

PH TO DEPLOY MORE FILIPINO PEACEKEEPERS TO UN MISSIONS

The Philippines, represented by Defense Secretary Gilberto C. Teodoro, Jr., announced substantial pledges at the United Nations (UN) Peacekeeping Ministerial Meeting (PKMM) on May 14, 2025, in Berlin, Germany.

The PKMM gathered more than 150 high-level delegations to discuss the future of UN peacekeeping and reaffirm support for closing capability gaps in peacekeeping operations.

"We are honored to announce our new pledges: the deployment of one (1) Light Infantry Battalion [from the Armed Forces of the Philippines] and one (1) Formed Police Unit under the UN Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (PCRS)," said Secretary Teodoro. "The Philippines will also continue to deploy Military Observers and Individual Police Officers to support Staff Offices of UN Missions worldwide."

These contributions are in addition to the country's existing pledges, which include a Quick Reaction Force Company and a Military Construction Engineering Company.

On capacity-building efforts, Secretary Teodoro announced that the Philippines will host UN Triangular Partnership Programme (TPP) Training Courses in the ASEAN region from 2029 to 2030. The Philippines also pledged to provide UN-certified Military Mobile Training Teams to "enhance peacekeeper preparedness in addressing both emerging and persistent challenges."

Further, Secretary Teodoro announced that the country will host the 2025 ASEAN Peacekeeping Staff Exercise this September, aimed at equipping ASEAN troops for safer and more effective UN peacekeeping missions. "The Philippines stands ready to contribute to a safer and more secure world as a trusted partner, pathfinder, and peacemaker in the pursuit of lasting and sustainable peace," Secretary Teodoro concluded.

DA...

FROM PAGE 1

tors Associations mula sa Lucena City, Quezon; si Jovencio Reyes para sa Outstanding Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW) mula sa Tanay, Rizal; at si Marites Caña para sa Outstanding High Value Crops Farmer mula sa Nagcarlan, Laguna.

Sinundan naman ito nina Gemma Chavez para sa Outstanding Large Animal Raiser Adopting Integrated Farming System, Cooperative Bank of Quezon Province para sa Outstanding Rural Financial Institution, Dr. Cleofas Cervancia para sa Outstanding Agricultural Scientist, Palcon Dairy MPC para sa Outstanding Dairy Cattle Raiser, Claudette Anne Aguila para sa Outstanding Young Farmer, Talahib Pandayan RIC para sa Outstanding Barangay Rural Improvement Club, at Victor Esmeris para sa Outstanding Coconut Farmer.

Kaugnay nito, Si Marites Caña ay buong puso ang pasasalamat sa pagtulong ng lokal na pamahalaan at DA-4A upang mabigyan sila ng pagkakataon sa Gawad Saka na mas maipakilala pa ang kanilang samahan sa buong bansa lalo na ang kanilang ipinagmamalaki na mga produkto.

Samantala, inaasahan ang opisyal na paggagawad sa mga mananalo rito sa darating na buwan ng Mayo kasabay ng selebrasyon ng Buwan ng mga Magsasaka at Mangingisda ngayong taon.

CAYETANO-LED...

FROM PAGE 1

Senator Alan Peter Cayetano's push to modernize the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHIVOLCS) is now a reality.

This after President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on Thursday, April 24, 2025, signed Republic Act No. 12180 or the PHIVOLCS Modernization Act, which is based on Senate Bill No. 2825 which Cayetano sponsored and defended in the Senate.

The law strengthens PHIVOLCS by upgrading its equipment, expanding its monitoring network, and increasing its personnel.

"By modernizing PHIVOLCS, we are making a bold move to ensure that science and innovation are at the heart of our disaster response and preparedness," Cayetano said after leading the Senate in ratifying the final version of the PHIVOLCS Modernization Act earlier this year.

He emphasized that the measure comes at a crucial time, following natural disasters like the recent eruption of Mount Kanlaon.

Among other upgrades, the law provides for the equipping of seismic monitoring systems in all 24 active volcanoes in the country, up from the previous 10.

