

INC donates PhP 13.2 million worth of PPEs, medical supplies to help QC hospitals, frontliners



(Eagle News) – The Iglesia Ni Cristo (Church of Christ) once again extended help to the Quezon City government by donating PhP 13.2 million worth of personal protective equipment (PPEs), vitamins, disinfectant, and other hospital needs for the city’s frontliners.

In a statement, INC General Auditor Glicerio B. Santos Jr., said that the do-

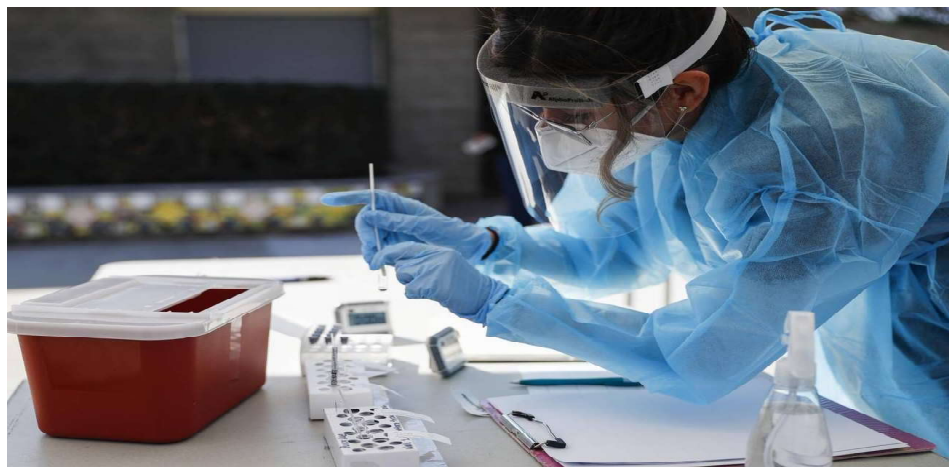
nation was made upon the directive of INC Executive Minister Brother Eduardo V. Manalo to support health care workers and frontliners in the campaign against COVID-19.

“Itong ikalawang donasyong ito ay matapos mabalitaan ni Ka Eduardo na nakapakarami nating mga frontliner sa mga ospital lalo na sa mga government hos-

pital na nahihirapan dahil sa kakulangan ng mga gamit (This second donation came about after Brother Eduardo learned that many frontliners, especially those in government hospitals, are having difficulties because of lack of equipment)”, INC minister Santos said.

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Govt opens platform to speed up medical imports



The Anti-Red Tape Authority (Arta) has created a single window platform intended to hasten the importation procedure of medical supplies that are needed in the fight against the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

Under Joint Memorandum Circular 1, the Arta, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Bureau of Customs (BOC) institutionalized the Bayanihan One Stop Shop, or BOSS. It functions as a single window and concierge for state agencies dealing with the importation of health goods crucial in combatting the Covid-19 pandemic.

In the existing setup, importation of products regulated by the FDA would require the issuance of license to operate to the importer and registration of

every medical item unless exempted.

The importer would then be mandated to present the license to BOC for entry clearance of the imports into the country. The government, however, finds that this causes delay at a time of crisis, and, therefore, decided to put up the BOSS that will accept all online applications for the importation of medical supplies.

Under the joint memorandum, the web sites of the Arta, FDA and Customs were linked to one another for end to end processing and monitoring of applications.

Further, an online platform composed of the three agencies and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), Governance Com-

mission for GOCCs (GCG) and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) was activated. It will serve as their tracker for all incoming shipments for processing.

Once a filing for importation or license is entered into the BOC or FDA portal, concerned agencies shall be automatically prompted through the one-stop shop, as well as via e-mail, for information and monitoring.

In case there is a need to verify an issue, the SEC for private firms, DTI for sole proprietorships, CDA for cooperatives and the GCG for GOCCs may immediately validate. All FDA laws, rules and regulations governing post-importation of medical products in

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MIAA releases list of operational flights as of Sunday

COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS							
(April 5, 2020 - Sunday)							
List of flights operating at NAIA Terminal 1							
Arrivals				Departures			
HX 781	HKG-MNL	ETA	0535H	HX 782	MNL-HKG	ETD	0655H
KU 1129	KWI-MNL	ETA	0930H	GF 155	MNL-BAH	ETD	1245H
GF 154	BAH-MNL	ETA	1130H	MH 705	MNL-KUL	ETD	1505H
MH 704	KUL-MNL	ETA	1405H	QR 933	MNL-DOH	ETD	1815H
QR 932	DOH-MNL	ETA	1610H	QR 929	MNL-DOH	ETD	2320H
QR 928	DOH-MNL	ETA	2140H	KE 624	MNL-ICN	ETD	2320H
KE 623	ICN-MNL	ETA	2205H				

These flight schedules may change at any given time. In such cases, please contact your airline for confirmation.
 We advise our followers to continue monitoring our Facebook page for updates on flight schedules.



