

PBBM Inspects Newly Opened CAVITEX C5 Link Segment 3B

Establishing Full Connectivity from Cavite to Taguig

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. inspected the newly opened final segment of the CAVITEX C5 Link.

The newly opened stretch runs from Airport View Subdivision to the Sucat Interchange in Parañaque City.

The project is a joint venture between Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation's (MPTC) subsidiary, Cavite Infrastructure Corporation (CIC), and the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA).

Joining the President in the inspection were Transportation Secretary Banoy Lopez; Public Works Secretary Vince Dizon; Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA) Chairman Alex Lopez; MPTC President Emeritus Mr. Jose Maria Lim; MPTC President and CEO Gilbert Sta. Maria; and Transportation Undersec-



Photo credit: Presidential Communications Office



Photo credit: DOTr & Presidential Communications Office

retary Steve Pastor. Segment 3B completes the 7.7-kilometer CAVITEX C5 Link. It connects Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX) to C5 Road in Taguig City, reducing travel time from the usual 1.5 hours to just 15 minutes. The opening follows the earlier completion of Segment 3A-1 (C5 Flyover to Merville), Segment 3A-2 (Merville to RSG and Airport View), and Segment 2 (Sucat Interchange to R1 Expressway) between 2019 and 2024. To immediately serve the motoring public, Segment 3B will initially

SMC expressways gear up for Holy Week traffic; motorists urged to follow speed limits, save fuel

SMC Infrastructure has rolled out traffic and safety measures across its expressway network for the Holy Week travel period, as large numbers of motorists are expected to head out of Metro Manila.

The company said all traffic personnel along STAR, SLEX, the Skyway System, NAIA Expressway and TPLEX have been directed to coordinate with national and local authorities to help keep traffic moving, especially near major exits and interchanges connected to busy highways and national roads.

Roadworks and construction activities that may disrupt traffic have been suspended from 12 p.m. on March 28 until 10 p.m. on April 5, while emergency response teams have been deployed to key areas for faster assistance when needed.

The company urged motorists to observe speed limits, as doing so improves safety and cuts fuel costs.

Speed limits on ground-level expressways are set at 100 kph for Class 1 vehicles and 80 kph for Classes 2 and 3.

SSS URGES HOUSEHOLD EMPLOYERS TO REGISTER THEIR HOUSE HELPERS THROUGH KASAMBAHAY CARAVAN



An SSS Marikina Branch personnel explains the importance of SSS membership and benefits to house helper Marilou Solomon during the SSS Kasambahay Caravan held at SM City Marikina on March 22, 2026.

QUEZON CITY (22 March 2026) – The Social Security System (SSS) urged household employers to register their kasambahay or household helpers with the SSS to ensure they are covered by the country's social security protection program, as it launched a Kasambahay Caravan on March 22, 2026 at 43 sites across Metro Manila and Rizal. cont. on page 3

On elevated roads such as the Skyway System and NAIA Expressway, the limit is 80 kph, dropping to 60 kph along curved sections.

Motorists are also advised to make sure their vehicles are in good condition before traveling, including checking tire pressure, brakes, and engine condition, and to wear seatbelts and maintain a safe following distance from the vehicle in front of them.

To help reduce queues at toll plazas, SMC Infrastructure also encouraged cash-paying motorists to shift to the Autosweep electronic toll collection system.

Autosweep accounts have no minimum load requirement and may be topped up with the exact toll amount needed, while sticker replacement remains free for users whose tags have deteriorated over time.

Reloading is available through online banking apps, e-wallets, over-the-counter channels and payment kiosks.

Users may also monitor their balance and transaction history in real time through the app.



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

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Laguna Opens 1,000 Slots for Civil Service Exam Review Program to Support Aspiring Public Servants

WEAVING HER WAY BACK



Eleodora Carreos from Calamba City, Laguna, proudly showcases her beautifully handcrafted woven bags. cont. on page 7

Easter Sunday Shooting in Laguna: Gunmen Spray Barangay Chief's Home, Family Escapes Unharm



Victoria, Laguna — Unidentified gunmen opened fire on the residence of a barangay chairman in Barangay Masapang at dawn on Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026, in a brazen attack that left the official and his family unharm. cont. on page 6

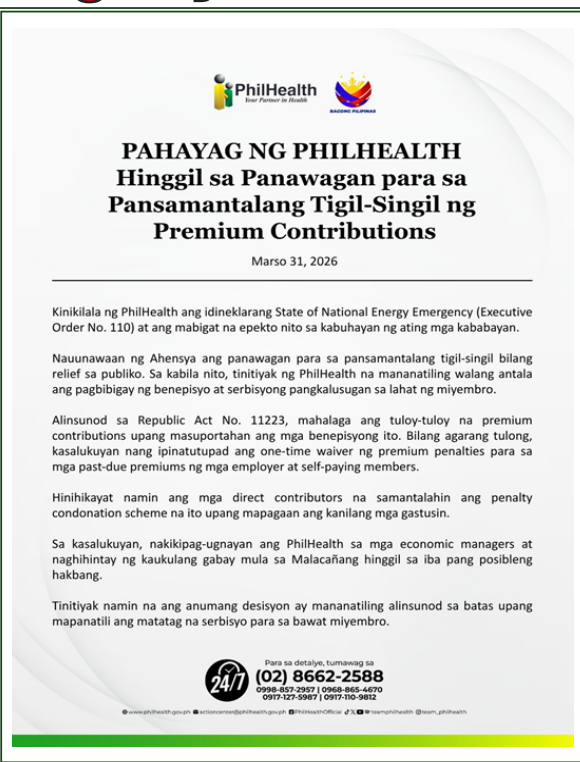


ARMY's gathered in full force at SM City Dasmariñas as fans of global K-pop group BTS filled the Main Event Center for The Return of BTS: Echoes of Seven. The fan celebration turned the venue into a vibrant ARMY playground, bringing music, activities, and shared moments that highlighted the fandom's passion and unity. #GalaToTheMax #SMFandom #BorahaeWithSM #EveryoneAtSMDasma #SharedMomentsAtDasma