Likewise, the number of earthquake monitoring stations is expected to increase from 125 to 300.

"This law will fill the gaps in our disaster monitoring systems and help Filipinos become more prepared when calamities strike," Cayetano said.

The law allows PHIVOLCS to hire more experts and improve operational standards. It will also provide the agency with state-of-the-art instruments, equipment, and facilities to deliver timely and reliable data for disaster preparedness, climate change adaptation, agriculture, and other key sectors.

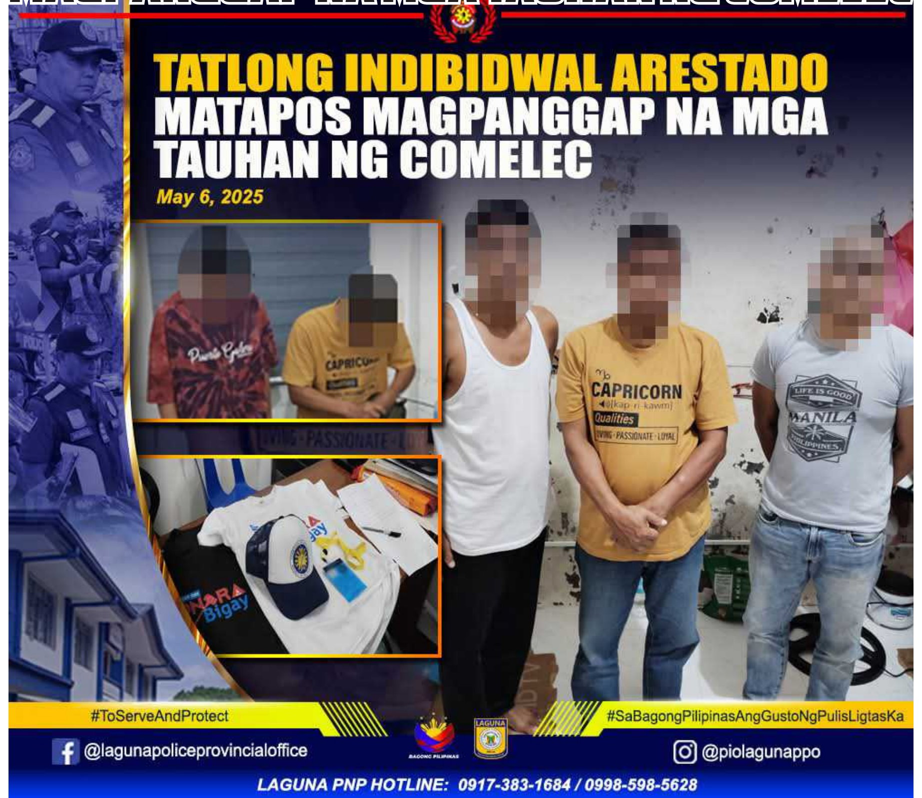
The law also supports advanced research and development by adopting a more systematic and integrated approach in improving PHIVOLCS' operations.

Cayetano said the law will strengthen the country's ability to respond to natural disasters while also promoting a culture of preparedness and environmental stewardship.

"What we can do is to be prepared, warn people, and of course what we can do is honor God's creation by protecting nature," he said.

DERETSAHAN WEEKLY PUBLISHING
The paper that stand for real values and gives you real value for money

TATLONG INDIBIDWAL ARESTADO MATAPOS MAGPANGGAP NA MGA TAUHAN NG COMELEC



Camp BGen Paciano Rizal – Arestado ang tatlong indibidwal matapos magpakilalang mga tauhan ng COMELEC Main Office na nagtangkang magsagawa ng inspeksyon sa mga Automated Counting Machines (ACM) sa Silangan Elementary School, Santa Cruz, Laguna kahapon Mayo 5, 2025.

Kinilala ni Laguna Police Provincial Director PCOL RICARDO I DALMACIA ang mga suspek na sila alyas Noli, Joel at Jose pawang mga residente ng Quezon, City.