Zenaida Ancheta Encarnacion

TO ALL MY FRIENDS PLEASE ALLOW ME TO SHARE A POST WHICH I READ AND MAY THIS BECOME PART OF OUR REFLECTION AND DISCERNMENT FOR THE HOLIDAYS AND FOR THIS NEW YEAR..MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE..

"From a friend..."

"HERE IS A COMMENT FROM A PSYCHOLOGIST REGARDING OUR CURRENT STATE

The difference between the poor and rich nations is not the age of the Nation.

This can be demonstrated by countries like India and Egypt (among others), which are more than

2000 years old and are still struggling (economically).

On the other hand, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, which 150 years back were insignificant, today are developed and rich countries.

The difference between the poor and rich nation does not also depend only on the available natural resources.

Japan has limited territory, 80% mountainous, unsuitable for agriculture or farming, but is second in the world's economy. The country is like an immense floating factory, importing raw materials from the whole world and exporting manufactured products.

Second example is Switzerland, it does not grow cocoa but produces the best chocolates in the world. In her small territory she rears animals and cultivates the land only for four months in a year, nevertheless manufactures the best milk products. A small country which is an image of security which has made it the strongest world bank.

Executives from rich countries who interact with their counterparts from poor countries show no significant intellectual differences.

The racial or color factors also do not evince importance: migrants heavy in laziness in their country of origin are forcefully productive in rich European countries.

What then is the difference?

The difference is the attitude of the people, molded for many years by education and culture (or in our case imposed by colonizers).

When we analyse the conduct of the people from the rich and developed countries, it is observed that a majority abide by the following principles of life:

1. Ethics, as basic principles.
2. Integrity.
3. Responsibility.
4. The respect for Laws and Regulations.
5. The respect from majority of citizens by right.
6. The love for work.
7. The effort to save and invest.
8. The will to be productive.
9. Punctuality.

In the poor countries a small minority follow these basic principles in their daily life.

We are not poor because we lack natural resources or because nature was cruel towards us.

We are poor because we lack attitude. We lack the will to follow and teach these principles of working of rich and developed societies.

WE ARE IN THIS STATE BECAUSE WE WANT TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OVER EVERYTHING AND EVERYONE.

WE ARE IN THIS STATE BECAUSE WE SEE SOMETHING DONE WRONG AND SAY - "LET IT BE" WE SHOULD HAVE A SPIRITED MEMORY AND ATTITUDE...

ONLY THEN WILL WE BE ABLE TO CHANGE OUR PRESENT STATE.

Have a pleasant day everyone!

INC donates.....

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The INC General Auditor assured the public that the INC provides aid to those in need whether or not they are members of the Church.

"Mula't mula pa, anuman ang mangyari, anuman ang dumating na sakuna dito sa mga bayan sa Pilipinas, kaagapay palagi nila ang Iglesia ni Cristo, sa

pangunguna ng ating Tagapamahalang Pangkalahatan, ang Kapatid na Eduardo v. Manalo (From the start, whatever happens, whatever calamity strikes any of the towns in the Phil-



ippines, the Iglesia ni Cristo is always there to help, through the leadership of our Executive Minister, Brother Eduardo V. Manalo", he added.

The Iglesia Ni Cristo donates PHP 13.2 million worth of personal protective equipment (PPEs) and medical supplies to the Quezon City government to assist in the fight against COVID-19. This is the sec-

ond donation made to the city government, following a PHP 5 million in assistance extended previously. Part of the personal protective equipment and other hospital needs donated by the Iglesia Ni Cristo to the Quezon City government. The INC donated some P13.2 million worth of PPEs, medical supplies for frontliners battling COVID-19 in Quezon City (Eagle News Service)

Quezon City Mayor Joy Belmonte expressed gratitude to the Iglesia Ni Cristo for the latest donation.

She also assured that the assistance will reach its intended beneficiaries, the frontliners in various public hospitals in the city. Part of the donated PPEs made by the Iglesia Ni

Cristo to the Quezon City government. The INC donated some P13.2 million worth of personal protective equipment, medical supplies for frontliners battling COVID-19 in Quezon City (Eagle News Service)

Part of the personal protective equipment and other hospital needs donated by the Iglesia Ni Cristo to the Quezon City government. The INC donated some P13.2 million worth of PPEs, medical supplies for frontliners battling COVID-19 in Quezon City (Eagle News Service)

Belmonte noted that the INC is always among the very first who give assistance in times of calamities, not only in Quezon City but in other parts of the country as well.

