



15 Calabarzon agri grads start DA's agribiz internship program

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite (PIA) – Fifteen college graduates of agriculture courses from different universities and colleges in the Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon) region have started their internship under the Department of Agriculture's Mentoring and Attracting Youth in Agribusiness (MAYA) internship program.

In a Facebook post, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Region 4A shared that the 15 fresh graduates were deployed to their office on March 29 and will undergo a 6-month experiential learning and mentoring under the guidance of Regional Director Sammy Malvas.

Of the 15 interns, six are from Laguna, two from

Quezon, six from Cavite, and one from Batangas.

According to BFAR 4A, the MAYA program aims to build next generation of globally competitive and skilled agribusiness leaders, professionals, and entrepreneurs in the field of agriculture and fisheries.

It is a 6-month internship program that will provide experiential learning and

mentoring from the expert agri-entrepreneurs of the the agriculture department. According to DA, after the successful completion of the program, these interns may either opt to venture into an agri-fishery enterprise or pursue a career in the DA or any other government agency.

Aside from the education, the interns will also be receiving P20,000 as monthly allowance.

The MAYA program is in support of the DA-Bureau of Agricultural Research headed by DA Secretary William Dar, and accepts 20-30 year old graduates from agricultural and other related courses. (RBF)

SSS urges members in MECQ areas to continue using online services, drop boxes

By SSS

In line with the declaration of the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) in the National Capital Region, Laguna, Cavite, Rizal, Bulacan, the City of Santiago in Isabela, Quirino, and Abra from April 12 to 30, 2021, all offices and branches of the Social Security System (SSS) located in the covered areas will operate with only skeleton workforce to ensure the continuous delivery of services.

For this reason, SSS is advising its members, pensioners, covered employers, and the public to continue using its online services and drop box system when transacting with (see page 6)

DAR gifts Cavite 'Buhay sa Gulay' volunteers water pump

The urban gardening program of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) in Magallanes, Cavite got a shot in the arm when the agency installed a water pump in Barangay Baliwag to make their farming activities more pleasurable and productive.

DAR-Cavite provincial agrarian reform program officer James Arthur T.

Dubongco said the installation of the water pump is part of the DAR's effort to keep the urban gardening program a way of life for the volunteer-gardeners of the Baliwag Farmers' Association (BFA).

"This is our way of showing our appreciation to our agrarian reform beneficiaries, who mostly make up the BFA. And we are willing to do it even when we are under strict quarantine measures because we need every

hand to till the soil and keep food available on the table of every Filipino family especially at this time of the pandemic," Dubongco said.

Late last year, the BFA turned a sizeable area in their barangay into Cavite's version of "Buhay sa Gulay" project, which is patterned after the country's first urban vegetable garden city at the idle football field of the Saint John Bosco Parish Church in Tondo, Manila.

In January, they enjoyed the fruits of their labor when, in partnership with the DAR, they launched their harvest festival, earning as much as P20,000 in two weeks of continued harvesting.

Dubongco said the water pump should help make gardening much more fun as the volunteer gardeners need not go elsewhere to fetch water for their vegetable plants. (DAR)



Bong Go lauds move to include media workers among essential sectors in the vaccination priority list

By OSBG

Recognizing the nature of their work and important role in keeping the public informed about the pandemic, Senator Christopher "Bong" Go lauded the national government for including media workers in the list of essential sectors to be prioritized for COVID-19 vaccination.

"Nagpapasalamat po tayo

sa national government dahil dininig nila ang ating apela na isama ang mga miyembro ng media sa priority list para sa

bakuna laban sa COVID-19," said Go.

The Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging Infectious Diseases

(IATF-EID) is set to finalize guidelines and formalize the inclusion of media workers, specifically those



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Paano nagtatapos ang isang pandemic?

Nakatuntong na sa ikalawang taon ang COVID-19 pandemic na dinaranas ng buong daigdig. Ang tanong nga-yon na nasa isip nang marami, kailan at paano ito matatapos?

Mahirap sagutin kung hanggang kailan mananatili ang krisis na ito. Pero may kasagutan kung paano ito magwawakas. Ayon sa mga dalubhasa, matatapos ito kapag ang katawan ng karamihan sa mga tao ay naka-develop na ng immunity laban sa virus.

