

DENR LAUNCHES "GAWAD TAGA-ILOG" IN CAVITE TO BOOST WATERWAY REHABILITATION EFFORTS



Laurel, Batangas — The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) CALABARZON, through its Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) and the Manila Bay Site Coordinating and Management Office IV, officially launched the Gawad Taga-Ilog (GTI): Search for the Most Improved Estero/Waterway in Cavite on July 11, 2025, in Laurel, Batangas.

The GTI Awards Program seeks to recognize the outstanding efforts of local government units (LGUs), particularly barangays, in rehabilitating and maintaining clean, healthy esteros and waterways that flow into Manila Bay. Originally pioneered by DENR-NCR, this localized version in Cavite aims to expand the program's reach while promoting solid and liquid waste management, habitat protection, and active community engagement.

The launching ceremony was highlighted by keynote addresses from DENR CALABARZON Regional Executive Director Nilo B. Tamoria and EMB CALABARZON Regional Director Robert Angelo M. Metin. A symbolic unveiling of the GTI logo and trophy, along with a ceremonial commitment signing among partners and stakeholders, underscored the collaborative nature of the initiative.

In the afternoon, a press conference was held to provide media access to key DENR officials. The discussion covered the program's goals, judging criteria, and the broader environmental vision for Cavite's waterways. The GTI Program is expected to inspire stronger environmental stewardship, encourage sustainable local practices, and serve as a model for inclusive waterway rehabilitation across the region. *(Edjun Mariposque)*



Supportahan natin ang mga aktibidad at programa ngayong

NATIONAL DEWORMING MONTH

Hulyo 2025

Ang pagde-deworm ay isang simple ngunit epektibong paraan para iwason ang mga sakit sa kabataan dulot ng mga worms o bulate.

Mga kundisyong sanhi ng worms:

- Anemia
- Malnutrisyon
- Diarrhea
- Pagbabala ng timbang

Boosting Education: Mayor Rizal Leads Turnover of new Teaching Tools



Vol. 2 - Series 1 - July 20-26, 2025

SENIOR CITIZEN MULTIPURPOSE BUILDING PINASINAYAAN NI CONG. AMBEN AMANTE SA SAN PABLO CITY LAGUNA

LAGUNA - Pinasinayaan ang inayos na Senior Citizen Multipurpose Building at kasabay nito ang panunumpa ng mga officers ng samahan ng mga Senior Citizen ng Brgy. 1C (Bagong Bayan), Lungsod ng San Pablo kahapon, July 18, 2025 sa pangu-



nguna ng kanilang pangulo at dating chairman Ginoong Efren "Boy" Reyes kabilang si Chairman Robbie Narvaja at Buong Sanggunian ng Barangay 1C. Ang pagsasaayos ng nasabing multipurpose building ay mula sa tulong ni Laguna 3rd District Congressman Loreto "Amben" S. Amante na siyang nagsilbing panauhing pandangal ng programa. Kalinga sa mga Senior Citizen ang binigyang diin ni Cong. Amante sa kanyang mensahe para sa mga dumalo. Nilinaw nito ang pagsusog sa isinusulong na Centenarian Act para higit na mapababa pa sa edad na

70 at 75 ang mga makatatanggap ng tulong pinansyal mula sa pamahalaang nasyunal. Ayon kay G.Efren "Boy" Reyes labis ang pas-asalamat ng lahat ng kanyang miyembro dahil sa agad tinugon ni Cong. Amben Amante ang kanilang kahilingan upang maipaayos ang dating gusali. Pawang nagbigay naman suporta ang miyembro ng Sanggunian Panglungsod ng San Pablo na sina Hon. Carmela Acebedo, Hon. Martin Adriano, Hon. Barbie Diaz, Hon. Ambo Amante, Hon. Ding Villanueva, Hon. Francis Calatraba kasama sina Mrs. Edith Regala, Mr. Joseph Corcolon at iba pang personalidad (Kevin Pamatmat)



On July 11, 2025 the 5th EARIST Cavite Branch Career Education & Job Fair, held at the EARIST-GMA campus on Friday, brought together 205 graduating students in a day-long event packed with career guidance, labor market insights, and employment opportunities. Organized by the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPPEM) in collaboration with EARIST-GMA administration, the fair aimed to ease students' transition from campus life to the workplace.

The ceremony opened with remarks from Mrs. Cecilia B. Surio, Chief of the EARIST-GMA Office of Student Affairs, followed by an inspiring message from Cavite PESO Manager Rizalie Pinpin-Enero, who encouraged students to embark on their professional journeys with determination.

A highlight of the event was the Department of Labor and Employment's presentation of Labor Market Information (LMI) key data and employment forecasts designed to guide students in making career and educational decisions.

Career coaching workshops, led by OPPEM staff, offered practical advice on resume drafting, interviewing, and understanding workplace expectations. In tandem, representatives from national government agencies including the NBI, SSS, PSA, PhilHealth, Pag-IBIG, and BIR offered much-needed pre-employment services. In a direct payoff, 11 students were hired on the spot, underscoring the immediate value of the fair in bridging students to the job market.