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Weekly Horoscope

CAPRICORN (December 22--January 19) – Marami kang resolusyon na gustong matupad pero -marami rito ang mauwi sa wala. Makabubuting ‘wag masyadong itaas ang iyong expectation. Alam mo ang iyong -kakayahan. Lucky -number for today: 10

AQUARIUS (-January 20-February 18) – -Maraming gustong maging -bahagi ng buhay mo. Pero karamihan sa kanila ay -magiging -pabigat lamang. -Idistansya ang -sarili sa mga negatibong -indibidwal. Lucky number for today: 1

PISCES (February 19-March 20) – Kung gusto ay maraming paraan, pero kung ayaw ay maraming dahilan. Nakikita mong ginagawa ito ng ilang tao sa paligid mo. Wag nang paasahin ang sarili. Lucky number for today: 17

ARIES (March 21-April 19) – -Tuluyan nang -talikuran ang 2019, isara na ang mga kabanata ng iyong libro. Harapin na ang bagong -chapter ng -buhay at tanggapin ang mga -magaganap na pagbabago. -Maraming hamon na ihahatid ang bagong taon. Lucky number for today: 17

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) – Isang kaibigan ang -maaaring magtampo sa iyo. Ito’y dahil -hindi niya magugustuhan ang iyong mga -sinasabi. Bagama’t gusto mo -lamang -magpakato-too, -iwasang -masyadong marahas ang mga -pananalita. Lucky number for today: 57

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) – Isang pagdedesisyon sa pera ang kailangan mong gawin. -Magulo pa ang isip dahil sa kaliwa’t kanang -pagsasaya pero -hindi mo na -puwedeng -ipagpaliban ang isang usapin. Lucky number for -today: 47

CANCER (June 21-July 22) – -Maliit na bagay para sa karamihan pero may importanteng impact ito sa buhay mo. ‘Wag maliitin ang anumang isyu. Magkakaroon ito ng malaking -epekto sa mga susunod na araw. Lucky number for -today: 15

LEO (July 23-August 22) – Piliting maging mabait sa mga tao sa iyong paligid -kahit alam mong -hindi mo masyadong -gusto ang iyong kaharap. Sa mga susunod na araw ay may -malaking -papel ang taong ito sa iyong buhay kaya hindi mo g-ugustuhing makabangga siya ngayon. Lucky number for today: 1

VIRGO (-August 23-September 22) – Gusto mong -maging popular pero hindi ito posible sa -lahat ng pagkakataon -partikular sa araw na ito. -Kai-langan mo munang -pagbigyan ang ibang tao. -Darating din ang -tamang -panahon para sa iyo. Lucky number for today: 36

LIBRA (September 23-October 22) – -Nararamdaman mong -nawawala ka sa sirkulasyon -partikular noong mga -nakaraang araw. Pero mula -ngayon -makikiayon na sa iyo ang mga -pangyayari. Maging handa sa mga adventures na magpapasaya sa iyo. Lucky number for -today: 58

SCORPIO (Octo-ber 23--November 21) – ‘Wag mong masya-dong -personalin kung may ilang -taong hindi ka -gustong -kasama. Hindi mo dapat ipilit ang -sarili mo sa lahat. Itutok ang atensyon sa mga -taong nagpapahalaga sa iyo. Lucky number for -today:40

SAGITTARIUS (November 22-December 21) – ‘Wag nang mag-aksaya ng panahon sa ibang tao. Hindi mo -mapapasaya ang lahat kaya -normal lamang na magka-banggaan ang -inyong mga personalidad. Dagdagan pa ang -pasensya. Lucky number for today: 31

Hike....

age caloric intake comes from starchy sources, such as rice,” she said.

The reliance on these starches highlights lower levels of consumption of more nutrient-rich food sources, such as fruits and vegetables.

“Availability of key nutrients, such as vitamin A, zinc and iron are low; the Philippines has the fifth-lowest levels of dietary iron availability of the 113 countries included in the study,” she added.

Bapat explained that these dietary challenges can lead to more long-term health and nutritional challenges, including anemia, impaired immune function and problems with eyesight.

Prescriptions

Bapat said the Philippines should improve accessibility and affordability of more nutrient-dense foods, such as fruits and vegetables, that can help to improve dietary quality.

