

MAYOR ROSS RIZAL HONORED AS OUTSTANDING LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE BY NAPOLCOM



Calamba City Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal has been recognized by the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) as an Outstanding Local Chief Executive during the celebration of the 31st National Crime Prevention Week. Mayor Rizal expressed his gratitude,



dedicating the award to the people of Calamba. ("Ang parangal na ito ay hindi ko lamang tinatanggap para sa aking sarili. Ito ay iniaalay ko para sa bawat Calambefio na katuwang sa pagtataguyod ng kapayapaan at kaayusan. Patunay ito na ang ating pagkakaisa at kooperasyon ang tunay na susi sa patuloy na tagumpay ng ating lungsod. Muli, maraming salamat sa tiwala. Sama-sama nating ipagpapatuloy ang adhikain para sa isang ligtas, payapa, at higit na progresibong Calamba.") "This honor is not only for myself but for every Calambefio who continues to work hand in hand in upholding peace and order. This recognition proves that unity and co-operation are the real keys to our city's continuous success. Thank you once again for the trust, and together, we will continue striving for a safer, more peaceful, and more progressive Calamba," he said. The award highlights Mayor Rizal's strong support for peace and order initiatives, further cementing Calamba City's commitment to ensuring safety, security, and progress for its residents. (Edjun Mariposque)

GOVERNOR SOL ARAGONES STRENGTHENS RELIEF EFFORTS IN LAGUNA: FOOD DISTRIBUTION, HELPLINES, AND HOSPITALS ON HIGH ALERT AMID TYPHOON OPONG

Legal team ni Duterte handang sundin ang mga kondisyon ng ICC para sa interim release nito



SMC renews warning on scams using CEO's name



San Miguel Corp. (SMC) is warning the public about a new wave of scams exploiting the name of its chairman and CEO Ramon S. Ang. These include deep fake videos circulating on social media such as TikTok, Facebook, and Instagram that digitally alter Ang's likeness and voice to trick viewers into clicking links and transferring money through electronic cash channels. SMC said the cases have already been reported to the different platforms and authorities, but are still awaiting action. "I do not promote investments through social media or random emails, and I have never made any video inviting people to invest or promising money-back guarantees. These scams put people at risk, and we don't want anyone to lose their hard-earned money," Ang said.

Ang's only verified account is his official Facebook page, used only for public posts and updates. He has no personal accounts on Instagram, X (formerly Twitter), TikTok, or other platforms. Meanwhile, SMC itself has also been the subject of email scams. A new scheme involves messages inviting recipients to join a supposed "vending procurement program." The company said no such program exists and warned against emails sent from domains such as "smc@gmail.com," "vendedordepartment," or "sanmiguelcooperation.com." SMC stressed it conducts business only with accredited suppliers through its Corporate Procurement Group (smc_cpgsupport@sanmiguel.com.ph), which never requires payments for accreditation or participation in biddings. For security, the email address only receives inquiries, and feedback requests must include a phone number. Job-seekers are also being victimized through a recruitment scam, where fake web pages and email addresses are used to trick people into thinking they are applying to an SMC subsidiary. They are then asked for payment for medical check-ups or for fake requirements. SMC emphasized that the company and its businesses will never require any form of payment from job applicants, or ask them to shoulder any fees and costs. The company urged the public to remain vigilant, block suspicious accounts, and report scams to the proper authorities. sanmiguelcooperation.com (Edjun Mariposque)

CALAMBA CITY, LAGUNA - For three decades, DZJV 1458 RADYO CALABARZON has stood as a trusted voice and steadfast companion-Kaakibat in service, faith, and community. As it celebrates its 30th year in broadcasting, DZJV marks this historic milestone in the service of God and Country.

PLTCol Ericson B Nato, Chief, Provincial Police Community Affairs and Development Unit (PCADU) received Plaque of Commendation in grateful recognition of their tireless efforts and invaluable contributions as member Technical Working Group (TWG) which led to the successful conduct of 31st National Crime Prevention Week Celebration during the Culminating Activity of the 31st National Crime Prevention Week (NCPW) cum 59th NAPOLCOM Founding Anniversary held on September 25, 2025, at the Monochrome Events Place, Nuvali, Sta. Rosa City, Laguna.

CALABARZON INFORMATION FRONTLINERS TRAINED ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR DISASTER COMMUNICATION

Editoryal:

INDEPENDENT COMMISSION FOR INFRA-STRUCTURE: ANG TUNAY NA PAGSUBOK SA TAPANG NI MARCOS

Kung tunay na seryoso si Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos Jr. na gawing makabuluhan ang Independent Commission for Infrastructure o ICI, kailangan niyang ilagay ang mga taong walang bahid, walang partido, at walang interes kundi ang bayan. Hindi sapat ang mga kaalyado. Ang tanong: handa ba siyang bigyan ng puwesto ang mga kritiko niya?

Dalawa ang malinaw na karapat-dapat: Cielo Magno at Heidi Mendoza.

