

# PHL losses from tourism standstill could reach \$22.6B

**THE Philippines could lose up to \$22.64 billion (P1.13 trillion) or seven percent of GDP if the tourism standstill caused by the pandemic extends to 12 months, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said in a report.**

The country is already facing a loss of \$7.7 billion (P383.7 billion) or two percent of the country's GDP after the tourism industry was forced to shut down for four months so far this year. If the standstill extends to eight months, the Philippines could lose \$15.19 billion (P792.3 billion) or five percent of GDP.

In its COVID-19 and Tourism: Assessing the Economic Consequences report released on July 1, UNCTAD said the world tourism sector's losses may reach at least \$1.2 trillion or 1.5% of the global gross domestic product over the four-month standstill.

UNCTAD said the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has brought to a halt an industry that has tripled in value to \$1.6 trillion in the last two decades.

"These numbers are a clear reminder of something we often seem to forget: the economic importance of the sector and its role as a lifeline for millions of people all around the world," UNCTAD Director of International Trade Pamela Coke-Hamilton said.

An eight-month international tourism break



spells a \$2.2-trillion loss or 2.8% of world GDP, while a 12-month break increases this to \$3.3 trillion or 4.2% of global GDP.

The Department of Tourism said revenues declined by 55% in the first four months of 2020 to P79.8 billion from P180.5 billion in the same period a year ago. Last year, tourism contributed 12.7% to the country's GDP and employed 5.7 million

See page 7...

**Luzon Development Bank LDB**  
 SINCE 1961 *Ang Bangko Natin*

www.luzondevbank.com.ph

**PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**

**DEPOSITS**

- Savings Account
- Current Account
- Business Savings
- Time Deposit

**LOANS**

- Agricultural
- Commercial
- Industrial
- Microfinance
- Consumption
- Salary Maximizer
- Sasakyan Loan
- Car Loan
- Real Estate
- Developmental
- Home Loan

**Other Services**

- Western Union Money Transfer
- Bills Payment
- Norkis Yamaha
- PLDT
- SMART
- Royal Cable
- Globe
- Innove

**BRANCHES**

San Pablo/Cabuyao/Canlubang/Calamba  
 Biñan/Pacita/Alaminos/Calauan/Los Baños  
 Sta. Rosa/San Pedro/Bacoor/Carmona/Gen Trias  
 Dasmariñas/GMA/Novelita/Tanza/Trece  
 Tanauan/Lipa/Rosario/Sto. Tomas/San Jose  
 Bauan/Batangas/Lemery/Makati/Sucal  
 Gapan/Muntinlupa/Sariaya/Candelaria/Tiaong

HEAD OFFICE: Paciano Rizal, Calamba City TRUNKLINE NO. (049) 531-3700 FAX NO. (049) 531-4749

# Edsa 'transformation' now comes with loops, 'carousel'

**MANILA, Philippines** — Before the "transformation" of Edsa — complete with exclusive bus and bike lanes — promised by Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade in May is fully realized, a temporary scheme will be implemented to ease and speed up the commute on Metro Manila's busiest road, officials said on Wednesday.

The "interim" plan includes a mini bus loop from Timog to Santolan and buses picking up passengers as usual from the curb, a departure from the earlier plan announced by Tugade late in May in which the inner lane would be used exclusively by buses.

As a result, buses would go back to their old lane in two sections of Edsa to load and unload passengers at a total of nine bus stops, according to Celine Pialago, spokesperson for the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA).

The first set of six bus stops to be served by the buses that would ply the entire length of Edsa up to Paranaque would be from Monumento to Quezon Avenue.

From the Quezon Av-



enue stop, the buses would cross Edsa to get to the inner lane and then cross the road again to drop off and pick up passengers at the second set of bus stops from Ayala Avenue to Paranaque Integrated Terminal Exchange (PITx).

The first bus segment where the buses will be curbside will be from Monumento to Quezon Avenue. The second would be from Buendia Avenue to PITx.