UGNAYAN SA BARANGAY STRENGTHENS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT IN CAVITE CITY

CAYETANO WELCOMES MARCOS CERTIFICATION OF FUEL EXCISE TAX RELIEF BILL AS URGENT

88 Wanted Persons, Arestado sa CALABARZON sa ilalim ng Project HULI WEEK



Formal na itinalaga si PCOL Sandro Jay Tafalla bilang bagong Acting Provincial Director ng Laguna Police Provincial Office (PPO) sa isinagawang Turnover of Office Ceremony noong April 1, 2026 sa MPC Hall, Camp BGen Vicente P. Lim, Barangay Mayapa. Pinangunahan ang seremonya ni PBGEN Hansel Marantan, Acting Regional Director ng PRO 4A, kung saan opisyal na ipinasa ang pamumuno mula sa papalabas na Provincial Director na si PCOL Jonar Yupio, sa suporta ng Pamahalaang Panlalawigan ng Laguna sa ilalim ni Governor Sol Aragones. (Pau Dela Cruz)

DILG CHIEF TO LGUS: CLEAR THE ROADS, KEEP HOLY WEEK TRAVEL MOVING



FROM PAGE 1

EDITORIAL:

PAGSUNOD SA BAGONG PNP SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

LEVEL UP SA SOCIAL MEDIA COMPLI-
ANCE

Bilang pagtugon sa inilabas na memoran-
dum ng Philippine National Police (PNP) kaugnay
ng mas mahusay at de kalidad na pagpapatupad
ng social media policies, opisyal nang inilunsad ng
lyak pa mit ang bago nitong logo na sumasalamin
sa disiplina, propesyonismo, at tamang paggamit
ng social media bilang isang PNP content platform.

Ang hakbang na ito ay alinsunod sa
“Guidelines and Centralized Review Process for
Unit Vlogging and Content Creation,” na naglalay-
ong tiyakin na ang lahat ng nilalathalang content
na may kaugnayan sa PNP ay naaayon sa paman-
tayan ng organisasyon at nagpapalakas ng tiwala
ng publiko.

Bilang admin at content creator ng , ako
po ay buong paggalang at agarang tumugon sa
mga panuntunang inilabas ng Police Community
Affairs and Development Group (PCADG), alinsu-
nod sa direktiba ni Chief Director Staff ng PNP na
si PLTGEN VINCENT D IGNACIO.

Ang mabilis na pagtugon na ito ay hindi
lamang po pagsunod sa utos, kundi isang malinaw
na paninindigan na maging mabuting halimbawa
sa kapwa kapulisan—na ang bawat post, bawat
content, at bawat mensahe ay dapat sumasalamin
sa integridad, disiplina, at responsibilidad na hini-
hingi ng PNP Code of Ethics at PNP Social Media
Guidelines.

Kasabay nito, buong suporta ang ipinap-
ahayag sa pamunuan ng Philippine National Po-
lice sa ilalim ng liderato ni Chief PNP PGEN JOSE
MELENCIO C NARTATEZ JR., gayundin sa PNP
Focused Agenda na patuloy na nagpapalakas sa
serbisyo ng kapulisan para sa mamamayan.

Suportado rin nito ang pamunuan ng Na-
tional Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) sa
pamumuno ni Regional Director PMGEN ANTHO-
NY AABERIN, at ang policy framework nitong Able,
Active, Allied (AAA) na nagsisilbing gabay sa epek-
tibo at makataong pagpapatupad ng tungkulin.

Bilang bahagi ng adhikain, isinusulong
din ng Tambayan ng Pulis ang limang guiding prin-
ciples ng NCRPO:

Sa pamamagitan ng mga prinsipyong ito,
layunin ang patuloy na mapalakas ang ugnayan
ng pulis at mamamayan—isang mahalagang pun-
dasyon ng kapayapaan, kaayusan, at tiwala sa li-
punan.

Bukod dito, aktibong tumutulong sa iba’t
ibang yunit ng Philippine National Police sa pagsa-
sapubliko ng kanilang mga accomplishment, oper-
asyon, at good deeds ng kapulisan, upang maipa-
kita sa publiko ang tunay na serbisyo at sakripisyo
ng bawat pulis sa bansa.

Higit pa rito, magsisilbi itong plataporma
at halimbawa sa pagbibigay ng mahahalagang
impormasyon at inspirasyon tulad ng PNP Recruit-
ment para sa gustong mapabilang sa hanay ng
PNP, public safety awareness, at mga positibong
kuwento ng kabutihan at serbisyo ng kapulisan, ka-
sabay ng pagbibigay ng inspirasyon at good vibes
sa bawat Pilipino.

Ang bagong logo ay hindi lamang simbo-
lo ng pagbabago—ito ay panata ng mas maingat,
mas responsable, at mas makabuluhang paggamit
ng social media bilang instrumento ng serbisyo
publiko.

Pinapaalalanan din ang publiko na
facebook profile na ito ay isang PNP content plat-
form at hindi opisyal na page ng Philippine National
Police.

88 Wanted...

CAMP BGEN VI-
CENTE P. LIM, Laguna —
Umabot sa kabuuang 88
indibidwal na may stand-
ing warrants of arrest ang
naaresto ng pinagsanib na
pwersa ng Police Region-
al Office CALABARZON
(PRO4A) sa isinagawang

Laguna...

Demonstrating
its continued commitment
to youth empowerment
and workforce develop-
ment, the Provincial Gov-
ernment of Laguna, under
the leadership of Gover-
nor Sol Aragones, official-
ly opened the registration
for its Civil Service Exam
Review Program on March
31, 2026.

The initiative
provides 1,000 slots for
qualified Lagunense ap-
plicants, especially grad-
uating students and in-
dividuals aspiring to join
government service, to
help them effectively pre-
pare for the Civil Service
Examination.