Cielo Magno: Eksperto sa Daloy ng Pondo Bilang Propesor sa UP School of Economics at dating DOF Undersecretary para sa Fiscal Policy, kabisado ni Cielo Magno ang buong siklo ng pera ng bayan mula sa pagkolekta ng buwis, pagbuo ng budget, hanggang sa alokasyon ng pondo. May academic excellence, malawak na research background, at integridad na pinatunayan nang tumindig siya laban sa Maharlika Investment Fund kahit kapalit ang kanyang posisyon. Hindi siya politiko, hindi siya miyembro ng anumang partido. Isang dalisay na teknokrata na ang panig ay sa katotohanan lamang.

Heidi Mendoza: Auditor ng Bayan Si Heidi Mendoza, dating COA Commissioner at UN Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight, ay dalubhasa sa pagtukoy ng fraud at maling paggamit ng pondo. Paulit-ulit niyang pinatunayan na kaya niyang basahin at busisinyang pinakamaliit na resibo o kontrata para mabunyang ang pinakamalaking anomalya. Mula Pilipinas hanggang United Nations, dala niya ang disiplina ng auditing at oversight. Wala siyang hawak na posisyong pulitikal at wala siyang partidong dala kaya walang makapagsasabing siya ay may iniingatang interes.

Bakit Dapat Sila sa ICI Kung ang layunin ng ICI ay protektahan ang pera ng bayan

* Alam ni Magno kung paano dumadaloy at nawawala ang pondo

* Alam ni Mendoza kung paano mahuhuli ang anomalya bago pa ito lumala

* Pareho silang hindi pulitiko, walang partido, at may track record na ipaglaban ang tama kahit laban sa makapangyarihan

Para sa lahat ng kulay dilawan, pula, berde, rosas, asul iisa ang interes: ang pera ng bayan ay hindi dapat nawawala sa balsa ng iilan. Sina Cielo Magno at Heidi Mendoza ang malinaw na pagpipilian kung nais ng ICI na magkaroon ng kredibilidad at tunay na ngipin.

Kaya ang tanong: handa ba si Marcos maglagay ng dalawang kritiko na walang takot, walang partido, at walang interes kundi ang bayan o mananatili na lang bang pampanganda ng imahe ang ICI?

Inalis na pondo para sa flood control projects, mas dapat ilaan sa mga magsasaka at mangingisda kumapara sa AICS at TUPAD

Ikinadismaya ni PPP Party-list Rep. Harold Duterte ang pasya ni Pangulong Ferdinand Bongbong Marcos na ilaan sa Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS) at Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) ang inalis na pondo para sa flood control projects. Nilinaw ni Rep. Harold na hindi sya kontra sa AICS at TUPAD program pero katwiran nya ang ganitong mga programa na nagbibigay ng tulong-pinansyal sa mga kapos-palad nating

LEGAL TEAM NI DUTERTE...

Handang tangapin ng legal team ni dating Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang anumang kondisyon na ipapatupad ng International Criminal Court (ICC) para sa posibleng interim release.

Ayon kay lead counsel Nicholas Kaufman, na intasan siya

ni Duterte na isulong ang lahat ng mga makakaya para sa kaniyang interim release sa kahit na anong mga kondisyon.

Kabilangdito ang paninirahan sa third country, travel restriction at monitoring measures.

Kasalulukuyan kasing pinag-aaralanng ICC Pre-Trial Chamber

Governor Sol Aragones...

By spearheading food relief efforts, setting up specialized typhoon helplines, and making sure hospitals continue to run efficiently, Laguna Governor Sol Aragones is bolstering the province's disaster response. As Typhoon Opong continues to wreak havoc on towns around the province, her concerted effort seeks to save lives, meet immediate needs, and reassure families.

Governor Sol Aragones headed straight to the Laguna Sports

Complex warehouse, where thousands of food packs are being manufactured, after distributing relief supplies in Santa Cruz and Bay. The Public Affairs Office and Akay ni Gob Action Center were in charge of packaging the relief supplies. The warehouse is the hub for repackaging and delivering relief to evacuation centers and barangays hit by the storm. It was stocked with bags of rice, canned products, and coffee packs. Typhoon Opong Help Desks have been set

ang hiling ng defense team.

Dagdag pa ni Kaufman na hindi kinontra ng gobyerno ng Pilipinas ang nasabing hirrit nila.

Una ng inaasahan ng chamber na isasagawa ang confirmation of charges hearing sa Nobyembre 2025 subalit dahil sa na-postpone in-

up in Districts 1 through 4 to facilitate access to aid. These hotlines act as essential lifelines, enabling locals to voice pressing issues like demands for food and necessities. "Hanggat kaya, kung saan aabutin ang supplies natin ay padadalhan na natin ng tulong yung mga kababayan natin," Governor Aragones said, emphasizing the significance of prompt action.