Sa ulat ng Santa Cruz Municipal Police Station sa pamumuno ni PLTCOL MARK JULIUS REBANAL, COP siya ay nakatanggap ng situation report mula sa isang pulis na nakatalaga sa nasabing eskwelahan upang bantayan ang mga ACM, agad namang inimpormahan ni PLTCOL REBANAL ang Acting Election Officer ng Santa Cruz, Laguna na si Mr. Patrick H Arbilo at agad pinuntahan ang naturang lugar.

Matapos makarating sa eskwelahan ay agad nagsagawa ng verification ang Election Officer sa tatlong indibidwal na nagpakilalang mga tauhan ng COMELEC Main Office matapos magpakita ng kanilang Identification Cards (ID). Samantala, agad din itong binirepika sa Provincial Comelec ng Laguna at napag alaman na ang tatlo ay hindi mga empleyado o tauhan ng COMELEC at hindi din mga otorisado na magsagawa ng inspeksyon sa mga ACM.

Dahil dito, agad inaresto ang tatlong indibidwal at inimpormahan ang kanilang mga karapatan at Anti-Torture Law. Kasalukuyang nasa kustodiya ng Santa Cruz MPS ang mga naarestong indibidwal habang inihahanda ang mga kaukulang dokumento sa pagsasampa ng kasong Usurpation of Authority at Falsification of Public Document laban sa kanila.

Ikinararangal natin ang mga pulis na nakatalaga sa nasabing paaralan at kapulisan ng Santa Cruz MPS dahil sa pagiging alerto at dedikasyon nila sa trabaho upang magkaroon ng malinis, patas at payapang halalan 2025. Ito ay bunga din ng lagi naming paalala sa mga kapulisan na kasalukuyang naka deploy sa ibat-ibang eskwelahan ngayong halalan na maging alerto, higpitan ang seguridad at mag ingat sa lahat ng oras." Pahayag ni PD DALMACIA.

Make your summer count at the SM Active Hub in SM City Trece Martires!
Head to the Level 2 Event Area and dive into exciting free play activities like table tennis, chess, and billiards—happening now until May 29! Just register via the SM Malls Online app or scan the SMO QR code on-site to claim your swipe coupon and join in the fun!

WHAT'S NEW, Ka-Markets? Smell the freshness in the air—RC Perfume is now open at SM Marketmall Dasmariñas! Visit them at the Upper Ground Floor, between DNSm Café and Juan Linaw, and discover your new favorite scent!

DERETSAHAN WEEKLY PUBLISHING VOL.1 SERIES 44 MAY 18-24, 2025 5
The paper that stand for real values and gives you real value for money

CARD RBI opens its 39th branch in Zamboanga del Norte

Leading the way to financial inclusion, CARD RBI opens its 39th branch in Sindangan, Zamboanga del Norte.

CARD MRI Rizal Bank, Inc. (CARD RBI), a microfinance oriented-rural bank under CARD MRI opened its 39th branch in Sindangan, Zamboanga del Norte on January 20, 2025.

"This event marks more than just the opening of a new branch; it signifies the opening of new doors to opportunities that will better serve communities, especially those facing social and economic challenges, as well as MSMEs. We aim to provide financial and non-financial products and services," said CARD RBI President and CEO Ms. Lyneth Derequito.

According to the 2020 LGU Households Survey, Sindangan has a total household population of 26,068, with an average household size of 4.3. CARD RBI Sindangan Branch is now ready to meet the banking needs of the local communities, particularly the microentrepreneurs.

Sindangan is known for its thriving agribusiness sector, which includes fish and seaweed processing. These industries play a vital role in the economy of Zamboanga del Norte, a province recognized for its diverse agribusiness activities, such as coconut oil milling, wood processing, and rubber production.

"We are committed to reaching more communities and MSMEs through branch expansion. Our goal is to offer essential services and implement community-based development programs to address the various needs of the people," Chairman of the Board Mr. Aristeo A. Dequito said.

The Bank

CARD RBI caters to various financial needs of its clients as it offers a wide range of banking products and services such as micro and SME loans, savings, and remittance services to ensure that all socioeconomically challenged families in the country have access to affordable and quality financial services.