This initiative aligns with broader government efforts to expand job creation through job fairs held across Cavite. - A.Sarte

Mayor Ross Rizal Unveils New School Stage as a Gift of Hope to Parian Elementary

PNR reopens Laguna-Quezon route

Editorial

LTO LAW ENFORCERS ARE NOT REQUIRED A MISSION ORDER TO APPREHEND TRAFFIC VIOLATORS!

Situations Requiring a Mission Order:
* Carrying Firearms: When LTO enforcers carry firearms outside their designated stations, a mission order is required, in accordance with Republic Act No. 10591 (Comprehensive Law on Firearms and Ammunition). This ensures accountability and control over the use of firearms .

* Special Operations: For operations beyond routine traffic enforcement, such as targeted crackdowns or special deployments, a mission order likely serves as authorization and provides details about the operation's scope and objectives.

* Deputized Agents: While not explicitly stated, deputized agents working with the LTO likely require a deputation order, which functions similarly to a mission order, authorizing their law enforcement activities. This order outlines their authority and responsibilities .

Situations Where a Mission Order May Not Be Required:

* Routine Traffic Enforcement: For typical traffic stops within their assigned areas and during regular duty hours, a mission order might not be explicitly required. However, drivers have the right to request to see the enforcer's identification and other relevant documents, including a mission order if they believe it's necessary .

* Contested Apprehensions: In cases where a traffic violation is contested, the apprehending officer must provide proof of service, which might include a mission order to support the legitimacy of the apprehension .

Driver's Rights
Regardless of whether a mission order is present, drivers have the right to know the enforcer's name and rank, the specific violation, and how/when to pay the fine.

- LTO COLOR CODED IDENTIFICATION
1. WHITE - LTO ORGANIC PERSONNEL
2. GREEN - LTO DEPUTIZED AGENT FROM DENR (ANTI-SMOKE BELCHING)
3. ORANGE - LTO DEPUTIZED AGENT FROM DPWH (ANTI-OVERLOADING)
4. BLUE - LTO DEPUTIZED AGENT FROM (PNP - HIGHWAY PATROL, LGU TRAFFIC ENFORCER, LOCAL POLICE and EXPRESSWAY TOLL REGULATORY OFFICERS)

Regional Director, PRO CALABARZON

Ang Police Regional Office CALABARZON ay maringi kinokondena ang anumang maling gawain ng sinumang miyembro ng ating hanay, lalo na kung ito ay nagdudulot ng takot at panganib sa ating mga kababayan na dapat nating pinoprotektahan.

Pinupuri ko ang mabilis na aksyon ng Lucena City Police Station sa pagdakip sa suspek na isa sa ating mga personnel

SUSPEK ARESTADO SA BUY-BUST OPERATION

Naaresto ng mga operatiba ng PDEA Cavite Provincial Office at Cavite Maritime Police Station ang isang suspek sa droga sa isinagawang buy-bust operation sa harap ng isang convenience store sa Barangay Sta Fe, Dasmariñas City, Cavite. .

Nitong Hulyo 17, 2025 sa ganap na 3:45 ng hapon, kinilala ng mga otoridad ang suspek na si alias Jamaica 34, dalaga, parcel repacker, at residente ng Barangay San Dionisio, Dasmariñas City,

PNR reopens Laguna-Quezon route

MANILA, Philippines — After a month of closure, the Philippine National Railways (PNR) will resume train operations between the provinces of Laguna and Quezon tomorrow.

The Calamba-Lucena-Calamba route has stops in Calamba, Pansol, Masili, Los Baños, College, IRRRI and San Pablo in Laguna as well as Tiaong (Lalig), Candelaria, Lutucan, Sariaya and Lucena in Quezon. The train will depart Lucena at 5 a.m. and will arrive in Calamba at past 7:30 a.m. or approximately two hours and 30 minutes.

Return trip will depart Calamba at 5:45 p.m. and will arrive in Lucena at 8:18 p.m. Fares for regular passengers will range from P15 to P105 depending on the

“Conduct Unbecoming of a Police Officer” at sigisuraduhin natin na siya ay matatanggal sa serbisyo. Sa ating mga kababayan, asahan po ninyo na kami sa PRO CALABARZON ay mananatiling

Nasamsam sa suspek ang limang piraso ng transparent plastic sachet na may lamang pinaghihinalaang shabu na may timbang na humigit kumulang na 500 gramo at buy-bust money Mahaharap sa kasong paglabag sa Section 5 (Sale of Dangerous Drugs) Article II ng Republic Act 9165 o ng Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 ang suspek.

Students, senior citizens and persons with disability will receive discounts or will pay between P12 and P84.

The reopening of the Lucena-Calamba-Lucena train line came almost a month after the PNR suspended the operation on June 17 to repair the rails, embankments and bridges.

The management said it needed to prepare the rail line for the transfer and operation of train sets previously used for the PNR's Metro Manila line, which was shut down in March 2024.