Rescue and monitoring efforts are on high alert, according to Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer (PDDRMO) Aldwin Cejo. Teams are still positioned across Laguna, prepared to respond to crises, carry out evacuations, and work with local authorities.

Additionally, health services have been strengthened. All nine of Laguna's district hospitals are running at full capaci-

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FROM PAGE 1

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Tagumpay ang Kapistahan ng Brgy. San Gabriel, San Pablo City



San Pablo, Laguna — Masiglang ipinagdiwang ng Barangay San Gabriel, San Pablo City ang kanilang kapistahan noong Setyembre 27 bilang parangal sa kanilang Mahal na Patron, si San Gabriel Arkanghel, na naghatid ng saya at pagkakaisa sa buong pamilyan. Tampok sa pagdiriwang ang makukulang na Street Dancing Competition, kung saan ipinamalas ng iba't ibang grupo ang kanilang talento at husay sa sayaw na may kasamang makukulang na kasuotan. Isa rin sa mga naging tampok na programa ang Carnival Queen Competition, na nagbigay ng kakaibang aliw at ganda sa gabi ng kapistahan. Hindi rin nagpahuli ang libreng konsiyerto para sa mga mamamayan, kung saan nagtanggap ang piling mga lokal na artist. Marami rin ang natuwa sa mga raffle prizes na ipinamigay, na lalo pang nagpasigla sa lahat ng dumapagtagtapos

AGARANG TULONG NI CONG. AMBEN AMANTE, SA MGA NAAPEKTUHAN NG BAGYONG Opong



Mabilis na umaksyon si 3rd.district Congressman Loreto Amben Amante ng Laguna. Makaraang mamahagi ito ng tulong sa mga naapektuhan ng bagyong Opong sa mga mamamayan ng kanyang nasasakupan. Partikular sa mga residente ng Barangay Bayate Liliw Laguna. Ayon sa kanila nagpapasalamat ang mga ito sa ipinaabot na tulong na bigas, can goods at iba pa. At higit na mahalaga ay nakita nila at nakadaupang palad si Cong.Amben Amante na tuloy-tuloy ang pag abante sa mahal niyang mga residente. (Kevin Pamatmat)

MPCALA TAPSEEL, CMPCI FOR GALAX CONSTRUCTION PUSE



(From left to right) MPT South President and General Manager Christopher Andrew B. Pangilinan; Jose Ma. K. Lim, Director of MPCALA Holdings, Inc.; Elnora D. Rumawak, VP for Finance of MPT South South; Anna Shiela P. Figuera, EEI Senior Vice President and Head of Operations and Commercials; and Christopher F. Esguerra, EEI's Vice President for Business Development signed the contract for the remaining construction works at CALAX Subsection 1.

MPCALA Holdings Inc., concessionaire of the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX) and a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation, has signed with EEI Corporation and CM Pancho Construction, Inc. (CMPCI) to carry out the remaining construction works of CALAX; EEI Corporation will oversee construction in Subsection 1 (from Open Canal to Kawit), while CMPCI will handle Subsection 2 (from Governor's Drive to Open Canal). This milestone marks another step forward in bringing the full alignment of CALAX closer to completion, ensuring improved connectivity and enhanced mobility for motorists traveling across Cavite and Laguna. CALAX is a 45 km expressway with operational segments at Laguna Technopark, Laguna Blvd., Santa Rosa-Tagaytay Road, Silang East, and Silang Aguinaldo Interchange. Its remaining subsections, including Subsection 3 (Silang Aguinaldo to Governor's Drive), are under active development and are expected to be completed in the first half of 2026. About Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation MPTC is the leading toll road developer and operator in the Philippines and the holding company of premier tollways including NLEX, SCTEX, CAVITEX, CALAX, NLEX Connector, and CCLEX in Cebu, with investments in Indonesia and Vietnam.

MAYOR ROSS RIZAL LEADS ONGOING MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR CALAMBA SENIOR CITIZENS



Calamba City, Laguna — Senior citizens in Calamba continue to receive vital support through the city government's ongoing medical assistance program, spearheaded by Mayor Roseller "Ross" H. Rizal.

The latest distribution was held at the

Jose Rizal Coliseum, where Mayor Rizal emphasized the city's commitment to providing care and security for the elderly.

"This program is a step toward ensuring that our senior citizens have adequate support and compassion," Mayor Rizal said, highlighting the

importance of prioritizing the health and well-being of the elderly sector.

The initiative forms part of the city's broader social welfare efforts aimed at strengthening health services and enhancing the quality of life for Calamba's senior residents.

(Edjun Mariposque)

Halos P36 billion pondo ng flood control, inilipat sa ilang programa ng DSWD — PBBM

Inanunsiyo ni Pangulong Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. na ililipat sa iba't ibang programa ng Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) ang nasa halos P36 billion na pondo na nakalaan sa flood control projects para sa susunod na taon.

Sa gitna na rin ito ng kontrobersiya sa mga

paipak at maanomalyang flood control projects sa bansa na iniimbestigahan na ngayon.