Iyan ang tinatawag na "herd immunity" na maaaring matamo kapag ang karamihan ng tao ay tumanggap na ng kinakailangang bakuna, kasama na yung mga taong dinapuan na ng sakit at gumaling.

Sa Israel, sinasabi ng mga medical experts na muk-hang naaabot na ng naturang bansa ang herd immunity level laban sa COVID-19. Ito ay Ayon mismo sa mga dalubhasa sa pinakamalaking pagamutan sa Israel, ang Sheba Medical Center.

Tinatayang 56% ng 9.2 million populasyon ng Israel ang nabakunahan na, at ang 15% o 700,000 katao ang gumaling na sa karamdaman. Pinapayagan na muli sa nasabing bansa ang mga mass gatherings at face-to-face classes sa paaralan. Pero sa kabila nito, patuloy na bumababa ang mga naitatalang kaso ng COVID-19.

Kaya lang, nananating sarado ang mga borders ng Israel sa mga pumapasok na dayuhan maliban na lang sa mga malalapit na kaanak ng mga Israeli. Sa ating bansa, nasimulan na ang mass vaccination program at marami na rin ang naitalang gumaling sa karamdaman. Kaso nga lang, umaapaw pa rin ang mga pagamutan sa dami ng mga taong nako-confine dahil sa COVID.

Sana, matulad tayo sa Israel.

Lawmaker says to take fall for 'ivermectin pantry' flubs

MANILA, Philippines — One of the lawmakers behind the distribution of the unregistered antiparasitic drug ivermectin to some 200 Quezon City residents said Saturday he and his fellow lawmaker would take the blame for any missteps that may have happened at their so-called "pantry."

"If there was anything wrong with our distribution of this COVID-19 wonder drug ivermectin, we are the ones answerable, not our volunteer doctors and other medical practitioners who just wanted to help our poor people," Rep. Michael Defensor (Anakalusugan party-list) said.

Related Stories

DOJ: Giving out ivermectin 'on its face' a violation, but arrests up to enforcers

At 'ivermectin pantry,' prescriptions lack doctor info and beneficiaries sign waivers

Duque says FDA must probe into 'token prescriptions' at 'ivermectin pantry'

He said this as he appealed to the Department of Health to spare the doctors who volunteered to give out prescriptions for the drug which is still unproven for the prevention and treatment of COVID-19.

The prescriptions for ivermectin handed out to the beneficiaries did not contain the doctors' names, license numbers and professional tax receipt numbers as required by law.

These "token prescriptions" must be investigated by the Food and Drug Administration, Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said.

The DOH also said that it will endorse reports of invalid prescriptions to the Professional Regulation Commission "to investigate the veracity of the reports and impose sanctions as deemed

necessary based on existing laws."

While he said the FDA must investigate the prescriptions, Duque and DOH spokesperson Maria Rosario Vergeire said there may be nothing illegal with Defensor and Deputy Speaker Rodante Marcoleta's (Sagip party-list) distribution of ivermectin as long as they followed exemptions set by the regulator. — with a report from Gaea Katreena Cabico

Phivolcs records increased unrest in Taal

MANILA — Some 383 volcanic earthquakes or quakes caused by movements or eruptions of magma from the volcano, were recorded in Taal for the past 24 hours, according to an advisory released on Wednesday by the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs).

These included 238 episodes of volcanic tremor lasting from one to 12 minutes and 143 low-frequency volcanic earthquakes. This was higher than the previous day's 158 volcanic quakes, Phivolcs said.

Alert level 2 (increased unrest) is maintained over the Taal Volcano.

According to Phivolcs, upwelling of hot volcanic fluids in the Main Crater lake occurred on Tuesday and generated 300 m-tall steam-laden plumes from active fumaroles on the northern side.

Sulfur dioxide (SO₂) emission averaged 1,886 tonnes/day last April 12. Temperature highs of 71.8°C and pH of 1.59 were last measured from the Main Crater Lake last March 4 and February 12, respectively.

These parameters indicate persistent magmatic activity at shallow depths beneath the edifice, Phivolcs said.

Sudden steam-driven or phreatic explosions, volcanic earthquakes, minor ashfall, and lethal accumulations or expul-

sions of volcanic gas can occur and threaten areas within and around Taal Volcano Island (TVI).