The current format of the "Edsa carousel" route is drastically different from the earlier "Edsa transformation" design, which would have 26 bus stops exclusively on the inner lane.

150 buses only Using footbridges, passengers will have to cross Edsa from the curb to the inner lane to get on a bus and from the inner lane to the curb after they get off, ac

See page 2 ...

# DOH: COVID-19 cases among health workers decline but rise among repatriates

**MANILA [UPDATE]** — The Department of Health (DOH) on Wednesday said the number of repatriated Filipinos with COVID-19 surpassed that of health workers over the last two months.

"Ayon sa ginawang initial analysis, may mga indikasyon na karamihan sa mga bagong kaso sa mga buwan ng Mayo at Hunyo ay dahil sa mga repatriates kumpara sa Marso at Abril na karamihan ay health care workers," Health Undersecretary Maria Rosario Vergeire said during a televised briefing.

(According to our initial analysis, there are indications that majority of the new cases for the months of May and June are because of repatriates, compared to March and April that involved mostly health care workers.)

See page 2...

Table 1. Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Among Repatriated OFWs, by Month of DOH's Public Announcement (as of June 30, 2020)

| Month        | New Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Among Repatriated OFWs | Total New Confirmed Cases Nationwide | % of New Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Among Repatriated OFWs to Total Confirmed Cases Nationwide |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| January      | 0   | 1                                    | 0%   |
| February     | 0   | 2                                    | 0%   |
| March        | 4   | 2,081                                | 0.19%  |
| April        | 24  | 6,401                                | 0.37%  |
| May          | 952   | 9,584                                | 10%  |
| June         | 998   | 19,445                               | 5%   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>1,978</b>  | <b>37,514</b>                        | <b>5%</b>  |

Source: ABS-CBN Investigative and Research Group  
 Source of basic data: DOH Data Drop as of June 30, 2020

Table 2. Confirmed COVID-19 Cases among Healthcare Workers, by Month of DOH's Public Announcement (as of June 30, 2020)

| Month        | New Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Among Healthcare Workers | Total New Confirmed Cases Nationwide | % of Healthcare Workers to Confirmed Cases |
|--------------|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| January      | 0   | 1                                    | 0%   |
| February     | 0   | 2                                    | 0%   |
| March        | 0   | 2,081                                | 0%   |
| April        | 1,694   | 6,401                                | 26%  |
| May          | 912   | 9,584                                | 10%  |
| June         | 766   | 19,445                               | 4%   |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>3,372</b>  | <b>37,514</b>                        | <b>9%</b>                                  |

Source: ABS-CBN Investigative and Research Group  
 Source of basic data: DOH Data Drop as of June 30, 2020

**Ang Kidneys: Paano Alagaan?**

**Payo ni Doc Willie Ong**

Sa nakaraang artikulo, nabanggit ko ang mga tips para alagaan ang kidneys:

- (1) Bawasan ang asin sa pagkain,
- (2) Limitahan ang protina sa pagkain,
- (3) Gamutin ang altapresyon o high blood pressure at
- (4) Gamutin ang diabetes.

**Payo ito ni Dra. Elizabeth Montemayor, isang tanyag na kidney specialist, Head ng Section of Nephrology sa PGH at Head ng Hemodialysis Unit sa Manila Doctors Hospital. Heto pa ang iba pang payo para sa kidneys:**