Ayon sa pangulo, ilalaan ang pondo mula sa flood control ng Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) sa ilalim ng 2026 National Budget sa

Pantawid Pamiliyng Pilipino Program (4Ps), Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations

(AICS), at Payapa at Magsaganang Pamayanan (PAMANA) program.

Bukod dito, pinag-aaralan na rin aniya ang pag-amyenda sa 4Ps Act para sa pangangailangan ng mga benepisyaryo.

Sinabi ito ng Pangulong Marcos Jr. sa harap ng ilang 4Ps beneficiaries ngayong idinarao ang National Family Congress 2025 sa Palasyo ng Malacañang.

MAYOR BENJAMIN MAGALONG RESIGNS FROM ICI TO PROTECT COMMISSION'S INTEGRITY

26 September 2025

HIS EXCELLENCY Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr. President of the Republic of the Philippines Malacañan Palace

Your Excellency:

The Palace's pronouncements concerning my designation, which run contrary to the terms of my appointment, have undermined the role and mandate entrusted to me. Combined with circumstances that already cast doubt on the independence of the Independent Commission for Infrastructure, it has become clear that my continued service is no longer tenable.

Let it also be stated that I have not neglected, nor will I ever neglect, my primary responsibility to the people of Baguio, whose welfare and interests remain at the core of my public service.

I hereby tender my resignation from the Independent Commission for Infrastructure effective immediately.

Very truly yours,

BENJAMIN B. MAGALONG Public Servant

BAUIO CITY — Baguio City Mayor Benjamin B. Magalong has officially resigned from the Independent Commission for Infrastructure (ICI), effective September 26, 2025, citing the need to preserve the body's independence and credibility.

In his official statement released on Saturday, Magalong clarified that his decision was not due to any conflict of interest, stressing that his service as both mayor and ICI member had always been guided by "the highest standards of integrity in public service."

"Recent developments have cast doubt on the independence of the Commission.

Independence is the bedrock of account-

ability, and without it, our credibility is compromised," Magalong said. "I refuse to allow these doubts to weaken the ICI and its mandate."

The former ICI commissioner emphasized that his resignation is not a retreat but a move to protect the Commission's integrity, vowing to continue his fight against corruption both in and out of government.

Magalong, a former police general known for his roles in high-profile investigations such as the Mamasapano incident and the "ninja cops" probe, reiterated his commitment to accountability and good governance.

"We should never allow corrupt political leaders and bureaucrats

to steal the future of our children," he said, warning that every peso lost to corruption deprives the people of essential services like schools, hospitals, and infrastructure.

Calling on Filipinos to remain vigilant and courageous, Magalong urged the public to stand united against corruption: "The forces of corruption are deeply entrenched, but so too is the Filipino spirit of resilience and courage.

As long as we remain vigilant and keep faith in our country, we will prevail."

Magalong ended his statement with a firm declaration: "The crusade against corruption continues."

(Edjun Mariposque)

CAYETANO...

"Guys, we need generational change... Any nation na meron pong self-governance, sila po ay may tunay na pagbabago at tunay na development," he said.

Cayetano ended with prayer and an encouragement to his viewers to continue seeking accountability from the "right people" in the face of corruption scandals in the DPWH.

"Wag tayong

mawawalan ng pag-asa. Tutok, tutok, tutok. At 'pag sinabi nating 'wag nating pakawalan, 'wag nating pakawalan," he said.

A few hours later, Cayetano met with national budget expert and former Bohol Mayor JR Rañola to dissect the DPWH's proposed 2026 budget in preparation for the ongoing deliberations in the Senate.

"May mga nakita na kami — from flood

control to maintenance [projects], to ano ang mga dapat may pondo at mga dapat na tanggalan, at paano jina-juggle ito.

Makakatulong po ito sa DBM at kay Sec. Vince (Dizon) kasi they're redoing the budget," he said in another livestream.

"So hopefully, y'ung mga gumawa nito (ghost projects) ay isa-isa mawala [sa pwesto] para hindi nga ma-manipulate ito," he added. PR



Pointer

Pau Dela Cruz

2ID backs the Citizenship Training Program for the entire region.

The establishment of a regional Citizenship Training Program was fully supported by the 2nd Infantry "Jungle Fighter" Division (2ID) at the 3rd Quarter 2025 Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC) IV-A Meeting on September 19. Angelina Tan, the governor of Quezon Province, chaired the meeting, which brought together government agencies, security forces, and local leaders to talk about peace and order issues in CALABARZON

The approval of the Citizenship Training Program, which was required by the Department of Education (DepEd) in accordance with Department Order # 21, s2019, was one of the main highlights. The program aims to prepare the next generation of citizens to be engaged, responsible members of society by instilling in them a sense of civic duty, discipline, and patriotism.