The PNR has three daily train trips from Sipocot to Naga in Camarines Sur and back, and two from Naga to Legazpi in Albay. (PhilStar Ngayon)

tapat sa pagbibigay ng mabilis at maayos na serbisyo, pagpapanatili ng disiplina at mataas na moral ng ating kapulisan, at pagtitiyak ng pananagutan ng bawat pulis sa italim ng aking pamumuno.



BOOSTING...

Calamba City, Laguna — Strengthening support for the education sector, Calamba City Mayor Roseller H. “Ross” Rizal led the Ceremonial Turn-Over and Distribution of important teaching tools and learning devices to educators from the Department of Education (DepEd) Calamba. Held at the LLC Auditorium of Calamba Elementary School, the event saw the distribution of printers, Wacom tablets, SNED (Special Needs Education) assistive devices, and various manipulative materials to selected teachers. These resources aim to enhance classroom learning and better equip educators

FROM PAGE 1

in addressing the diverse needs of students. Mayor Ross Rizal emphasized the importance of this initiative, saying: “Bagong pag-asa para sa edukasyon.” “ This program is designed to ease the teaching process and further improve the quality of education for every student in our city. Together, we are raising the level of service and support for the education sector.” The activity reflects the city's ongoing commitment to empowering teachers and ensuring a more inclusive and innovative learning environment for all learners. (Edjun Mariposque)



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Table with 2 columns: ADVERTISING RATES and Font Size. Includes rates for Commercial and Legal/Notices, and font size specifications for heading, body text, and space.

PBBM to pursue more programs for elderly

MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. is committed to pushing for more programs that will benefit the elderly, Malacañang said on Friday.

“Sa ating pagkakaalam, sa ngayon po ay marami ding programa para sa mga senior citizens (As far as we know, there are also many programs for senior citizens),” Palace Press Officer Claire Castro said in a press conference, when asked to react to public criticisms on the supposed failure of the government to provide for the needs of the elderly.

Castro said senior citizens are given priority when there is a distribution of government assistance.

She also cited the recent launch of a 50-percent fare discount for senior citizens in Metro Manila's train systems.

“Hindi po rin naman titigil ang Pangulo na tulungan. Mas dagdagan pa ang mga ayuda para sa mga elderlies natin. So, huwag po muna sigurong maging negatibo, tingnan muna nila kung

ano na ba ang nagawa ng administrasyon na ito para sa mga elder (The President will not stop helping. He will even increase the aid for our elderly. So, let's not be negative. Let's first see what this administration has done for the elders),” she said.

Pressed further if the Palace supports measures penalizing negligent children who abandon elderly parents, Castro said the provisions of the bill must be studied first, stressing that “it depends on the situation.”

This, as Castro acknowledged that some are incapable of providing financial support to their aging parents.

“Mayroon na po kasing probisyon sa Family Code, Article 194 kung saan isinasaad na iyong magulang at mga anak, they should mutually support each other. Provided na po iyan. Ang kaibahan na lamang po siguro dito ay maaaring gawin itong isang krimen, dahil ipepenalize (There is already a provision in the Family Code, Article 194, which states that parents and

children should mutually support each other. That is already provided. The only difference here is that it can be made a crime, because it will be penalized),” she said.

“Now, kapag ginawang krimen, ulitin natin, kailangan nating makita iyong probisyon. Dahil baka naman may kakayanan talaga ng anak na sumuporta at in need ang magulang, tingnan po natin kung dapat ngang gawin itong krimen. Dahil hindi naman po magiging krimen kung iyong mga anak din naman ay in need (Now, if it is made a crime, let's repeat, we need to see that provision. Because maybe the child really has the ability to support the parent and is in need, let's see if it should be made a crime. Because it wouldn't be a crime if the children were also in need).”

Senator Panfilo Lacson has refiled his proposed Parents Welfare Act of 2025, seeking to penalize children who fail to provide support to their “aging, sick, and incapacitated parents.” (PNA)

ANIM NA MIYEMBRO NG GABINETE, BARMM MINISTERS, NAGTIPON SA MARAWI PARA MADALIIN ANG REHABILITASYON NG LUNGSOD ALINSUNOD SA DIREKTIBA NI PBBM

Alinsunod sa direktiba ni Pangulong Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., nagtungo ang anim na miyembro ng gabinete, kabilang na ang ilang ministro ng Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) sa Marawi City noong Biyernes, ika-11 ng Hulyo, 2025, para sa isang pagpupulong sa Camp Ranao, Marawi, Lanao del Sur. Ang mga Kalihim ay pinangunahan ni Presidential Adviser for Marawi Rehabilitation and Development Secretary Nasser Pangandaman Sr., kasama sina Secretary Amenah “Mina” F. Pangandaman ng Department of Budget and Management (DBM), Secretary Teodoro J. Herbosa ng Department of Health (DOH), Secretary Jose Ramon P. Ailing ng Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD), Secretary Manuel M. Bonoan ng Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), at Secretary Juan Edgardo “Sonny” Angara ng Department of Education (DepEd).