1. Limitahan ang paggamit ng pain relievers (gamot sa kirot) – Ang mga pangkaraniwang pain relievers tulad ng mefenamic acid, ibuprofen, at mga mamahaling pain relievers tulad ng celecoxib, ay puwedeng makasira ng kidneys. Kailangan ay limitahan ang paggamit nito sa 1 o 2 linggo lamang. Pagkatapos ay ipapahinga muna natin ang kidneys, bago muli bigyan ng gamot sa kirot. Kaya kung ika’y may arthritis, maaaring lagyan ng mainit na tubig (hot compress) ang uminom ng paracetamol tablets.
2. Uminom ng sapat na tubig sa isang araw – Ang pangkaraniwang payo ng doktor ay ang pag-inom ng 8 basong tubig sa isang araw. Makatutulong ito sa pag-iwas sa kidney stones o bato sa bato.
3. Para sa mga taong magpapa-CT Scan o MRI with contrast dye (iyung gumagamit ng dye na ipinadadaan sa ugat), kailangan nating pangalagaan ang inyong kidneys. Uminom muna ng 1-2 basong tubig bago magpa-CT scan o MRI para matulungan ang kidneys na ilabas itong dye.
4. Wala pang basehan ang paggamit ng supplements para sa kidneys – Ayon kay Dra. Montemayor, wala pang supplement na naimbento na napatunayang makatutulong sa kidneys. Sundin lamang ang mga payong naibigay natin at mapapangalagaan na ang ating kidneys.
5. Huwag sobrahan ang pag-inom ng Vitamin C – Ayon kay Dra. Montemayor, hanggang 500 mg lang ng Vitamin C ang kanyang mare-rekomenda. Ang sobrang vitamin C ay puwedeng magdulot ng kidney stones. At ang kidney stones naman ay puwedeng umabot sa kidney failure kapag hindi naagapan.
6. Magtanong muna sa doktor bago uminom ng kahit anong gamot. Magpacheck ng ihi (urinalysis) at dugo (CBC, BUN at creatinine) at kumonsulta sa inyong kidney specialists o doktor. Napakahalaga ng ating kidneys. Alagaan natin ito.

**DOH: COVID-19 cases.. From page 1**

Data showed that overseas Filipinos who recently returned to the country accounted for less than 10 percent of total infections recorded in May and June.

Vergeire had to clarify on Thursday morning that she did not mean to say that “majority” of the cases were repatriates.

“It’s not really saying that majority of the cases were all repatriates,” she told reporters after acknowledging that many were confused after the Wednesday press briefing.

“Let us be clear on this, we were comparing the health care workers and the repatriates,” she said.

“Pag tinignan natin na from May to June ‘yung ating mga repatriates nasa 1,950 (If you look at the numbers from May to June, our repatriates with COVID-19 were at 1,950). We observed that the number of repatriate cases has significantly increased since we only recorded 28 cases from March to April,” Vergeire explained.

She said the number of health workers also went down to only 1,263 new cases for May and June.

On Wednesday, Vergeire said that as of June 30, 2020, 92,967 overseas Filipinos have returned home: 39,643 were land-based, and 53,324 were sea-based.

Of the total COVID-19 cases, 2,326 were among repatriated OFWs. More than half (1,213) are land-based workers and the rest (1,113) are sea-based workers.

DFA: 59,000 overseas Filipinos repatriated since COVID-19 global spread

Many Filipino workers abroad were forced to return to the Philippines because their companies were affected by COVID-19 lockdowns.

Meanwhile, health workers in the Philippines who were infected with COVID-19 are now at 3,367. DOH data compiled by the ABS-CBN Investigative and Research Group showed that among repatriates, new cases increased by 952 in May, and then another 998 in June. But these are only 9.9 percent and 5.1 percent respectively of the total number of new cases for the month. The new cases among health workers slightly declined for May and June although it was not far behind the number of Filipino repatriates with COVID-19.

OFWs who return to the country undergo a COVID-19 test upon arrival. They then go on 14-day quarantine in government facilities mostly in Metro Manila. Those who test negative for the new coronavirus are allowed to return to their hometowns upon completing quarantine.

**Edsa ‘transformation’ now ... From page 1**

According to the design.

Assistant Transportation Secretary Goddes Libiran said the rollout of the new design would be part of their long-term plan for the “new normal.”

For now, commuters will have to make do with the “interim” scheme, which will be served by 150 buses.

The modified busway — a streamlined version of the old 66 routes that had used Edsa before the pandemic — will have 550 buses traveling from Monumento to PITx, with 16 bus stops in between.