The commander of 2ID, Maj. Gen. Ramon Zagala, highlighted the program's critical role in fostering im-

proved citizenship, patriotism, and understanding of the West Philippine Sea (WPS). "Nation-building begins with shaping the values of our youth," Maj. Gen. Zagala stated. A generation of disciplined, responsible, and patriotic citizens can be raised through the Citizenship Training Program, he continued.

Maj. Gen. Zagala added that the initiative will contribute to the development of resilient communities that can withstand any threats to peace and national security by enhancing the civic engagement and character of the youth.

Public safety, crisis management, updates on the regional anti-drug and anti-criminality campaigns, and steps to fortify local peace and order councils were among the other subjects covered.

Through these initiatives, 2ID and RPOC IV-A reiterated their dedication to a national strategy for preserving security, peace, and order across CALABARZON.

CALABARZON...

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — The regional offices of the Office of Civil Defense (OCD) and the Philippine Information Agency (PIA) in Calabarzon gathered public information officers on Sept. 19 to an orientation on how technology can be harnessed for disaster communication.

Communication officers from various local government units, national agencies, and community organizations were introduced on how to enhance their skills in crisis reporting, risk communication, and disaster preparedness.

According to Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC) Chairperson and OCD Calabarzon Regional Director Carlos Eduardo Alvarez, the orientation is vital in enhancing the capacity of information offi-

cers to promote disaster awareness and resilience in their communities, particularly in combating the widespread dissemination of misinformation and disinformation.

"We have witnessed how a single piece of misinformation like an old video of flooding that resurfaced online can cause confusion and panic, this is why the joint efforts of OCD and PIA are crucial to strategic communications we can counter these with facts and clarity, and replace chaos with confidence," Alvarez stated.

He also emphasized the vital role of government information officers in serving as a bridge between the government and the public, ensuring that accurate, timely, and relevant information reaches communities.

"And who carries the information on the

ground? You.

The information officer- your report, your posts, your voices are the extension of our work, you are the bridge between our offices and the communities we serve," Alvarez added.

Meanwhile, PIA Calabarzon Regional Director Ma. Cristina Arzadon emphasized the huge responsibilities of information officers in ensuring to save lives in their communities through the power of accurate information and communication.

"You are the ones who reach the areas that the internet and mainstream media cannot reach.

You provide clarity on safety plans and ensure that our fellow citizens know where to go, what to do, and how to stay safe during calamities.

Though hazards

FROM PAGE 1

PUBLISHER CORNER

KAPANGYARIHAN NG TAUMBAYAN

1. Rule of Law at Konstitusyon

- Sa ilalim ng 1987 Philippine Constitution, nakasaad na "Sovereignty resides in the people and all government authority emanates from them." (Art. II, Sec. 1). Totoo na kapangyarihan ay galing sa taumbayan, ngunit ito ay isinasakatuparan sa pamamagitan ng batas.

- Ang Rule of Law ang nagsisiguro na walang opisyal, kahit gaano kataas, ang mas mataas sa batas.

2. Tungkulin ng Mambabatas at mga Opisyal Gobyerno:

* Ang Mambabatas ay may man-

dato na gumawa ng mga makatarungang batas. * Ang Department of Justice naman ay may tungkuling tiyakin ang wastong pagpapatupad at pagrespeto sa umiiral na batas.

* Kapag sila mismo ang nagsasabing puwedeng "baliin ang batas" o "wala silang pakialam dito," malinaw itong salungat sa kanilang oath of office at maaaring ituring na betrayal of public trust.

3. Posibleng Legal Consequence Ang ganitong pananaw ay:

- Maaaring magresulta sa erosion of public trust,

- Magbigay ng maling mensahe na opsyonal lang ang pagsu-



nod sa batas,

- At posibleng magsilbing batayan ng administrative, ethical, o impeachment proceedings laban sa sinumang lumalabag sa kanilang mandato.

Personal

opinion : Ang kapangyarihan ng taumbayan ay tunay na mas mataas kaysa sa opisyal, ngunit isinasakatuparan ito sa pamamagitan ng batas. Kung may mali sa batas, baguhin ito — hindi baliin.

Merchants in Carmona gain insights on consumer rights, fair trade laws

CITY OF CARMONA, Cavite (PIA) — The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) continues to strengthen consumer protection and promote responsible business practices as its Cavite Provincial Office recently held an orientation on fair trade laws for merchants operating at Davilan Food Park in this city.

The activity formed part of the "Seminar on Consumer Protection Awareness with Focus on Food Safety and Public Health" spearheaded by the City Government of Carmona through its Local Economic Development and Investment Promotion Office (LEDIPO).

DTI-Cavite's Consumer Protection Division OIC, Mr. Rexel Amparo, and Trade and

risks in our communities may differ, our goal remains the same: to prevent loss of any life."

She then urged participants to help in combating misinformation and disinformation and to utilize platforms such as Sumbong sa Pangulo to directly report concerns

Industry Development Specialist, Mr. Arner P. Olayres, served as resource speakers.