Si Secretary Amenah Pangandaman ay nagsisilbi rin bilang

Co-Chair ng Intergovernmental Relations Body (IGRB) na nagtataguyod ng relasyon sa pagitan ng Bangsamoro regional government at ng national government.

Kabilang naman sa lumagda sa iba't ibang kasunduan ang iba pang opisyal mula sa pambansang pamahalaan, na sina General Manager Joeben Tai ng National Housing Authority (NHA), General Manager Jay Daniel R. Santiago ng Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), Administrator Antonio Mariano Almada ng National Electrification Administration (NEA), at National Director Elizer S. Saillig ng Department of Agriculture's Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR).

Ang BARMM Ministers, na pinamumunuan ni BARMM Chief Minister Abdulraof Macacua, ay kinabibilangan nina Minister Ubaida Pacasem ng Ministry of Finance, and Budget and Management, Minister Kadil Sinolinging Jr. ng Ministry of Health, Minister Hamid Aminod-din Barra ng Ministry of Human Settlements and Development, at Minister

Muhammad Ameen Abbas ng Ministry of Transportation and Communications. Nagtapos ang pulong sa paglagda ng mga sumusunod:

(1) Memorandum of Agreement sa pagitan ng DPWH at BARMM para sa pagsasaayos ng Access Bridge sa Norsalam Village;

(2) Memorandum of Agreement ng DPWH, DepEd, at BARMM para sa konstruksyon ng School Ancillary Facilities;

(3) Memorandum of Understanding sa pagitan ng NHA at BARMM para sa Building Better Marawi—Livable and Accessible Marawi Housing Program;

(4) Memorandum of Understanding sa pagitan ng DA at DA-BFAR kasama ang BARMM para sa Building Better Marawi—Aquaculture Industry Development;

(5) Memorandum of Understanding sa pagitan ng NHA at ng Marawi Compensation Board (MCB) para sa turnover ng compensation claims; at

(6) Acceptance Documents sa pagitan ng PPA at BARMM para sa turnover ng Marawi Port Facilities.

Bukod sa mga ito, ilan pa sa mga commitment na bunga ng pagpupulong ang pangakong suporta ng DepEd sa pagbibigay ng mga kagamitan sa Marawi Integrated School, pagtitiyak ng NEA ng suplay ng kuryente sa Marawi City General Hospital at mga karatig na lugar, at pagbibigay ng DOH ng suporta para sa pagkumpleto at operasyon ng Marawi City General Hospital.

Kasunod ng pagsasagawa ng pulong ang turnover ng 42 ambulansya ng DOH, na nagpapatibay sa emergency medical service ng lungsod.

Kabilang sa iba pang opisyal ng national government na dumalo sa mga aktibidad sina DBM Undersecretaries Margaux Salcedo at Wilford Will L. Wong, DepEd Undersecretaries Trygve L. Olaiivar at Malcolm S. Garma, at DPWH Undersecretary Eugenio R. Pipo Jr.

Reforestation our forests for the future of our planet



of Cavite Jasmin Angelli Bautista, as well as partners from the private sector. “Ang selebrasyong ito ay para sa Inang Kalikasan, at para sa tirahan ng mga mamamayan ng kinabukasan. Patuloy po nating pangalagaan at mahalina ang ating luntiang kapaligiran,” the mayor said.

Through One For Trees, OMF continues its efforts to restore critical forests and watersheds. Since the program launched, more than 2.7 million trees and mangroves were planted.

CONGRESSWOMAN ANN MATIBAG, NAGHAIN NG PANUKALA KONTRA PANG-AABUSO SA NAKATATANDA

SAN PEDRO, LAGUNA — Isang bagong panukalang batas na House Bill No. 2012 o "Anti-Elder Abuse Law of 2025," naglalayong tiyaking ligtas at may dignidad ang pamumuhay ng mga nakatatanda ang inihain kamakailan sa Mababang Kapulungan ng Kongreso ni Laguna 1st District Representative Ann Matibag. Ang panukala ay hango sa nakapanulumong karanasan ng isang kilalang negosyante sa Pampanga na naging biktima ng pang-aabuso sa katan-daan.

Sa kasalukuyan, ang mga kaso ng pang-aabuso sa matatanda ay isinasampa sa ilalim ng mga pangkalahatang batas tulad ng Revised Penal Code, o kung minsan, sa ilalim ng Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Act (RA 9262), kung ang biktima ay babae.

Ngunit ayon kay Matibag, hindi sapat ang mga batas na ito upang tugunan ang natatangi

ing kahinaan ng mga tumatandang Pilipino.

"Sa ngayon, ang mga kaso ng pang-aabuso sa matatanda ay pili na isinisingit sa umiiral na mga batas—kadala-sang isinasampa sa ilalim ng Revised Penal Code o minsan sa RA 9262. Ngunit ang mga batas na ito, bagamat mahalaga, ay hindi isinasaalang-alang ang mga natatanging pangangailangan at kahinaan ng mga matatanda."