There currently are fewer bus stops than planned because these still need fixing and several are still to be constructed, according to Pialago.

Some of the bus stops have inadequate lightning, while more concrete barriers, fences and canopies (for the waiting sheds) need to be set up to separate the inner lane and the bus stops from the other lanes.

Almost all 16 bus stops still need more concrete barriers, said Pialago. The stops at Santolan, Ortigas and Guadalupe need waiting sheds, while those at Ayala, Q-Mart, Taft and MOA are still to be constructed.

The Department of Transportation (DOTr) said the 36,000 concrete barriers meant as separators for the busway might take until September to finish.

Once completed, the busway is expected to cut short travel time from Monumento to PITx to 45 minutes to one hour from up to three hours before the lockdown in March.

‘Dispatching is key’

The Monumento-Quezon Avenue Bus stops will be at Bagong Barrio, Light Rail Transit (LRT) Balintawak, Kaingin, LRT Muñoz, Metro Rail Transit (MRT) North Avenue Station; and MRT Quezon Avenue.

The second segment, from PITx to Buendia, will have stops at the following: Buendia, Ayala (southbound—only to unload, northbound—to load and unload), Magallanes, Evangelista/Malibay, Taft Avenue (southbound—only to unload, northbound—only to load), Roxas Boulevard, Macapagal Avenue, MOA and PITx.

“It’s hard to make an assessment of the carousel route now,” said MMDA traffic chief Bong Nebrija. “But I can imagine that like many other new schemes, it would have birth pains. But give it time, especially once we finish the scheme.”

Asked whether the buses crossing Edsa from the outer lane to the inner lane and back could cause traffic, Nebrija said: “Dispatching is key. This is why it would be important for operators to deploy buses within a fixed headway, and for the carousel it’s around five minutes.”

No fare increase shall be implemented for the route, according to the DOTr.

The Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board on Wednesday said it would be doing a shuttle-service mini loop from Timog Avenue to Santolan to complement the busway.



**EDITOR'S NOTE: All comments and opinions submitted by our contributing writers and herein published shall remain as personal opinion of our column writers. Viewliner shall not be held liable to any legal issues related to any commentaries that may appear herein.**

**PAHAYAGAN NG Kabitenyo**  
ISSN-1656-0558

---

**PAPI** every Monday by Pahayagan ng Kabitenyo with Editorial and Business Office at 147 Panapaan IV, Bacoor, Cavite.  
Email: pahayaganngkabitenyo@yahoo.com.  
Entered as Second Class Mail at Postal Region IV San Pablo City under Permit NO 200305 on May 27, 2003

**MEMBER**

**ERNA M. BALAGTAS**  
Publisher

**DIOSAN MARUAL**  
**KCEE NACION**  
Marketing & Circulation Manager

**DIOSDADO ARIEL F. ALTO, JR.**  
Editor-In-Chief

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| SUBSCRIPTION RATE : | P1,000.00/year   |
| Advertising Rate :  | P200.00/col. cm. |
| Legal Rate :        | P160.00/col. cm. |

# PHL losses from...

From page 1

people. The decline in tourism arrivals has caused countless job losses. A 12-month standstill is expected to translate to an eight percent decline in skilled wages and a 10% drop in unskilled employment.

A four-month pause is seen to have already caused a three percent drop in skilled wages, and caused unskilled employment to slide by four percent.

The Philippines is the 14th most-affected country in terms of unskilled employment in the report looking at 65 countries and regions, and the third-most affected among Southeast Asian countries after Thailand and Malaysia.

The Philippines is currently under the longest and strictest lockdowns in the world.

But the Tourism department in a press release said that it expects the reopening of the industry as more areas shift to a relaxed lockdown or a modified general community quarantine (MGCQ).

Areas under MGCQ can have tourism activities up to 50% operational capacity.