The discussion highlighted the essential provisions of Republic Act No. 7394, or the Consumer Act of the Philippines, including the roles of various implementing agencies, and the consumer rights and responsibilities.

The orientation also tackled recent policy updates directly impacting daily business operations. Among these were the revised guidelines on granting mandatory discounts to Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities, as outlined in the DTI-DA-DOE Joint Administrative Order No. 24-02.

Additionally, merchants were briefed on the continued enforcement and issues of infrastructure irregularities.

The participants from across the region have expressed their commitment and hoped to conduct a separate in-depth discussion and orientation in their respective offices to also capacitate their staff in the risk and strate-

ment of Republic Act No. 10909, also known as the No Shortchanging Act of 2016, which prohibits giving insufficient change to consumers.

According to Amparo, these discussions aimed to ensure that local entrepreneurs remain informed and compliant with current trade and consumer protection laws.

Through this initiative, DTI-Cavite reaffirmed its commitment to supporting local micro and small enterprises while prioritizing consumer protection.

Amparo added that by promoting greater awareness and compliance with fair trade laws, the agency seeks to cultivate a more ethical, responsible, and sustainable business environment across the province.

gic communication in the context of disaster risk reduction and management and to promote disaster resilience in the region. (CO, AM; PIA4A)



Nathalie Geralde Fires Back at Body-Shamers: "Focus on Corruption, Not Armpit Hair"



In the wake of her viral photo showing raised fists during a protest at Luneta on September 21, activist Nathalie Geralde responded to body-shaming comments targeting her visible armpit hair and skin discoloration.

"Sa lipunang kinakahangin ang kababaihan sa unrealistic beauty standards, wag na wag mong ibaba ang iyong kamaol!" Geralde declared, emphasizing that the fight against corruption and oppression is far more important than physical appearances.

The activist, who performed with the group Sining Lila on stage during the protest, underscored that their call is clear: hold corrupt officials accountable and end systemic exploitation.

They also pre-

sented their protest jingle "Gising Na" to awaken collective resistance against what she described as a "rotten and twisted system" burdening Filipinos.

Geralde dismissed criticisms about her armpits as products of a "misogynistic and patriarchal society" that diverts focus from pressing national issues. "Ang kagandahan ng babae ay hindi nagtatapos sa pisikal na anyo at lalong hindi nasusukat sa isang panukat lamang," she stressed.

She also criticized industries profiting from women's insecurities, linking body-shaming to colonial and imperialist legacies. "Hayaan niyo kami magpasya sa anyo ng kagandahan na tunay na magpapalaya sa amin," she added.

The activist ex-

tended gratitude to those who defended her online, calling them vital voices against misplaced judgment. "Hindi dapat ang bagay na napakanormal katulad ng buhok at diskolarasyon ang pinapakealaman natin.

Ang dapat nating kalampagin ay ang mga buwayang opisyal," she said, slamming officials for luxury spending at the expense of taxpayers.

Geralde concluded by urging continued unity in pressing the government for real solutions, especially in disaster preparedness and flood-control projects following Typhoon Opong.

"Abante babae, palaban militante! Ang tao, ang bayan, ngayon ay lumalaban!" she declared.

(Edjun Mariposque)

Dekada ng Ani at Pagkakaisa sa Bayan ng Majayjay



Majayjay, Laguna – Ipinagdiwang ng Bayan ng Majayjay ang ika-10 Anibersaryo ng Anilang Festival sa pamumuno ni Mayor Romeo Amorado, katuwang si Vice Mayor Ariel Argafosa at ang buong Sangguniang Bayan. Ang makulay na kapistahan ay tumagal ng walong araw, mula Setyembre 25 hanggang Oktubre 2, na puno ng iba't ibang programa at pagtatanghal.

Mula sa salitang "Ani" (harvest) at "Linang" (pagsasaka), ipinagdiriwang ang Anilang Festival bilang pasasalamat sa masaganang ani at sa sipag ng mga magsasaka ng Majayjay.

Bilang pagbubukas, nagdaos ng parada at street dancing ang mga piling grupo at paaralan, tampok ang makukulay na kasuotan at sayaw na ku-

makatawan sa yaman ng kultura ng Majayjay. Kasunod nito, isinagawa ang art exhibit at workshop na nagbigay-daan upang maipakita ang talento ng mga lokal na alagad ng sining.

Isa rin sa mga pinakapinagkakaabangan ang tradisyunal na "Rampa ng mga Kabayo" kasama ang kanilang mga hinete, kung saan muling nasilayan ang kakaibang gilas ng mga alagang kabayo na bahagi na ng kasaysayan at kabuhayan ng bayan.

Bukod dito, tampok din sa selebrasyon ang iba't ibang paligsahan, konsiyerto, at pagtitipon ng mga kabataan at lokal na organisasyon, na nagbigay-sigla at kulay sa festival.