The program
launch was attended by
provincial officials, local
leaders, and student ben-
eficiaries who expressed
strong support for the
initiative, which aims to
strengthen exam readi-
ness and expand knowl-
edge among aspiring civil
servants across the prov-
ince.

During the event,
Provincial Assistant Ad-
ministrator Carina Ma-
calos warmly welcomed
the applicants and under-
scored the significance
of the program in helping
them achieve eligibility for
government employment.

She emphasized
that the registration marks
an important step toward
preparing participants for
the upcoming Civil Service
Examination.



sabayang manhunt op-
eration noong Huwebes
Santo, bilang bahagi ng
implementasyon ng Proj-
ect HULI WEEK kaugnay
ng paggunita ng Semana
Santa.

Pinangunahan
ang operasyon ng mga

FROM PAGE 1

Meanwhile, for-
mer Luisiana Vice May-
or Luibic Jacob encour-
aged enrollees to remain
focused and dedicated
throughout the review
process, stressing the im-
portance of discipline and
commitment in achieving
success in the examina-
tion.A graduating student
from Victoria, Laguna also
conveyed heartfelt appre-
ciation to the provincial
government for providing
the opportunity to partic-
ipate in the review pro-
gram, noting that the initia-
tive equips them with the
essential knowledge and
lessons needed to confi-
dently prepare for the Civil
Service Exam.

Provincial offi-
cials highlighted that the
program forms part of the
local government's sus-
tained efforts to support
aspiring public servants
by making review oppor-
tunities more accessible
and by strengthening their
readiness for future ca-
reers in government ser-
vice.

They also en-
couraged more qualified
applicants to take ad-
vantage of the remaining
slots, emphasizing that
the review program is de-
signed not only to improve
examination performance
but also to build confi-
dence, discipline, and a
deeper understanding of
the competencies required
for effective public service

(Pau Dela Cruz)

operatiba mula sa Region-
al Intelligence Division 4A,
Regional Special Oper-
ations Unit 4A, mga Pro-
vincial Intelligence Units
ng iba’t ibang Police Pro-
vincial Offices, Regional
Mobile Force Battalion
4A, at mga tauhan ng mga
himpilan ng pulisya sa
buong rehiyon ng CALA-
BARZON.

Sa kabuuang bil-
ang ng mga naaresto, 29
ang naitala bilang Most
Wanted Persons, habang
59 naman ang kabilang sa
Other Wanted Persons.

Ang mga
pag-aresto ay nai-
sakatuparan sa bisa ng
mga warrant of arrest
kaugnay ng paglabag sa
Republic Act 9165 o ang
Comprehensive Danger-
ous Drugs Act of 2002,
gayundin sa mga kasong
rape, murder, carnapping,
at iba pang paglabag sa
Revised Penal Code.

Ayon kay PB-
Gen Hansel M. Marantan,
Acting Regional Director
ng PRO4A, nananatiling
matatag ang kahandaan
at dedikasyon ng kapu-
lisan sa pagpapatupad ng
batas, kahit pa puspusan
ang deployment ng mga
tauhan upang tiyakin ang

kaligtasan at kaayusan ng
publiko sa panahon ng Se-
mana Santa.

Binigyang-diin ni
Marantan na magpapat-
uloy ang kanilang opera-
syon laban sa mga wanted
persons kasabay ng pag-
papanatili ng kapayapaan
sa rehiyon.

“Magpapatuloy
ang ating police opera-
tions laban sa mga wanted
persons, kasabay ng ating
masinsinang pagsisikap
na mapanatiling ligtas at
payapa ang rehiyon sa
panahon ng paggunita
ng Semana Santa. Ang
pagsasakripisyo ng ating
kaginhawaan para sa ka-
ligtasan at kapakanaan ng
komunidad ay bahagi ng
ating tungkulin sa pana-
hong ito ng pagninilay,”
pahayag ni Marantan.

Sa kasalukuyan,
ang mga naarestong in-
dibidwal ay nasa kustodiya
ng kani-kanilang operating
units at mga himpilan ng
pulisya para sa kaukulang
dokumentasyon at pros-
eso, at inaasahang iha-
harap sa mga hukuman
na naglabas ng kanilang
mga warrant of arrest para
sa tamang disposisyon ng
kanilang mga kaso.

(Pau Dela Cruz)



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DILG...

Local govern-
ment units (LGUs) will
play a central role in keep-
ing major roads clear and
passable this Semana
Santa, the Department of
the Interior and Local Gov-
ernment (DILG) said.

Following the
directive of President
Ferdinand R. Marcos
Jr. for a coordinated,
whole-of-government ap-
proach, national roads,
such as MacArthur High-
way are being prioritized
to remain obstruction-free
during the peak of Holy
Week travel.

Speaking at a
press conference along-
side Department of Pub-
lic Works and Highways
(DPWH) Secretary Vince
Dizon, Department of
Transportation (DOTr)
Secretary Atty. Giovanni
Lopez, and Philippine Na-
tional Police (PNP) Chief
Police General Jose Me-
lencio Nartatez Jr., DILG
Secretary Jonvic Remulla
underscored that LGUs
are in the best position to
enforce road clearing with-
in their jurisdictions.

“Sila’yung num-
ber one diyan. Case in
point si Mayor Benjie
Magalong. Sinisigurado
niya na ang Kennon Road
ay magiging obstruc-
tion-free,” he said, noting
that local chief executives
can take the lead in ensur-

FROM PAGE 1

ing smoother traffic flow
for travelers.

The DILG said
clearing obstructions
means faster travel, fewer
delays, and safer roads for
Filipinos this Holy Week.

The PNP ex-
pressed full support for
the initiative, with Nar-
tatez saying police units
nationwide are mobilized
to clear obstructions and
apprehend illegally parked
vehicles using available
resources.

The PNP will
deploy 98,636 personnel,
supported by 37,050 force
multipliers and 12,507
augmentation units, and
will coordinate closely with
barangay officials to en-
force the zero-obstruction
policy.