“The anticipated re-

sumption of business operations will bring about many opportunities for our kababayans, but we would like to remind our tourism stakeholders that the implementation of health protocols in the new normal should always be a priority because it is only by ensuring the safety of our guests can we regain the confidence of our traveling public,” Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat said.

The government has, however, placed Cebu City under a stricter lockdown after a spike in COVID-19 cases. Cebu province was reported to have attracted the second-highest number of tourist arrivals in the country last year, after Boracay.

Tourism Congress of the Philippines (TCP) President Jose C. Clemente III in a mobile message said the projected losses would mean a catastrophic year for the tourism industry and the Philippine economy.

“It is near catastrophic already for the industry stakeholders with many companies already ceasing operations or seriously contemplating on doing so. Many in the industry, mostly MSMEs (micro, small, and

medium enterprises), cannot survive longer without further assistance from the government,” he said.

Mr. Clemente said recovery will take time as the anticipated shift to domestic travel will depend on local governments, as some are still hesitant to reopen borders until they have adequate facilities and testing for visitors. TCP for now expects limited resumption of domestic travel in September.

“We have asked for the deferment of taxes, possible waiving of rentals and utilities, wage subsidies and more,” he added, noting that TCP expects 12-24 months before a return to “normalcy.”

Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. Economist Michael L. Ricafort in a mobile message said he expects tourism recovery after the pandemic to take longer than other industries.

While most industries may recover in 18 months, he cited the International Air Transport Association’s estimation that global air travel could return to its pre-pandemic levels in 2023. He said the decline in global tourism led to the repatriation of overseas Filipino workers.

“Some job losses and business closures around the world could also slow the recovery of the tourism industry locally and worldwide, on top of health considerations,” he said.

“Tourism accounts for at least 10%-20% of the local economy and could remain a drag on GDP amid social-distancing measures, travel restrictions/constraints, and other stringent measures as the risk of new COVID-19 cases remain, until a cure/vaccine is developed. Thus, recovery in tourism could be relatively slower and would take longer,” Mr. Ricafort added.

Governments should help protect workers, including offering wage subsidies for workers in enterprises that are not likely to recover, UNCTAD said.

The report also recommended offering low interest loans for tourism enterprises and applying quarantine procedures for travelers in a post-pandemic scenario.

But in the medium and long term, UNCTAD is suggesting that governments decrease reliance on a single industry.

“Governments should support economic diversification where possible. A high dependence on one sector increases vulnerability,” the report said.

“For some countries diversification away from tourism may be difficult. Avenues for economic diversification may include increased regional integration, education and training programs in targeted economic sectors to boost resilience and mitigate the cost of shocks.”

Mr. Clemente of the Tourism Congress said he believes the recovery of tourism can be “tremendous.”

“People are looking to travel after months of isolation and lockdowns. They want to go. It all depends on how we control our COVID-19 situation and how effective our protocols and guidelines are,” he said.

## GUHIT NG KAPALARAN

**GEMINI** : (May. 21-Hun. 21) – Lumalandas patungo sa katuparan ang mga pangarap. Makakabuting kumilos agad bago mahuli ang lahat. Ang bagabag, kalungkutan o katamlayan ay mapapalitan ng kaligayahan. Kaya happy ka! Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 13, 26, 36, 38 at lavender.

**CANCER**: (Hun. 22-Hul. 22) – May tao na nagnanais na gamitin ka para sa pansarili nilang interes. Kaya mag-ingat sa tuwina. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 13, 17, 37, 44 at orange.

**LEO** : (Hul. 23-Ago. 22) – Lawakan ang pang-unawa. Malulutas ang suliranin. Mapalad ang makipag-transaksyon sa negosyo ngayon. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 17, 19, 31, 42 at ivory white.

**VIRGO**: (Ago. 23-Set.23) – Ang patuloy na pagsisikap ay daan para magtagumpay. Ang pa-kikipag-ugnayan ay mahalaga ngayon. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 10, 17, 25, 29 at canary yellow.