Sa kanyang mensahe, sinabi ni Mayor Amorado na ang An-

ilang Festival ay hindi lamang isang kasayahan, kundi isang pagpupugay sa pagkakaisa, kasaysayan, at kultura ng mga Majayjayeño. Dagdag pa ni Vice Mayor Argafosa, ang tagumpay ng pagdiriwang ay bunga ng sama-samang pagsisikap ng pamahalaang bayan, mga barangay, organisasyon, at mamamayan.

Bagamat hindi pa man nagtatapos ang pagdiriwang, patuloy ang imbitasyon ng Pamahalaang Bayan ng Majayjay sa mga bisita at turista na saksihan ang makibahagi sa natitirang mga programa ng Anilang Festival. Hinihikayat ang lahat na tuklasin ang makukulay na lokal na produkto, at ang likas na ganda ng Majayjay—isang karanasang tunay na hindi malilimutan. (Shekinah Esteban)

MOA SIGNING BETWEEN PGC AND OCD-CALABARZON

To further strengthen disaster preparedness and resilience in the province of Cavite, the prepositioning of Non-Food Items (NFIs) was formalized through the signing of a memorandum of agreement (MOA) between the Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC) and the Office of Civil Defense (OCD)-CALABARZON on September 18, 2025, at the New Provincial Government Center in

Trece Martires City. Cavite Governor Francisco Gabriel "Abeng" Remulla and OCD CALABARZON Regional Director Carlos Eduardo Alvarez III led the ceremonial signing and turnover, marking the commitment of both entities to provide assistance during disaster and ensure prompt response and immediate delivery of essential NFIs to affected communities. Governor Remulla extended his gratitude

to the OCD-CALABARZON for deploying such essential items for his constituents. Witnessing the signing of MOA was Dr. Eloisa Rozul, Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Officer, alongside Mr. Randy Dela Paz, OCD-CALABARZON Operations Section Chief. The significant activity reflects the continuous efforts to build a safer and disaster-resilient Cavite. - J.Reyes

CAYETANO ON ENDING CORRUPTION: REFORM WON'T LAST IF DISCIPLINE DEPENDS ON WHO'S IN POWER

Corruption in the Philippines will only end if every single Filipino would learn to do what is right even without being policed or pressured, Senator Alan Peter Cayetano said on Saturday.

Reflecting on the recent corruption issues in the country during his 'CIA 365' livestream in the early morning of September

6, Cayetano differentiated self-governance from superficial discipline.

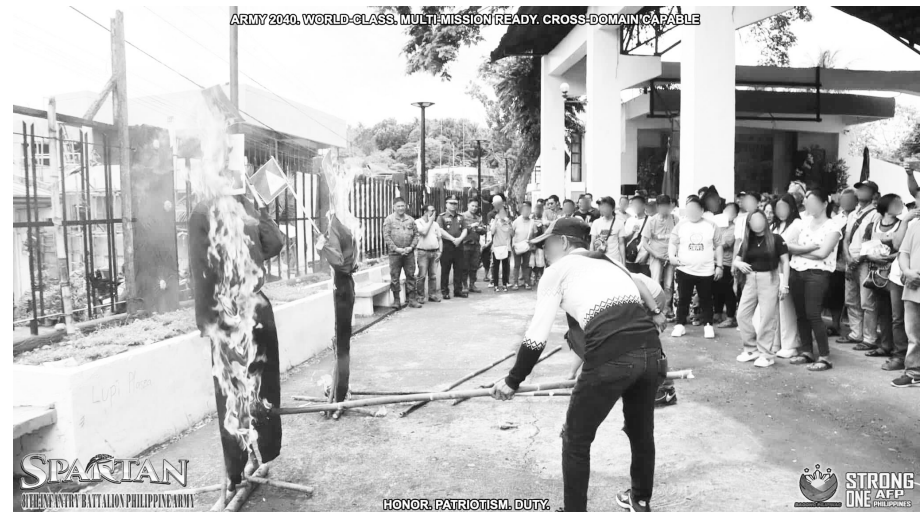
He explained that while discipline is often imposed by external forces such as strict leaders or laws, self-governance comes from internal conviction.

"It's more than discipline. Y'ung self-governance, ibig sabihin,

y'ung 'di na kailangan y'ung iba pa magsabi sa 'yo... ikaw na mismo ang gagawa n'ung pagbabagong iyon," he said.

He pointed to the ghost flood control projects in the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) as an example of systemic failure caused by the lack of **cont. on page 5**

82 na residente sa Bayan Lupi, Camarines Sur nanumpa ng Pagtakwil sa CPP-NPA-NDF



LUPI, CAMARINES SUR - Matagumpay na naisagawa ang Culmination ng Community Information Awareness and Approach Program (CIAAP) at ang panunumpa ng katapatan at suporta sa pamahalaan, kasabay ng pagtakwil sa CPP-NPA-NDF ng mga kasapi at sumusuporta sa Komunistang grupo, na ginanap sa Brgy Poblacion ng Lupi, Camarines Sur.