Among those
targeted for removal are
illegally parked vehicles,
protruding structures
along roads, obstructions
near school zones, sun-
dried agricultural products
on highways, and other
factors that contribute to
traffic congestion.

The DILG said
the effort is ultimately
about making travel more
manageable for ordinary
Filipinos, especially fami-
lies heading home or vis-
iting loved ones this Se-
mana Santa, by ensuring
roads remain open, safe,
and accessible.

Cavite empowers working students with Educational Assistance Program

The Provincial
Government of Cavite suc-
cessfully conducted the
distribution of Educational
Assistance on March 25,
at De La Salle University–
Dasmariñas.

The initiative,
led under the leadership
of Governor Francisco
Gabriel “Abeng” Remul-
la, reaffirmed the prov-
ince’s strong commitment
to supporting students in
their academic journey. A
total of 147 beneficiaries
received cash assistance,
providing much-needed
financial support for their
educational needs.

The recipients
are part of the DLSU–Das-
mariñas Night College, a
free scholarship program
established in 1988 that is
dedicated to empowering

“You don't always
need a plan.
Sometimes you just
need to breathe,
trust, let go, and see
what happens.”

MANDY HALE

Cayetano...

Senate Minority
Leader Alan Peter Cayeta-
no welcomed the move of
President Ferdinand Mar-
cos Jr. to certify as urgent
House Bill No. 8418, a
measure that would allow
the temporary suspension
or reduction of excise tax-
es on fuel amid rising glob-
al oil prices linked to ten-
sions in the Middle East.

Noting that the
House measure address-
es the same concern
raised in Senate Bill No.
1927 which he filed with
Senator Pia Cayetano, the
Minority Leader said the
certification shows that the
government recognizes
the need to respond quick-
ly when global events
push oil prices higher and
affect the lives of Filipinos.

“Let’s not miss
opportunities.I don’t think
there’s a problem that we
expect the worst or pre-
pare for the worst. Pagka
inubo ang Middle East,
nagkakahika ang buong
mundo,” the Minority
Leader said.

House Bill No.
8418 allows the President
to suspend or reduce ex-
cise tax on fuel products
for a period of six months.
Under the proposal, this
authority granted to the
President may only be
exercised until December
31, 2028. The Senate pro-
posal, for its part, seeks
to establish a mechanism
that would allow the au-
tomatic suspension or re-
duction of fuel excise tax-
es once global oil prices
reach a critical level.

The Senate bill
proposes amendments
to Section 148 of the Na-
tional Internal Revenue
Code of 1997, as amend-

FROM PAGE 1

ed by the Tax Reform for
Acceleration and Inclusion
(TRAIN) Law.

Under the Sen-
ate measure, the Presi-
dent may suspend or re-
duce excise taxes on fuel
through an executive order
once the average Dubai
crude oil price based on
the Mean of Platts Singa-
pore reaches US\$80 dollars
per barrel for one month,
upon recommendation of
the Development Budget
Coordination Committee
(DBCC).

The suspension
or reduction would auto-
matically be lifted once
global oil prices fall below
the threshold. In their ex-
planatory note, the Cay-
etanos cited the growing
instability in major oil-pro-
ducing countries in the
Middle East such as Saudi
Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait,
Qatar, and the United Arab
Emirates. They warned
that escalating strikes and
retaliatory attacks threaten
the stability of one of the
world’s most critical en-
ergy supply hubs.

“These devel-
opments demonstrate
the need for a respon-
sive mechanism that au-
thorizes the suspension
of excise taxes on fuel
whenever extraordinary
events or external shocks
significantly disrupt global
oil prices,” the Cayetanos
said in the bill’s explana-
tory note. They added that
having such a safeguard
would allow the govern-
ment to act faster to miti-
gate inflation and reduce
the burden on consumers
without waiting for Con-
gress to pass a new law
each time global oil prices
surge. PR

Ugnayan...

The Provincial Government of Cavite suc-
cessfully conducted its Ugnayan sa Barangay program on
March 26 in Cavite City, reinforcing its commitment to
community engagement and responsive public service.

The initiative was spearheaded by Governor
Abeng Remulla, who emphasized the importance of di-
rect communication between the provincial government
and local communities. The program served as a plat-
form for residents to access government services, and
engage with key officials.

Also present during the event were Vice Gov-
ernor Ram R Vevilla Bautista, 1st District Congressman
Jolo Revilla, and 1st District Board Members Romel
Enriquez and Jygs Gandia, Mayor Denver Chua, Vice
Mayor Raleigh Rusit and the Sangguninang Panlungsod
members who all expressed their support for initiatives
that bring government services closer to the people.

The Ugnayan sa Barangay program continues
to be a vital avenue for fostering transparency, inclusiv-
ity, and collaboration between the provincial government
and its constituents. —OPIO

Weaving...

While some dis-
cover their skills later in
life, others begin honing
theirs from an early age.
For Eleodora Carreos,
at six years old, her tiny
hands knew the rhythm
of weaving. Although she
pursued a career in teach-
ing, life eventually led her
back to the craft that has
always been part of her.

Before weaving
became her story

Eleodora, now
63, from Calamba City,
was born and raised in Lu-
isiana, Laguna, where she
learned the art of weaving.
After graduating, she ini-
tially worked as a teacher
in Victoria, Laguna, be-
fore transferring to a pri-
vate school in Calamba in
1991.

In 1993, her
teaching career was in-
terrupted after she was
diagnosed with laryngitis.
This throat condition caus-
es hoarseness or loss of
voice and, if left untreated
or worsened by continued
teaching, could lead to
cancer. As a result, she
became a librarian.

Finding her way
back to weaving

For nearly two
decades, she dedicated
herself to her role as a li-
brarian. In 2020, however,
the pandemic prompted
the school to implement
cost-cutting measures,
and she was among
those who were laid off.
Fortunately, she had es-
tablished a sari-sari store
back in 2005, which be-
came their primary source
of income.