**LIBRA**: (Set. 24-Okt. 23) – Lawakan ang pang-unawa. Ang malakas na pagkatao ay dapat sabayan ng matapat at magandang kalooban. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 6, 18, 25, 44 at mustard yellow.

**SCORPIO**: (Okt. 24-Nob. 22) – Magiging masaya ang araw sa larangan ng pag-ibig. Maaaring makakilala ng isang mayamang biyudo na mag-aalay ng true feelings. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 7, 12, 23, 43 at royal blue.

**SAGITTARIUS**: (Nob. 23-Dis. 21) – Maganda ang palatandaan tungkol sa pag-ibig pero huwag padala sa kapusukan dahil kalungkutan ang naghihintay. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 15, 25, 35, 37 at aquamarine.

**CAPRICORN**: (Dis. 22-Ene. 19) – Hinahon, katiwayasan ng pag-iisip ang dapat pairalin. Dahil sa rami ng gawain, magiging mainitin ang ulo na dapat iwasan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 13, 15, 31, 37 at yellow.

**AQUARIUS**: ( Ene. 20-Peb. 18) – Sundin ang kutob ng kalooban at hindi magkakamali. Ang sikretong itinatago ay may pagkakataong madiskubre. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 5, 19, 24, 27 at emerald green.

**PISCES**: (Peb. 19-Mar. 20) – Makakatagpo ng bagong kakilala sa pakikisalamuhang sosyal. Mapalad sa itatayong negosyo. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 10, 18, 28, 40 at red orange.

**ARIES**: (Mar. 21-Abr. 19) – Iwasan ang mapasubo sa pakikipagsapalaran. Umaayon ang araw sa gawaing pangtahanan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 11, 18, 22, 40 at maroon.

**TAURUS**: (Abr. 20-May. 20) – Pakinggan ang pa-ngaral ng nakakatandang kaanak tungkol sa binabalak na negosyo. Huwag magpadalus-dalos. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 5, 16, 30, 33 at midnight blue.

**DAGDAG PUHUNAN BA ANG HANAP MO?**



**KAAGAPAY NEGOSYO LOAN**

**ANG SAGOT SA PROBLEMA MO.**

**TAWAG NA!** **IMUS BRANCH** -- Tel #: (046) 235-9855 (046) 435-1702 Cell#: 0917-805-7475  
**TRECE BRANCH** -Tel#: (046) 419-0440 (046)235-9917 Cell#:0917-806-2382  
**DASMA BRANCH** -Tel#: (046)413-2628 (046)235-9851 Cell#: 0917-805-7426  
**BACOR BRANCH** -Tel #: (046) 683-0093 (046)235-901 Cell#: 0917-806-1389

# DOF chief vows continuation of fuel marking program

MANILA – The pandemic will not hamper the government’s fuel marking program, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said on Monday.



Department of Finance (DOF) data showed that as of July 2, 2020, the government was able to mark about 9.3 billion liters of fuel since the program started in September 2019.

The top three companies that have registered the largest supply that have been marked are Petron Corporation at 2.25 billion liters, Shell Corporation, 1.9 billion liters; and Unioil, 1.03 billion liters.

Petron’s supply that has been marked accounted for 24.18 percent of the total, while share of Shell and

Unioil is at 20.41 percent and 11.03 percent, respectively.

In terms of island groups, marked supply of oil players from Luzon accounted for the bulk at 75 percent, followed by the 20 percent of those from Mindanao and five percent from the Visayas.

In terms of the amount of petroleum products that have been marked, DOF data show that approximate value is about PHP503.578 billion for about 9.141 billion liters marked as of end-June 2020.

“We continued with (the) fuel marking program despite the contagion and will proceed as in the past,” Dominguez told journalists in a Viber message.

The fuel marking program intends to address oil smuggling in the country that robs the government necessary revenues, which authorities earlier estimated to be at least PHP20 billion annually.

This program is a requirement under the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) law.

To date, there are 20 fuel sales companies that have participated in the program.