Fruits and vegetables can be challenging to incorporate in the diet as these foods are often more expensive than starchy foods, and are also not shelf-stable,” she said.

“Countries can undertake efforts such as making greater investments in nutrition education, expanding subsidies and support programs for lower-income families to purchase nutritious foods and increasing the available supply of nutrient-dense foods, particularly in rural and marginalized communities,” she added.

Bapat noted that the Philippines could also increase its interventions related to food safety nets and access to financing for farmers especially amid the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic.

“These are two areas where countries need to assess if additional support

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and funding is needed in order to ensure uninterrupted domestic agricultural production and strong support for people who may be at risk during this time of economic turbulence,” she said.

The Philippines could also improve investments in research and development for agriculture, which Bapat pointed out, “is important for improving agricultural productivity, resilience to pests and natural disasters and agriculture’s environmental footprint.”

Challenges

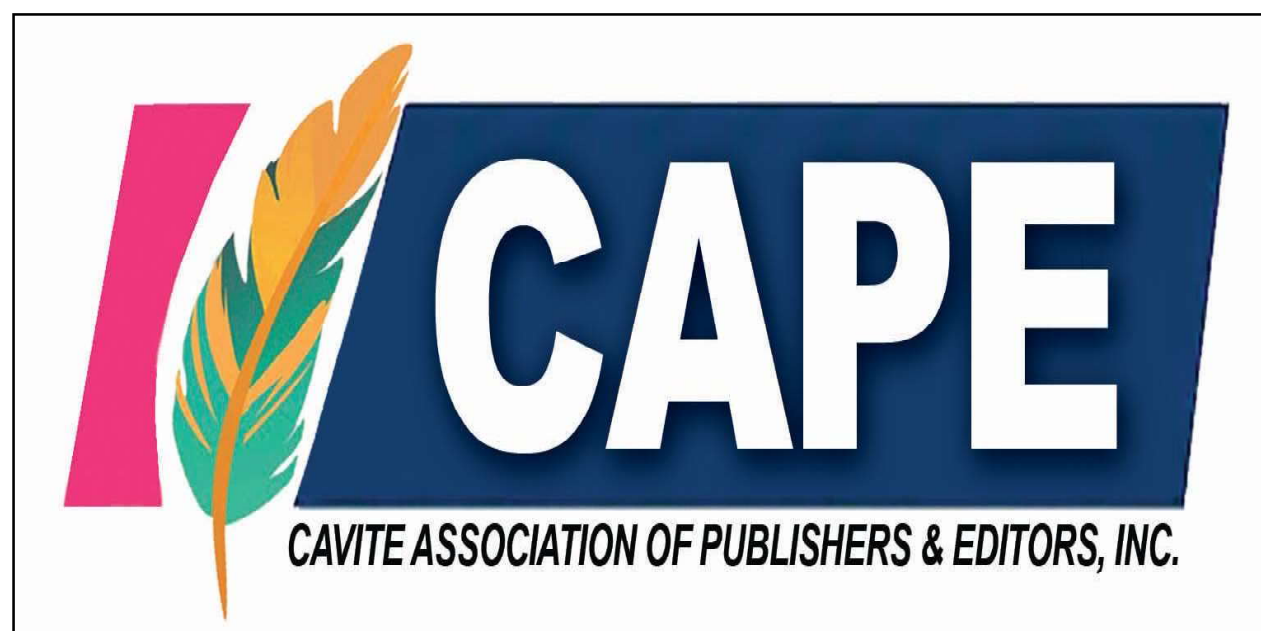
Bapat said the Philippines “lags behind other countries in terms of making public commitments to address the impacts of climate change on agriculture. “She noted that efforts could be poured in “developing mitigation strategies through international agreements and investing in early warning systems.”

“In the Global Food Security Index, the Philippines ranks as one of the top 3 Asian countries most exposed to climate change impacts. The Philippines in particular faces high levels of risk from factors such as temperature rise and severity of storms,” she said.

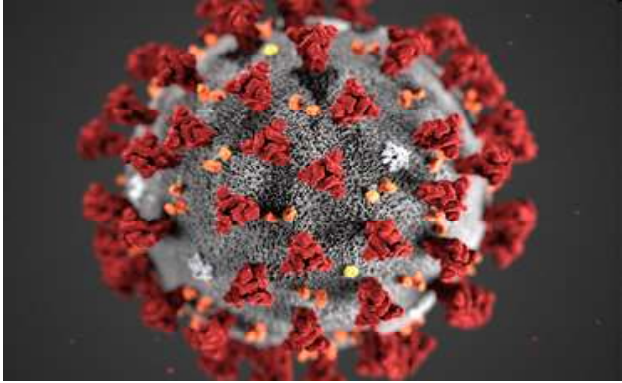
The Philippines should also sustain its efforts in protecting and properly managing its land, water and marine resources which are “essential” in ensuring long-term food security, Bapat said.