Instead of dwell-
ing on the setback, she
saw it as an opportunity.
Drawing on the weaving
skills she learned as a
child, she turned it into a
livelihood by creating wo-
ven baskets and bags.

Initially, Eleodora
used old cartons as raw
material, but these proved
less durable. She later
shifted to pandan leaves
and eventually incorporat-
ed plastic strips, resulting
in sturdier, more durable
products.

Her business
began to flourish after a
friend fell in love with one
of her handmade prod-
ucts. Through word of
mouth, her customer base
slowly expanded.

FROM PAGE 1

Her dedication
to the craft earned her
recognition as the Most
Outstanding Trainee in a
weaving workshop she at-
tended.

From her experi-
ence, Eleodora shares her
advice for those dreaming
of starting their business:
“Kailangan ikaw mismo
alam mo kung paano
gawin yung trabaho, mag-
pokus ka kung saan ka
magaling at saka ka la-
mang kumuha ng tauhan
kapag kaya na ng iyong
negosyo. (Focus on your
strengths, do it yourself,
and hire help only when
your business is ready).”

Securing her fi-

nances
To secure ad-
ditional capital, she took
loans from CARD SME
Bank, Inc. (A Thrift Bank)
under CARD Mutually
Reinforcing Institutions
(CARD MRI). Since 2009,
the bank has been her
trusted partner, support-
ing both her sari-sari store
and weaving products.
Some of the bank’s staff
even became loyal cus-
tomers of her handmade
products. Eleodora also
opened a MyWealth Sav-
ings account at CARD
SME Bank, a savings
product designed for se-
nior citizens, allowing her
to manage and grow her
hard-earned income effec-
tively.

Through her hard
work, she helped her two
siblings complete their
education and support-
ed three of her nieces
and nephews in finishing
school. Though they do
not have children of their
own, she remains deeply
grateful for all that life has
given her and generously
shares her blessings with
others.

All the twists and
turns in her life came full
circle, guiding her back to
weaving and turning her
childhood passion into a
meaningful livelihood.
What once began as a
simple craft has become
one of her sources of in-
come.

For orders and
inquiries, those within the
area may visit her at Aca-
cia Park Homes, Saimsim,
Calamba City, Laguna, or
contact her at 0907-206-
0570. PR

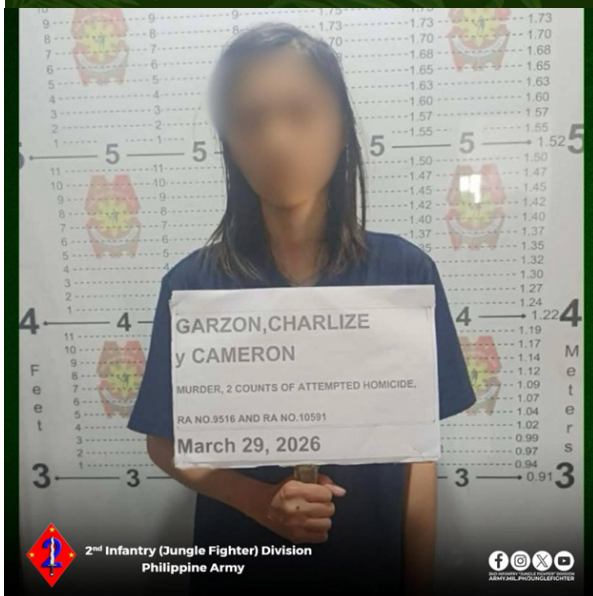


FROM PAGE 1

CAPTURED NPA MEMBER FACES MURDER CHARGE AS ARMY UPHOLDS HUMAN DIGNITY IN MINDORO CLASH



2nd Infantry (Jungle Fighter) Division, Philippine Army



A captured member of the New People's Army (NPA) is now facing a murder charge following a deadly encounter with government troops on March 29, 2026, in SAN JOSE, Occidental Mindoro, as the Philippine Army's 2nd Infantry (Jungle Fighter) Division underscored the importance of respecting human dignity—even for those involved in armed conflict.

The arrested individual, identified as Charleze Garzon, also known as "Ka Kaye," was

apprehended after a fire-fight in Sitio Salafay, Barangay Monteclaro.

The clash resulted in the death of Captain Dean Buen Oyando, who was leading pursuing troops against the fleeing armed group. Two other soldiers were reported wounded during the encounter.

Garzon is currently under the custody of the San Jose Municipal Police Station as legal proceedings move forward.

Despite the gravity of the charges, the 2nd

Infantry Division emphasized that it deliberately withheld Garzon's identity and photograph to protect her rights and preserve her dignity. This came in contrast to several groups, including Karapatan Southern Tagalog, which circulated her personal information online.

According to the military, the decision aligns with operational protocols and humanitarian principles governing the treatment of individuals involved in armed conflict.

In a statement, Colonel Michael Aquino stressed the Army's adherence to the rule of law and its duty to uphold human rights.

"Even if a person has taken up arms against the government, that does not mean we strip them of their basic rights and dignity. As soldiers, we are duty-bound to respect human rights at all times," Aquino said.

He also raised concern over the potential risks posed by the public release of sensitive personal information, warning

Easter...

Authorities identified the target as Barangay Chairman Isko Agonia, whose home was riddled with bullets at around 4:00 a.m. Despite the intensity of the assault, Agonia and his family miraculously escaped without any injuries.

Initial police reports led by Chief of Police Maj. Jose Wenie Tayactac said residents heard a series of rapid gunshots outside the chairman's home. The suspects, still unidentified, quickly fled the scene aboard a motorcy-

cle and headed toward an undetermined direction.

Operatives from the Scene of the Crime (SOCO) recovered approximately 12 empty shell casings from a .45 caliber firearm at the site. The evidence is now undergoing forensic examination as part of the ongoing investigation.

Police are pursuing multiple angles, including the possibility of politically motivated violence and the chairman's involvement in anti-illegal

drug operations in the barangay.

Other motives are also being considered as investigators work to establish a clear lead.