Other players that have submitted their supply for marking are Chevron, Seaoil, Phoenix Petroleum, Insular Oil, the joint venture of Total and Filoil, Jetti, PTT, Marubeni, Micro Dragon, Filoil, Warbucks, SL Harbor, Goldenshare, High Glory Subic, Erai, SL Gas, and Jadelink. (PNA)

## Lawmaker calls on DOH, DPWH to plan for quarantine facilities in each region

MANILA - A lawmaker on Tuesday urged the Department of Health and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) to prepare plans for building quarantine facilities in every region of the Philippines.

Cagayan de Oro 2nd District Rep. Rufus Rodriguez in a statement said the DPWH should lay out the plans for construction of isolation centers in each region, while the DOH should begin training personnel in running the facilities.

Rodriguez said isolation and treatment centers for novel coronavirus patients are concentrated in Metro Manila.

“Since there is now an increase in COVID-19 cases

in the provinces, we need these regional quarantine facilities to serve our people in the countryside,” he said.

Rodriguez said that in Northern Mindanao, where Cagayan de Oro is located, cases of the fast-spreading COVID-19 spiked.

“Region 10 has no dedicated quarantine building with complete equipment and the required number of trained medical personnel for these kinds of pandemic,” he said.

The lawmaker said he supports the bill authored by Camarines Sur 2nd District Rep. Luis Raymund Villafuerte, in which DOH would be mandated to identify the location of every quarantine facility in coordination with the DPWH and local government units.

Under the measure, every quarantine facility will be easily accessible to a DOH hospital and shall be strategically located to ensure the safety of local communities. The health office will also supervise the operations of the isolation centers.

The DOH would also be tasked to issue implementing rules and regulations of the facilities.

The DPWH, in coordination with LGUs, meanwhile will be in charge of the construction of the facilities.



**PAHAYAGAN NG**  
*Kabitenyo*

ISSN-1656-0558

*In God We Trust*

VOL. 19 NO. 19 JULY 6 - 12, 2020 10.00

# Metro Manila will remain under general lockdown, Duterte says

MANILA and nearby cities will remain under a general lockdown until July 15, while a strict lockdown in Cebu City, where there has been a surge in coronavirus infections will be kept, President Rodrigo R. Duterte said late Tuesday.



Aside from Metro Manila, the provinces of Benguet, Cavite, Rizal, Leyte and Southern Leyte, and the cities of Lapu-Lapu, Mandaue and Ormoc will continue to be under a general community quarantine.

Meanwhile, the lockdown in Talisay City in Cebu province was relaxed to a general community quarantine along with Minglanilla and

Consolacion towns. The rest of the province has been placed under a modified general community quarantine.

“Cebu is now the hotspot for COVID-19,” Mr. Duterte said in a televised speech. “Why? Because many of you chose not to obey.”

The President also criticized Talisay City, which he said appeared like a marketplace everyday. “You’ve been on a drinking spree, drinking, gambling and almost nonchalant of the dangers that are lurking around,” he said in mixed English and Filipino.

Mr. Duterte earlier ordered Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, a former military chief, to supervise the lockdown of Cebu City’s

almost a million people.

Abra, Baguio City, Ifugao, Kalinga, Ilocos Norte, La Union, Pangasinan, Cagayan, Isabela, Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Angeles City, Batangas, Laguna, Quezon, Lucena City, Palawan, Puerto Princesa City, Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur and Naga City will be kept under an easier modified general lockdown.

The same is true for Capiz. Iloilo, Iloilo City, Negros Occidental, Bacolod City, Bohol, Negros Oriental, Tacloban City, Western Samar, Zamboanga City, Zamboanga del Sur, Bukidnon, Misamis Occidental, Misamis Oriental,

See page 5...

**Sustamina Fresh**

**Fresh na, Mura pa!**

**MEATSHOP**  
BEEF • PORK • CHICKEN • EGG • VEGETABLES

Sustamina CHICKEN

HACCP CERTIFIED

NMIS APPROVED