Ibinahagi ni Matibag ang kaso ni Cita N. Rodriguez, isang 89-anyos na accountant at pilantropo mula Pampanga, na naging viral kamakailan sa social media at mga ulat ng balita. Ayon sa mga ulat, ang mismong pamangkin ni Rodriguez umano ang nanamantala sa humihinang pag-iisip ng matanda upang kuhanan ang kanyang mga ari-arian at ipagkait ang kanyang pinansyal na yaman — bago siya tuluyang ihialay at gawing halos pulubi sa sariling tahanan.

"Hindi natatangi ang kaso ni Tita Cita,"

babala ni Matibag. "Ito ay bahagi ng mas malawak at mas nakababahalang padron ng pang-aabuso sa matatanda — isang isyung hindi sapat na natutugunan ng ating umiiral na sistema ng batas." Ayon sa kanya, ang kawalan ng mga nakalaan at tiyak na mga patakaran ay nagdulot ng "kakulangan sa doktrina, hindi pantay na pag-uusig, at kakulangan sa mga serbisyong pang-prebensyon at suporta."

Ang panukala ay nakabatay sa mga probisyon ng 1987 Konstitusyon na kumikilala sa dangal ng bawat tao, nagsisiguro ng ganap na paggalang sa karapatang pantao, at nag-uutos ng natatanging proteksyon para sa mga bulnerableng sektor gaya ng matatanda. Kinilala rin nito ang tungkulin ng Estado na umalalay sa obligasyon ng pamilya sa pag-aalaga ng kaniyang matatandang miyembro—lalo na kung ang mismong pamilya ang nagiging sanhi ng pang-aabuso.

Nanawagan si



Matibag ng suporta mula sa lahat ng panig sa Kongreso upang mapabilis ang pagpasa ng panukala, gayundin ng suporta mula sa Commission on Human Rights (CHR), mga pederasyon ng senior citizens, at iba't ibang tagapagtaguyod ng karapatan ng matatanda. "Ngunit hinihiling ko rin ang bawat isa sa inyo na tumindig kasama ko. Huwag nating hayaang

maging panukala ko lamang ito, kundi maging kolektibong paninindigan nating lahat."

Hinimok din ni Matibag ang mga kapwa mambabatas na lampasan ang pawang pamana ng kulturang "paggalang" at isalin ito sa tunay na proteksyon. "Ipakita natin sa buong bayan na ang ating pagmamahal sa mga nakatatanda ay

hindi nagtatapos sa mano po. Ipagkaloob natin sa kanila hindi lamang ang karangalang nararapat sa kanila, kundi pati ang proteksyong tunay nilang kailangan."

Inaasahang isumite ang panukala sa nararapat na komite sa Kamara sa mga darating na Linggo. (SHEKINAH ESTEBAN)

TULONG HATID NI MATIBAG SA GITNA NG KALAMIDAD SA SAN PEDRO



ibang relief goods gaya ng hygiene kits, sa pakikipagtugunan ng Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) at Office of the Civil Defense (OCD). Bahagi rin ng relief operation ang Zonta Club of Laguna, na patuloy na nagbibigay suporta sa mga nangangailangang kababaihan at pamilya sa rehiyon.

Bukod sa pag-abot ng tulong, nanawagan din si Rep. Matibag sa Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) at iba pang



SAN PEDRO, LAGUNA — Agad na rumesponde si Laguna 1st District Representative Ann Matibag sa mga biktima ng landslide sa Barangay Sampaguita, San Pedro City noong Hulyo 17, 2025. Personal siyang nagtungo sa lugar upang mamuno sa pamamahagi ng tulong at makita ang kalagayan ng mga pamilyang nawalan ng tirahan. Ayon sa paunang

ulat, hindi bababa sa 37 katao mula sa 7 pamilya ang naapektuhan matapos bumigay ang bahagi ng riripap sa gitna ng malakas na ulan dulot ng habagat na pinalakas pa ng bagyong Crising.

Kilala sa bansag na "Lagunanay," agad na namahagi si Rep. Matibag ng P10,000 cash assistance sa bawat pamilyang apektado, kasama rin ang grocery packs at iba't

ahensya ng pamahalaan para sa agarang rehabilitasyon ng mga nasirang imprastraktura at pagpapatupad ng mga hakbang para maiwasan ang kahalintulad na sakuna sa hinaharap.

Sa ngayon, pansamantalang nanunuluyan sa Barangay Hall ng Sampaguita ang mga pamilyang nawalan ng tirahan habang hinihintay ang mas matagalang resettlement at suportang pangkabuhayan mula sa lokal na pamahalaan at mga kinauukulang ahensya. (Shekinah Esteban)



Pointer

Pau Dela Cruz

Peace Dialogue conducted in Sultan sa Barongis, Maguindanao del Sur

On June 24, 2025, a peace dialogue was initiated by Brigadier General Edgar L Catu, Commander of the 601st Infantry "UNIFIER" Brigade, together with Lt. Col Germen T Legada, Acting Commanding Officer of the 33rd Infantry "MAKABAYAN" Battalion. The meeting was held at the Mayor's Office, Municipal Hall of Sultan sa Barongis, and was attended by Hon. Allandatu M. Angas Sr., Municipal Mayor, and Hon. Alfizar Allandatu M. Angas Sr, Vice Mayor, and Police Lieutenant Samer D Kasan, COP of Sultan sa Barongis, Municipal Police Station.