Authorities are currently reviewing CCTV footage from nearby areas to trace the suspects' escape route and identify those responsible. The police have urged the public to cooperate and share any information that may help expedite the resolution of the case.

(Edjun Mariposque)

AUTOMATIC NATIONWIDE PRICE FREEZE NOT CURRENTLY IN EFFECT, DTI CLARIFIES

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) wishes to assure the Filipino public that the supply and prices of basic necessities (BNPCs) remain stable nationwide.

Following the issuance of Executive Order No. 110, which declares a State of National Emergency, the DTI clarifies that an automatic nationwide price freeze under the Price Act (R.A. 7581) is not currently in effect.

The Department emphasizes the following points to guide consumers and retailers:

Targeted Nature of EO 110

Executive Order No. 110 is a strategic measure specifically designed to address potential disruptions in the global oil supply chain. It activates the UPLIFT (Unified Package for Livelihoods, Industry, Food, and Transport) Program, which provides

targeted subsidies to the transport and agriculture sectors.

By stabilizing the cost of moving goods, the government is proactively preventing the very inflationary pressures that would otherwise necessitate a price freeze.

Voluntary Private Sector Commitment

In recent consultations with the DTI, 21 major manufacturers of essential goods—including

canned sardines, bread, bottled water, instant noodles, and coffee—have formally pledged to maintain their current prices for the next 30 to 60 days.

This industry-wide cooperation ensures that prices remain fair without the need for mandatory government intervention.

Adequate Inventory Levels

Our latest monitoring shows that inventory levels for basic necessities remain sufficient. There is

no shortage of supply that would justify artificial price spikes.

Vigilant Monitoring

While a formal "freeze" is not in place, the DTI's consumer protection teams are on heightened alert. We continue to check compliance with the Suggested Retail Price (SRP) bulletin and monitor BNPCs without SRP.

Any retailer found engaging in profiteering (raising prices by more than 10% without justification) or hoarding will face the full force of the law, including administrative fines and potential imprisonment.

The DTI remains committed to balancing the interests of consumers with the economic realities of our local manufacturers.

We encourage the public to remain calm and report any unreasonable price increases to the DTI Consumer Care Hotline at 1-384 (1-DTI).

Aquino said.

The 2nd Infantry Division also urged the public to remain vigilant and discerning of information circulating online, encouraging support for efforts that promote truth, accountability, and lasting peace in conflict-affected areas.

(Edjun Mariposque)



EXPLICIT

Madelaine Go

DSWD NAMAHAGI NG FUEL SUBSIDY PARA SA MGA TRICYCLE DRIVERS NG LIPA CITY



Mahigit 1,050 tricycle drivers sa Lipa City, Batangas ang nakatanggap ng tig-₱5,000 fuel subsidy mula sa Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) noong Marso 26, bilang tulong sa patuloy na pagtaas ng presyo ng langis.

Pinangunahan ni DSWD Secretary Rex Gatchalian ang pamamahagi ng ayuda na kaula-unahang isinagawa sa labas ng Metro Manila.

Ayon sa DSWD, bahagi ito ng direktiba ni Pangulong Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. na palawakin ang tulong sa lahat ng transport workers sa buong bansa.

"Maaasahan ninyo na hindi lang kayo ang tutulungan. Ang nais ng ating Pangulo ay walang tsuper ang maiwan—mula sa jeepney drivers, bus drivers, delivery riders, hanggang motorcycle taxi drivers. Lahat po ay matutulungan," ani ng DSWD chief

Nagpasalamat naman ang mga tsuper: "Malaking tulong po ito... napupunta na kasi sa krudo ang kita namin," ayon sa isang driver.

Tiniyak din ng DSWD na ipagpapatuloy ang programa sa iba pang lugar upang mas marami pang tsuper ang matulungan.

SSS...

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro emphasized that the Kasambahay Caravan is a key SSS initiative to extend protection to this often overlooked group of workers.

"Household helpers keep our homes running smoothly but often lack emergency protection," de Claro said.

"This initiative ensures every kasambahay can access SSS benefits such as sickness, maternity, disability, unemployment, retirement, funeral, and death."

De Claro added that registered kasambahay can also apply for SSS loan programs, including salary loans and calamity loans.

"They will also get additional protection from the Employees' Compensation (EC) Program for work related sickness, disability, or death," he said.

Speaking at the kickoff event held at SM City Marikina on March 22,

2026, SSS NCR Operations Group Acting Senior Vice President Benjamin Dolindo Jr. said the drive aims to strengthen social security coverage for a sector that plays a vital role in family life.

"Social security coverage for the sector that is truly important in our homes is a shared responsibility," Dolindo said. "May we continue fulfilling our responsibility to ensure that every house helper is registered and protected."

The Kasambahay Caravan is part of a broader campaign to bring SSS registration and membership services closer to household workers and their employers, many of whom are still not formally enrolled.

At the event, SSS provided on-site services such as SSS registration for kasambahay and household employers, issuance of SSS numbers and member data change requests, online services assistance such as, **My.SSS registration**,



Pointer

Pau Dela Cruz

Easter Sunday: Pagkakaisa, Pag-asa, at Panibagong Simula

Sa pagdiriwang ng Easter Sunday, sama-sama nating ipinagdiriwang ang mensahe ng muling pagkabuhay—isang simbolo ng pag-asa, katatagan, at bagong simula para sa bawat isa.

Sa kabila ng mga hamon na ating kinakaharap, ang diwa ng Pasko ng Pagkabuhay ay nagpa-paalala na ang pagtutulungan, malasakit sa kapwa, at matibay na pananampalataya ang susi sa pagbangon at pag-unlad ng ating komunidad.

Nawa'y magsilbing inspirasyon ang araw na ito upang lalo pa nating palakasin ang ating pagkakaisa at magpatuloy sa paglilingkod para sa kapakanan ng lahat.