The opening ceremony was attended by CARD MRI Rizal Bank President and CEO Ms. Lyneth L. Derequito, CARD RBI Executive Vice President Ms. Juliana B. De Leon, together with Chairman of the Board Mr. Aristeo A. Dequito, CARD RBI Former President and Board Director Ms. Elma B. Valenzuela, Sindangan Mayor Hon. Rosendo "Dodoy" S. Labadlabad, Vice Mayor Hon. Nilo Boy Sy, and other CARD MRI officers and staff.

This new branch is part of CARD RBI's mission to promote financial inclusion in the country.

The new branch is located in Poblacion, Sindangan, Zamboanga del Norte.

As of December 2024, CARD RBI has grown significantly with over P7.5 billion in assets and more than 330 offices nationwide, serving over 820,000 clients.

For more information about CARD MRI Rizal Bank, Inc., visit its official website at ***www.cardmri.com/rbi/,*** and its Facebook page at CMRBofficial.

COURT OF APPEALS NULLIFIES DE LIMA'S ACQUITTAL IN DRUG CASE, ORDERS RETRIAL

The Court of Appeals (CA) has nullified the acquittal of former senator and newly elected Mamamayang Liberal (ML) party-list representative Leila de Lima in one of her three drug-related cases. The CA declared the Muntinlupa Regional Trial Court (RTC) Branch 206's decision void and remanded the case for retrial.

The CA's 12-page decision, dated April 30, 2025, emphasized that the RTC committed grave abuse of discretion by granting de Lima's demurrer to evidence without thoroughly evaluating the prosecution's presented evidence. The appellate court underscored that such an omission undermines the judicial process and necessitates a retrial to ensure justice is served.

Previously, in June 2024, the Muntinlupa RTC Branch 206 acquitted de Lima by granting her demurrer to evidence, citing insufficient evidence from the prosecution. This decision was upheld in August 2024 when the same court denied the prosecution's motion for reconsideration, stating that the dismissal was tantamount to acquittal and thus not appealable due to the principle of double jeopardy.

However, the CA clarified that while acquittals are generally final, exceptions exist when grave abuse of discretion is evident. In this case, the appellate court found that the RTC's failure to consider critical pieces of evidence and testimonies warranted a reversal of the acquittal.

Leila de Lima, a prominent critic of former President Rodrigo Duterte's administration, was detained in 2017 over allegations of involvement in the illegal drug trade within the New Bilibid Prison during her tenure as Justice Secretary. She has consistently denied these charges, labeling them as politically motivated.

With this CA ruling, the case will return to the Muntinlupa RTC for retrial. Legal analysts anticipate that de Lima's defense team will challenge the CA's decision, potentially elevating the matter to the Supreme Court.

This development marks a pivotal moment in de Lima's prolonged legal battle, highlighting the complexities of the Philippine judicial system and the ongoing discourse on the interplay between law and politics.

(Edjun Mariposque)

Las Piñas Entreps Get Mentoring at Go Negosyo's 3M On Wheels

GO NEGOSYO AT SOUTHMALL. Hundreds of MSMEsfrom Las Piñas and nearby municipalities south of the National Capital Region trooped to the SM Southmall in Las Piñas City last May 10, 2025 for Go Negosyo's 3M on Wheels. The event is part of Go Negosyo's advocacy to promote entrepreneurship across the Philippines through free mentoring. Leading the mentoring is Go Negosyo founder Joey Concepcion, who together with the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) Las Piñas and veteran entrepreneurship mentors, volunteered to mentor the active and aspiring entrepreneurs. With Concepcion were PCCI Las Piñas Chair and President Myraflor Miranda, WomenBiz chair Rosemarie Rafael, Phil. Commission on Women's Myrna Yao, PCCI's George Barcelon, PCCI NCR's Tess Ngan Tian, RL Lapid President Violy Lapid, Semiconductor and Electronics Industries President Dan Lachica, event host Mercato Centrale founder RJ Ledesma, and Karsa Café owner and content creator Gracey Celosa-Mel, who gave a talk about how entrepreneurs can use content creation for their businesses.