The primary objective of the meeting was to promote the peaceful resolution of conflicts in the municipality, focusing on the rido within the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) and the presence of Armed Lawless Groups (ALG) in the area.

The discussion emphasized the need to prevent further violence

that could harm civilians and lead to displacement.

During the meeting, Brigadier General Catu urged the Local Government Unit (LGU) to include in the agenda of the Municipal Peace and Order Council (MPOC) meeting the passage of a resolution declaring the leaders of the conflicting groups as persona non grata if they continue to instigate violence and disturb the peace in the municipality.

The dialogue concluded with a unified agreement among all participants to support the outlined strategy in promoting peace and sustainable development in Sultan sa Barongis.

The 33rd Infantry "MAKABAYAN" Battalion remains committed to serve the people and secure the land. This collaborative effort represents a significant step in building lasting peace and stability in Maguindanao del Sur.

LABOR LAWS PROTECTING CHILD INFLUENCERS SOUGHT

CALAMBA CITY (PIA)—Child labor laws will soon cover influencers aged below 15 years if existing labor laws are expanded to include younger children involved in the creative industry, according to the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE).

Ratified into law in 2003, Republic Act No. 9231 more commonly known as Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labor Act currently only covers child entertainers, but is yet to include online child influencers.

Lawyer Jeromel Gabriel, Bureau of Workers with Special Concerns-Young Workers Development Division chief, said existing labor laws are being updated to expand coverage for children involved in the creative industry.

"This also applies to child artists and models, [who are required] to secure a working child permit. However, it [R.A. 9231] has been 22 years

and not much was mentioned regarding [online influencers] since vlogging is very recent because of technological advancements."

This year, the labor department has been conducting public consultations with the agriculture, construction, manufacturing, and creative industries for possible updating of the law. This includes stakeholders in the National Capital Region, CALABARZON, Central Luzon, Western Visayas, and SOCKARGEN regions who have raised concerns on policies protecting children involved in the creative and media industries particularly those involved in vlogging—or video blogging—and online selling.

"The last DOLE regulation [on children involved in the creative industry] was signed in 2016, when there were less child influencers unlike today when vlogging has turned into a lucrative job."

Although a national-scale policy protecting online child influencers is yet to be ratified, local government units—such as Quezon City—have been passing ordinances to protect online influencers aged 15 and below.

"There are existing bills or ordinances for children involved in the digital economy, and we are consulting with stakeholders regarding that."

Countries have been pushing for policies protecting child influencers against exploitation and abuse.

In 2024, France introduced the Child's Image Right Law and the Child Image Law to reinforce their right to protection.

Last January, the United States followed suit as California signed child influencer laws where content creators featuring minors in at least 30 percent of their content must deposit 65 percent of the minor's gross earnings into a trust account.

PUBLISHER CORNER

DEPUTIZED LGU TRAFFIC ENFORCERS CANNOT CONDUCT ROADSIDE INSPECTIONS WITHOUT REASONABLE SUSPICION OF A VIOLATION, EVEN IF THEY ARE DEPUTIZED BY THE LAND TRANSPORTATION OFFICE (LTO). HERE'S WHY:



1. Legal Limitations of Deputization

Deputization grants LGU enforcers authority to enforce specific traffic laws (e.g., issuing tickets for unregistered vehicles due to Reckless Driving is allowed, Not wearing seatbelt or Not wearing helmet) a traffic violation seen by the eyes of a Traffic Enforcer. However, this authority is not absolute:

- Deputized enforcers must act within the scope defined by the LTO, which typically involves addressing observed violations, not arbitrary inspections.
-The Philippine Constitution prohibits unreasonable searches and seizures. Law enforcement (including deputized personnel) requires probable cause (e.g., visible violation, erratic driving) to stop a vehicle.

2. Checkpoints vs. Random Inspections

Authorized checkpoints (e.g., anti-colourum operations) are legal if conducted by LTO Organic Personnel and publicly announced. These are not considered "random" and serve a specific regulatory purpose.
-Random roadside inspections without a clear basis (e.g., no violation observed) violate drivers' constitutional rights to privacy and due process.

3. Accountability and Abuse Prevention

Deputized enforcers face strict accountability:
- Abuse of authority (e.g., unwarranted stops) can lead to administrative or criminal charges.
-The LTO requires deputized personnel to undergo training to ensure compliance with legal protocols.

enforcers may conduct inspections only in these scenarios:

- Visible violations: Examples No Side Mirror, broken lights, or Excess of passenger vehicles.
- Targeted operations: Checkpoints for specific offenses (such as unregistered vehicles or driving without a license must be accompanied by the LTO Organic Personnel).
- Post-accident investigations: To determine if mechanical failure caused an incident.