Ang araw na ito ay sumisimbolo ng tagumpay ng buhay laban sa kamatayan, ng pag-ibig laban sa kasalanan, at ng pananampalataya laban sa pangamba. Nawa'y magsilbi itong inspirasyon sa bawat isa na magpatuloy sa paggawa ng kabutihan, magmahal nang walang hinihinging kapalit, at maniwala na may bagong simula sa bawat araw.

Sa diwa ng muling pagkabuhay, nawa'y maghari ang kapayapaan, pag-asa, at pagmamahal sa bawat tahanan at sa buong sambayanan.

FROM PAGE 8

password resetting, generation of Payment Reference Numbers (PRNs), loan and benefit application, and orientation on benefits, coverage, and registration responsibilities.

Under Republic Act No. 11199 or the Social Security Act of 2018, employers are required to register their household helpers within 30 days of hiring and remit their contributions.

For kasambahay earning ₱5,000 or more per month, household employers deduct the employee's share from the salary, add their own contribution, and pay via accredited channels. For those earning ₱5,000 or less, employers fully cover the contributions.

SM City Marikina Mall Manager Francis Brian Cruz welcomed the partnership, saying the mall is committed to supporting community driven programs that promote social protection.

"We are honored to partner with SSS

in bringing essential services near to our community and most especially to our kasambahay who play an important role in our homes and our daily lives," Cruz said.

Social Security Commissioner Eva Arcos, who also attended the launch, stressed that social security should be viewed as a long term investment in workers' well being.

"We should look at social security as an investment rather than an expense," Arcos said.

"For every employer who registers their kasambahay, they are not only paying a contribution but also securing a safety net for a worker who helps run their household."

The SSS plans to expand the Kasambahay Caravan in other areas with the goal of closing coverage gaps among household workers and ensuring they receive the same basic protections as other formal sector employees.

PUBLISHER CORNER

MULA SA PAGIGING AMA NG BAYAN BILANG PARI NA SINILANGAN SA ABRA MABUTING IHEMPLO SA SIMBAHAN AY NAGING ADBOKASIYA ANG PAGTUTOL SA MGA TIWALI NA NAGPATUPAD NG MARSHALL LAW NUON AT NILA ANJAN NIYA ANG MGA MAPANGAHAS NA UMAAPI SA MGA TRIBO AT NASA LAYLAYAN NG BUHAY

NAGING TAGAPAG TANGOL SIYA NG MGA NAAAPI AT NAI-TATAG NIYA ISANG MALAKING GRUPO NA NAKIPAG DIGMA PARA SA KABUTIHAN NG BAYAN

TUMULONG SA GOBYERNO AT NAGPATUPAD NG LIHITIMONG TAMA KAHIT PUMAGITNA SA MAPANGANIB NA SITWASYON

FATHER BALWEG AY KUMANDER

Conrado M. Balweg history

Si Conrado M. Balweg (Disyembre 29, 1942 – Disyembre 31, 1999) ay isang dating paring Katoliko mula sa Tingguian tribe sa Banao, Malibcong, Abra. Mula sa mahirap na pamilya ng magsasaka, pinasok niya ang Society of the Divine Word (SVD) at naging pari noong 1970 (ordinado ni Pope Paul VI sa Manila). Nagsilbi siyang paring nasa parokya ng Luba, Tubo, at Sallapadan sa Abra.

Noong panahon ng martial law ni Marcos, laban siya sa mga proyekto na nakakasira sa ancestral lands ng Cordillera tulad ng Cellophil Resources Corporation (rayon plant) at Chico River Dam Project.

Dahil sa mga death threats at pagtutol sa logging at mining, iniwan niya ang priesthood noong 1979 at sumali sa New People's Army (NPA) sa Cordillera People's Democratic Front (CPDF).

Tinawag siyang "Ka Ambo" naging lider ng Lumbaya Company, at mabilis na lumaki ang kanyang grupo mula 32 fighters hanggang 700 noong 1984. Siya ang isa sa mga "rebel priests" na kilala sa pakikipaglaban para sa karapatan ng Igorot at laban sa korupsiyon ng gobyerno.

Matapos ang EDSA People Power Revolution, Abril 1986 si Balweg, kasama si Bruno Ortega at ang kanyang Lumbaya Company, ay nag-split sa CPP-NPA. Dahilhan:

Hindi naaayon sa Cordillera ang ideolohiya ng NPA (masyadong sentralisado at "national" ang focus, hindi pinapansin ang specific na karapatan



ng mga indigenous people).

Gusto niya ng totooing autonomy para sa Cordillera, hindi lang class struggle.

Tinawag niyang "totalitarian" ang CPP-NPA.

Ilinatag niya ang Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA) isang bagong grupo na nakatutong sa "Cordillera regional autonomy at pagtatanggol sa ancestral domain. Ito ang naging dahilan kung bakit humina ang NPA sa Cordillera region.

Hunyo 1986 nagsimula ang peace talks kay President Cory Aquino.

Setyembre 13, 1986 nilagdaan ang historic Mount Data Peace Accord (Sipat) sa Mount Data, Bauko, Mountain Province. Ito ang unang peace agreement na nagbigay daan sa Cordillera autonomy. Nag-surrender ang CPLA ng armas at naging bahagi ng Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR) sa pamamagitan ng Executive Order No. 220 (1987).

Sumali ang CPLA sa anti-NPA operations at naging CAFGU sa ilang lugar.

Si Balweg ay naging spokesperson para sa Cordillera autonomy, sumali sa pulitika (tumakbo sa Congress noong 1998 pero natalo), at patuloy na nanawagan para sa tunay na self-determination ng mga Igorot.

Noong Disyembre 31, 1999 (Bagong Taon), winakasan siya ng NPA (Chadli Molintas Command) sa kanyang bahay sa Malibcong, Abra. May "kangaroo court" na nagbasa ng death sentence. Ayon sa NPA, "traitor" siya dahil nag-split, nakipag-ayos sa gobyerno, at umano'y may personal na kasalanan. (May ulat na kangskot ang kanyang sariling kapatid na si Joventicio Balweg.)