Pinangunahan ni Cpt. Arthur Rey Arango, CMO Officer ng 81B ang pagbibigay kaalaman patungkol sa Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program o E-CLIP. Kasunod nito, nagbahagi ng kaalaman si Atty. Dorina Reyes at Atty Siegfried Tayo, Public Attorney Office (PAO) sa mga legal na usapin tungkol sa Anti-Terrorism Law at sa mga posibleng kasong maaaring isampa laban sa mga sumusuporta sa komunistang grupo.

Dinaluhan ni BGEN Jose Ambrocio F Rustia PA, Commander ng 201st Brigade at PCol. Virgilio O. Olalia Jr, Provincial Director ng Camarines Sur PPO ang sinagawang programa.

Nagbigay rin ng suporta ang butihing Vice Mayor ng Lupi, si Hon. Noel A. Agravante, kasama ang iba't ibang departamento ng LGU na nagbigay ng mga serbisyong pangkalusugan.

Kabilang dito ang Municipal Health Office (MHO), Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO), Municipal Agriculture Office (MAO), at Municipal Agrarian Reform Office (MARO), at Civil Registry Office (CRO).

Nakiisa rin sa naturang programang mga miyembro ng Poverty Reduction Livelihood Employment Cluster o PRLEC ng PTF-ELCAC Camarines Sur kabilang ang TESDA, DTI, DOLE,

DSWD, DAR, at DA.

Nanumpa ang 82 na miyembro ng Sangay sa Partido ng Lokalidad (SPL), Milisyang Bayan (MB), at mga tagasuporta mula sa walong barangay ng Lupi, Camarines Sur.

Pinangunahan ni Atty. Siegfried S. Tayo, Public Attorney's Office ng Ragay ang panunumpa, na naglalaman ng pahayagan na hindi sila kailanman susuporta, kikilalanin, o makikipagtulungan sa teroristang NPA, alinsunod sa Republic Act 11479 o mas kilala bilang Anti-Terrorism Law Act of 2020.

Kasunod nito, upang lubusang talikuran ang maling ideyolohiya ng makakaliwang grupo, isinagawa ang pagsunog ng mga effigies at bandila ng CPP-NPA.

Dagdag pa nito, sa mensahe ni LTC Julio D. Binuhhi, Commanding Officer ng 81st Infantry Battalion, sinabi niya: "Ang inyong kasundaluhan ng 81st IB, local na pamaha-

DTI-Laguna, SB Corp Conduct ERF Application Fair for MSMEs Affected by Calamities



Pagsanjan, Laguna — The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Laguna Provincial Office, in partnership with the Small Business Corporation (SB Corp), conducted an Enterprise Rehabilitation Financing (ERF) Application Fair on August 7, 2025, at the Pagsanjan Town Plaza to assist micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) affected by recent calamities.

The activity served as a direct response to the urgent need for financial recovery support in the wake of typhoons and other disasters that have disrupted business operations in the 4th District of Laguna. By bringing the program closer to the community, the event offered a convenient venue for business owners to access assistance

without the need to travel far or go through lengthy processes.

The ERF Program offers accessible and affordable loans to help MSMEs recover losses, repair damages, and restore operations following disasters. These loans feature low interest rates and flexible payment terms, making them more manageable for struggling entrepreneurs. In addition to financial aid, the program also supports the restoration of local economic activity by ensuring the continued flow of goods and services in affected communities.

DTI-Laguna Provincial Director Christian Ted O. Tungohan emphasized the importance of timely intervention for business recovery. "This initiative ensures that our local entrepreneurs get

the help they need to rebuild their businesses and keep our local economy strong," he said. He also encouraged MSMEs to take advantage of the program, noting that access to financing is a key factor in accelerating economic rehabilitation.

Several loan applications were approved during the event, with the processing of additional applications currently ongoing. This prompt action reflects the agencies' commitment to delivering immediate relief where it is most needed, helping small business owners avoid further disruption. The activity forms part of the government's continued efforts to strengthen livelihood recovery, promote resilience, and sustain long-term economic growth in Laguna (JEDelMundo, DTI-Laguna).

CAVETANO...

self-governance among multiple actors.

"Napakaraming tao ang kailangang involved para magawa y'an (ghost projects). So it's a failure of self-governance ng bawat isa," he said.

Cayetano stressed that real reform cannot rely solely on who is in power or how strict a leader is.

"Hindi pwedeng ngayon na si Sec. Vince [ang nasa DPWH] ay no corruption, pero kapag iba na ulit ang secretary, ayan na naman," he said.

"Bago natin ting-

FROM PAGE 1

nan y'ung pag-asa sa sistema o sa galing ng leader, dapat magsimula sa sarili natin."

The senator called on his viewers across all generations to reflect on their core values, urging them to practice honesty and accountability as part of their identity.

He said if every generation of Filipinos pursues that transformation, the country will finally experience the true development we are all longing for.

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