Deputization enhances LGU enforcers' authority but does not permit random inspections. Their actions must align with constitutional safeguards and LTO guidelines. Drivers can refuse unwarranted stops unless a valid violation or authorized checkpoint is present.

Ancillary services drive July 2025 transmission rates up

Power consumers can expect higher transmission rates this July 2025, with the bulk of the increase driven by Ancillary Services (AS) rates, NGCP announced.

For the June 2025 billing period, both AS and NGCP's transmission wheeling rates increased, but the surge in AS costs accounts for most of the adjustment.

Overall equivalent average transmission rates for the June 2025 billing period increased by 5.49% to PhP1.2113/kWh, from May's PhP1.1482/kWh.

The increase was driven by a 9.32% increase in ancillary service rates in the June 2025 billing period. From PhP0.5655/kWh in May, AS rates increased

to PhP0.6182/kWh.

AS rates pertain to the pass-through costs for power supplied by AS providers to stabilize the grid during power supply-demand imbalance. AS charges are remitted directly to generating companies with bilateral contracts with NGCP, and to the Independent Electricity Market Operator of the Philippines (IEMOP) for the AS sourced from the Reserve Market.

The AS cost for Visayas for the June 2025 billing period includes the 6th and last tranche of the settlement of the remaining 70% AS from the Reserve Market during the March 2024 billing period whose recovery was deferred by the ERC. NGCP does not

earn from AS and does not benefit from the movement in prices.

Meanwhile, NGCP's transmission wheeling rates slightly increased by 0.39%, from PhP0.4593/kWh in the May 2025 billing period to PhP0.4611/kWh in the June 2025 billing period.

Transmission wheeling rates are what NGCP charges for its primary service of delivering power.

"For the July 2025 electric bill of the end consumers, NGCP charges only PhP0.46/kWh for the delivery of its services," NGCP explained, adding that AS still accounts for the bulk of transmission charges.

Mayor Ross Rizal Unveils New School Stage as a Gift of Hope to Parian Elementary



Calamba City, Laguna — A new symbol of hope and talent now stands proudly at Parian Elementary School as Calamba City Mayor Ross Rizal formally turned over the newly constructed Mayor Ross Rizal School Stage, a heartfelt gift made possible through the Dugong Bayani Foundation.

The simple yet meaningful project aims to serve as a beacon of growth, creativity, and community spirit for students, teachers, and the entire school community. "This stage is more than just a structure," Mayor Rizal said during the ceremonial turnover. "It represents a new chapter of hope and opportunity for every student who dreams of performing, speaking, or taking part in meaningful school events."

The new stage is expected to become a central venue for school programs, cultural performances, and important celebrations, providing students with a platform to showcase their talents and build confidence.

The initiative reflects the local government's commitment to investing in education and youth development, not just through infrastructure but also by fostering an environment where dreams and aspirations can thrive.

With the Mayor Ross Rizal School Stage, Parian Elementary School opens a new chapter—where every performance becomes a step closer to a brighter future. (Edjun Mariposque)



DTI 4-A, DTI EMB, AND KOREA TRADE NETWORK HOLD SUCCESSFUL FTA ROADSHOW IN LAGUNA

Calamba City, Laguna — On May 20, 2025, the Department of Trade and Industry Region 4-A, in partnership with the DTI-Export Marketing Bureau (DTI-EMB) and the Korea Trade Network, successfully held the Regional Roadshow and Training Session on the Philippine Free Trade Agreement (FTA) Integrated Platform at Hotel Marciano in Calamba City. This event brought together exporters, trade stakeholders, and business representatives from across the region for a full-day session designed to enhance their understanding of the country's preferential trade agreements and help them utilize these opportunities more effectively.

The roadshow is part of DTI's ongoing collaboration with the Korea Institute for Advancement of Technology (KIAT) for

the development and implementation of the Origin Management System for the Promotion of Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) in the Philippines. This initiative, known as the Philippine FTA Integrated Platform Project, is designed to simplify and digitalize processes for Filipino exporters, enabling them to better access tariff preferences and maximize the benefits of FTAs in global markets.

The FTA Integrated Platform comprises two major components: the FTA Information Portal and the soon-to-be-launched FTA Origin Management System. The FTA Information Portal serves as a comprehensive online resource offering up-to-date information on the Philippines' FTAs, explaining how exporters can leverage these agreements for tariff benefits. The FTA Origin Management System,



which will be launched in June 2025, is a digital tool aimed at streamlining the application process for the Product Evaluation Report (PER), a crucial requirement for accessing FTA benefits.

During the event, expert-led sessions covered a range of topics, with DTI 4-A Regional Director Marissa C. Argente delivering the opening remarks. The attendees received an overview of the various FTAs the Philippines is a part of, including the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP). The

session also featured a live demonstration of the FTA Information Portal, as well as an introduction to the FTA Origin Management System, with a step-by-step walkthrough of how to use the platform's features. Additionally, participants were guided through data management procedures and the online application process for the Product Evaluation Report, helping them understand how to efficiently navigate these systems to access trade benefits.