“The Philippines’s marine ecosystems are in need of protection from overfishing. Recent efforts to expand marine protected areas are one way to ensure sustainable management of fisheries,” she added.

The GFSI is a comprehensive assessment of the state of global food security developed by the EIU, supported by Corteva Agriscience.



Covid-19 cases now 3,246; death toll climbs to 152



MANILA — The Department of Health (DOH) on Sunday reported 152 new positive cases for coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-2019), bringing the total number of cases in the country to 3,246.

In its 4 p.m. case bulletin, the DOH also reported seven additional recoveries — bringing the total number of recovered cases in the country to 64 — and eight new deaths, totaling the number of deaths nationwide to 152.

It has not provided details on the new cases, recoveries, and deaths yet.

During the virtual presser, DOH Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire requested the public not to discriminate patients with Covid-19.

“Lahat tayo ay pwedeng mahawa ng Covid-19 tulad ng ibang sakit, wala itong sini-sino. Mapanganib ang diskriminasyon sa sakit na ito, maaari itong maging dahilan para itago ng mga tao ang kanilang mga sakit o sintomas (Covid-19 spares no one. Anybody can be infected by it. Discrimination against the disease is dangerous as it may become the reason for people to hide their sickness or symptoms),” she said.

Vergeire urged the public to redirect their worries about contacting the disease to proper actions — proper and regular handwashing, staying at home and observing physical distancing and proper cough etiquette. (PNA)

HL must hike investments in improving food quality, safety



The Philippines must ramp up investments in initiatives that will improve food quality to help Filipinos avoid health problems, according to the latest Global Food Security Index (GFSI), which indicated that the country was able to boost its food security last year.

GFSI 2019 Project Lead Priya Bapat told the BusinessMirror that the availability of key nutrients, such as vitamin A, zinc and iron, are low and this could pose dietary challenges that could lead to long-term health problems for Filipinos.

The Philippines improved its overall food security score to 61 in 2019, from 51 in 2018, making

The GFSI indicated that the Philippines improved in all three categories that were assessed by The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU): affordability, availability and quality and safety.

In terms of affordability, the Philippines’s score improved by 3.5 points to 68.9 points on the back of improved access to financing for farmers.

“Additionally, poverty levels in the country have decreased. According to World Bank data, of the countries covered in the GFSI, the Philippines is the most improved country in Asia Pacific for the proportion of people living

with less than \$3.20/day,” Bapat said in an e-mail interview.

The Philippines ranked 65th in terms of food availability with a score of 57.7 while it placed 80th in the quality and safety category with a score of 50.3, GFSI data showed.

Lack of nutrition

The Philippines’s standing in terms of food quality and safety inched up to 50.3 in 2019, from 49.9 in 2018 due to improved access to potable water and electricity, Bapat explained.

Out of the three categories, Bapat said the country scored the lowest in quality and safety, despite the slight increase.

Bapat explained that despite the “top score for policies and programs in place to support nutritional standards and monitoring, the scores show that dietary diversity and nutrient availability remain a challenge.”

“The Philippines falls in the bottom 25 percent of countries worldwide when assessing dietary diversity. Nearly 60 percent of aver

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Duterte to donate a month’s salary to COVID-19 response



DUTERTE DONATING ONE MONTH’S SALARY TO COVID-19 FIGHT: PANELO

President Rodrigo Duterte would donate a month’s salary to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) effort, Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo announced in a Sunday statement.

“Assistant Secretaries of the Offices of the Chief Presidential Legal Counsel and Presidential Spokesperson have likewise committed to donate at least 10% of their income directly to the Office of Civil Defense this month, and will continue providing financial and relief assistance from their salaries to groups who are at the frontline of this health crisis in the succeeding months,” added Panelo.

Most of the members of the President’s Cabinet had committed three-fourths of their April to December salaries to the government’s funds for the COVID-19 response.

House Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano said earlier that lawmakers from the House of Representatives donated more than P40 million to the COVID-19 effort; while Senate President Vicente Sotto III revealed that senators had been donating their salaries and more, albeit silently.

“The Office of the President is pleased to know that the two other branches of the government have their own program of helping the battle against COVID-19 even as we acknowledge the support given by various heads of offices and agencies in their personal capacities to thwart the COVID-19 pandemic,” said the President’s spokesperson. — DVM, GMA News