Si Balweg ay nananatiling icon ng Cordillera autonomy mula paring nagmamahal sa kanyang tribo, naging rebel commander, hanggang sa naging peace advocate. Siya ang patunay na maaaring magbago ang landas para sa rehiyonal na hustisiya.



Smiles and festive colors filled your most-loved SM City Trece Martires as families gathered for a joyful Easter Parade celebration. Kids and parents alike enjoyed adorable bunny ears, colorful balloons, and fun-filled moments that made the day truly egg-tra special while everyone came together to #CelebrateEasterAtSM.
#GalaToTheMax
#GoAllOutAtSM
#EverythingsHereAtSM

Swift Holy Week Response: Mayor Ross Rizal Rushes Aid to Fire Victims in Real, Calamba



Even on Good Friday, Calamba City Mayor Roseller “Ross” H. Rizal demonstrated swift leadership and compassion as he personally led relief efforts for families affect-

ed by a recent fire in Sitio Kabute, Barangay Real, Calamba City, Laguna. “In a single moment, everything can change—we do not expect, but we must always be ready to act and help,” Rizal said. Immediately after learning of the incident, the mayor and his team went to the affected area to extend assistance to residents whose homes were damaged by the fire that broke out the previous night. A total of 19 households, comprising 26 families, were impacted. The city government distributed relief goods, financial assistance, and “GoBags” containing essential items such as beddings, flashlights, batteries, hygiene kits, and water containers to help families recover and ensure their safety during this difficult time. Rizal emphasized that although it was Good Friday—a day of reflection and sacrifice—the true spirit of the occasion lies in compassion and helping those in need. “Rest assured that in times of need, we are here—ready to respond and always prepared to support,” he added. (Edjun Mariposque)

Mayor Roseller “Ross” H. Rizal Leads Immediate Relief Efforts After Fire Displaces 57 Families in Calamba



CALAMBA CITY, LAGUNA — April 2, 2026 — Swift response and on-the-ground leadership marked the city’s handling of a fire incident that struck Barangay 4 late Thursday morning, leaving dozens of families homeless. Mayor Roseller “Ross” H. Rizal personally visited the fire site shortly after the incident, ensuring that immediate assistance reached affected residents. The local chief executive brought food packs, emergency go-bags, and financial aid to help families begin recovering from the tragedy. “Agad tayong rumesponde sa insidente ng sunog ngayong araw sa Barangay 4. Bitbit natin ang food packs, go bags, at tulong pinansyal upang agad na makatulong sa mga pamilyang naapektuhan,” Mayor Rizal said.



Brgy. Chairman Joseph Emergo

A total of 57 families were affected after the fire razed approximately 51 houses, displacing residents and causing significant property damage. Initial investigation revealed that the fire allegedly started from children playing with match-

es. One of the victims, Stefanie Cabaña, recounted that the blaze quickly spread after it was accidentally ignited. Barangay Captain Joseph Emergo reported that the fire was first detected around 11:41 a.m., prompting an immediate call to the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), which responded promptly to contain the flames. In light of the incident, Emergo urged parents and guardians to be more vigilant, especially in supervising children to prevent similar accidents.

Mayor Rizal emphasized the importance of unity during times of crisis, assuring residents of continued government support. “Sa ganitong mga pagkakataon, higit na kailangan ang pagkakaisa at malasakit—at maka-

Cavite strengthens flood mitigation efforts and inter-agency coordination through strategic meetings

The Provincial Government of Cavite reaffirmed its commitment to disaster resilience and effective governance through two significant meetings held on March 23, at the New Provincial Government Center in Trece Martires City: the Flood Mitigation Committee (FMC) Meeting and the Local Inter-Agency Committee (LIAC) Meeting. Governor Francisco Gabriel “Abeng” Remulla. The meeting brought together key officials and stakeholders involved in the Cavite Industrial Area Flood Risk Management Project (CIA-FRIMP), alongside representatives from the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and partner agencies. Notable participants from JICA included Mr. Aoki Nobuhiko, Ms. Catherine Palanca, and Ms. Shino Yamauchi, while local government units from Imus City, Bacoor City, General Trias

City, Kawit, Rosario, and Noveleta were also represented, underscoring the collaborative nature of the initiative. During the session, Mr. Shuji Kaku, CIA-FRIMP Project Team Leader, and Ms. Mimi Estaris, Non-Structural Measures (NSM) Specialist, presented updates on ongoing flood mitigation efforts, covering both structural interventions such as drainage improvements and pumping stations, and non-structural measures including early warning systems, community preparedness, and land-use planning. Engr. Aurelio Mendoza, Project Manager of DPWH-UPMO, further contributed technical insights that enriched the discussion and planning process. The FMC continues to serve as a vital platform for coordination, strengthening partnerships among national agencies, local government units, and development partners toward enhancing flood management systems and building safer, more resilient communities across Cavite. On the same day, the Local Inter-Agency Committee (LIAC) Meeting was held and presided over by Provincial Administrator Engr. Gilbert Gandia. The meeting gathered representatives from vari-

ous government agencies and stakeholders to ensure alignment and coordination in infrastructure and development projects across the province. A key highlight of the LIAC meeting was the discussion of the salient provisions of Republic Act No. 12289, also known as the Accelerated and Reformed Right-of-Way (ROW) Act. The law aims to streamline and expedite the acquisition of right-of-way for national government infrastructure projects, addressing common delays caused by land acquisition issues. Discussions emphasized the importance of inter-agency cooperation in implementing the law effectively, ensuring fair compensation, minimizing displacement concerns, and accelerating project delivery. The LIAC serves as a critical mechanism for harmonizing policies, resolving implementation issues, and ensuring that national and local development initiatives are carried out efficiently and in accordance with existing laws and regulations. Together, these meetings highlight the Provincial Government of Cavite’s proactive approach in addressing flood risks while strengthening institutional coordination, paving the way for sustainable development and improved quality of life for its constituents. — OPIO