The session also provided participants with

hands-on training. Attendees were encouraged to register and create their exporter dashboard to fully engage with the platform and explore its various tools. The event concluded with an open forum, allowing participants to ask questions, share feedback, and contribute suggestions for further refining the platform.

"This roadshow is an essential part of our commitment to empower Filipino exporters with the tools and knowledge they need to be competitive in the global market," said

Christian Ted O. Tungohan, Provincial Director of DTI Laguna. "We are confident that the FTA Integrated Platform will simplify complex processes and open new doors for our exporters, enabling them to take full advantage of the opportunities provided by FTAs."

The FTA Origin Management System is scheduled for official launch in June 2025, marking a significant milestone in DTI's continued efforts to support the growth of local businesses and enhance their global trade capabilities.

Mouthwatering taste of determination



Marita Villamor showcases her crispy pata business, which has been running strong for nearly four decades.

Growing up, Marita Villamor from Sampaloc, Manila, dreamed of becoming an office girl and thriving in the corporate world. With this goal in mind, she pursued a secretarial course in college and even enrolled in a typing lesson class—all in hopes of landing her dream job.

But life has different plans for her. After starting a family in 1986, Marita found herself venturing into business. Her godfather, who owned a hog-raising business, offered to supply her with pork, a gesture that led her to start her crispy pata business.

Marita recalls how the support from friends and neighbors ig-

nited the fire within her. Their loyalty has stood the test of time. Even after moving to the province, some of them still visit her store whenever they are in Manila, never leaving without bringing home crispy pata as pasalubong.

Determination built her daily routine. She'd wake up at 5:00 am to get ready, even when tired. For her, there was no room for rest; they had to earn money for a living.

Over time, their hard work began to pay off. Today, the business has expanded with an additional branch and now employs three workers, an achievement that Marita takes great pride in.

Marita received support from CARD, Inc.

(A Microfinance NGO) to boost her capital. The largest loan she received from the institution was PHP 200,000.00, which she used as revolving capital.

After nearly four decades in the business, Marita looks back with a sense of fulfillment. Opening another branch is undoubtedly an achievement, but the most meaningful success for her was sending her two children to college.

"Take the risk, even if it's not your planned path. One day, you'll thank yourself for having the courage to start," she concluded, leaving an encouraging message to those held back by fear and doubt.

Small Entrepreneurs Dream Big In Taguig with Go Negosyo

Multinational businesses and large corporations in Taguig City took a backseat last Saturday, June 5, as micro-, small, and medium enterprises gathered at the activity center of Ayala Malls Market! Market! to avail of free entrepreneurship mentoring and other entrepreneurship assistance from Go Negosyo's 3M on Wheels event.

M on Wheels is the popular mall-based entrepreneurship event organized by Go Negosyo and supported by the Department of Trade and Industry and the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI) Taguig. "Large business districts like Taguig are fueled by the efforts of the thousands of micro and small entrepreneurs who provide countless products and services on a daily basis right here in the city," said Go Negosyo founder Joey Concepcion.

In the photo are PCCI Taguig Inc. President Henry Gaw, NISCO Philippines Enterprise President Yolanda Dela Cruz, Yovel East Phils. CEO James Amparo, Go Negosyo mentors, and content creator and Drizzled Chicken owner Maine Fontanilla, who shared her insights on how entrepreneurs can promote their businesses by becoming brand influencers.

The highlight of the event was when volunteers from Go Negosyo's pool of entrepreneurship mentors gave one-on-one business advice and coaching to the Taguig-based entrepreneurs.



"Konnichiwa, Japan!" Mall Exhibit in SM Sta. Rosa Brings Japan Experience to Filipinos—No Visa Needed



Sta. Rosa City, Laguna — As part of the Philippine-Japan Friendship Month celebration, Director Matsuda Shigehiro of the Japan Information and Culture Center (JICC) formally invited Filipinos to experience "Konnichiwa, Japan", a cultural showcase currently on display at SM City Sta. Rosa.

The exhibit offers mallgoers a unique opportunity to immerse themselves in Japanese culture without leaving the Philippines—or needing a visa. Visitors can explore

Japan's iconic landmarks, traditional arts, food replicas, and photo-worthy installations, all within the mall setting.

"This is our way of bringing a piece of Japan closer to Filipinos," said Director Matsuda. "We hope this sparks greater interest and appreciation for our shared friendship."

The launch was graced by notable guests, including Laguna Vice Governor JM Carait, Vice Governor's League of the Philippines President Atty.

Karen Agapay, and SM VIPs, alongside an enthusiastic crowd of mallgoers and Japan enthusiasts.

In partnership with SM City Sta. Rosa, the exhibit will run until August 8, 2025, making it a must-visit weekend destination for families, students, and culture lovers alike.

With its interactive and Instagrammable displays, Konnichiwa, Japan brings a meaningful and fun cultural exchange right to the heart of Laguna. (Edjun Mariposque)