Phivolcs reiterates that entry into the TVI, Taal's permanent danger zone (PDZ), must be strictly prohibited.

Local government units are also advised to continuously assess and strengthen the preparedness of previously evacuated barangays around Taal Lake in case of renewed unrest.

Earlier, Phivolcs director Renato Solidum, Jr. said the appropriate alert level for a volcano is being determined depending on the earthquakes recorded, not only based on the number but also the type of earthquakes, location, depth, and energy of the quakes.

Other parameters, such as ground deformation, the chemistry of gases and water, and surface manifestations are also being considered, he said. (PNA)



EDITORIAL - Distance learning: Konti ang natututo?

INIHAYAG ng Department of Education (DepEd) na ang opening ng school year 2021-2022 ay sa Agosto 23. Ito umano ang napagkasunduan ng school officials. Sabi ni DepEd Undersecretary Diosdado San Antonio, patuloy pa rin ang distance learning pero papayagan nilang magtungo ang estudyante sa school. Sabi pa ni San Antonio, mayroon silang inihahandang "ideal scenario kung saan magkakaroon ng limited in-person classes. Papayagan daw na magpunta ang mga estudyante paminsan-minsan. May mga estratehiya na raw silang inihahanda.

Sa himig ng pananalita ng DepEd official, gusto na nilang ibalik unti-unti ang face-to-face classes. Kaya siguro mag-eksperimento sila sa susunod na pasukan. Sabagay puwede itong subukan sa mga lugar na mababa ang COVID cases.

Mula nang manalasa ang COVID-19 noong naka-raang taon, itinigil na ang face-to-face classes at pawang distance learning o pag-aaral sa online ang ipinatupad. Kailangang may gadgets ang mga estudyante para makasunod sa mga itinuturo ng guro online. Ang mga estudyanteng walang gadgets at nasa mga liblib na lugar, printed modules ang binibigay ng mga guro. Dinidiliber nila ang modules buwan-buwan.

Pero sa Pulse Asia survey na ginawa mula Peb-rero 22 hanggang Marso 3, wala pang 46 percent ng mga magulang ang nagsabi na natututo ang kanilang mga anak sa distance learning. Ibig sabihin, duda sila na mayroong natututunan ang mga anak sa bagong sistema ng pag-aaral. Halos kalahati ang nag-dududa kung mayroong natututunan ang mga anak.

Sa surbey, nagpapakita na walang kalidad ang pag-aaral online at mas maganda talaga ang face-to-face classes. Pero maaari rin namang hindi nagaga-bayan ng mga magulang ang kanilang mga anak kaya nasasabi nilang walang natututunan ang mga ito. Sabi ng Department of Education (DepEd) sa pag-sisimula ng distance learning noong nakaraang taon, kailangan ang gabay ng mga magulang habang nag-aaral online. Mahalagang masubaybayan ang mga anak para malaman kung mayroong naintindihan. Nararapat na silipin ng DepEd ang problemang ito. Baka ang mangyari ay ipasa na lang nang ipasa ang mga estudyante kahit walang nalalaman o natutunan. Dito magsisimula ang paghina ng kalidad ng edukasyon. Hindi dapat mangyari ito sapagkat ang estudyante ang magiging kawawa sa dakong huli.

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KUTOB NG KAPALARAN

TAURUS: (Abr. 20-May. 20) Tagumpayngayonang on-line deli-very business. Dahildarami pa ang mga customer. Maginghandasaganitongsistema. Sikapinnamabalanseangoras. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 53, 46, 39, 21, 12 at tulip pink.

GEMINI: (May. 21-Hun. 21) Patuloyangpagangatngiyongnegosyo. Magigingmaayosang document, alagaanang health. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 33, 46, 29, 51, 15 at lavender.

CANCER: (Hun. 22-Hul. 22) Angiyong ex ay hihiritng second chance. Sundinang feelings at huwagangdiktangiba. Mag-ingatlagi. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 23, 36, 49, 55, 11 at ice blue.

LEO: (Hul. 23-Ago. 22) Huwagpansininangmapanirangtsismis, magdasal at ipaubayaanglahatsaatingManlilikha. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 43, 56, 27, 31, 13 at cinnamon brown.

VIRGO: (Ago. 23-Set.23) Magiging favorable sa iyo ang desisyon ng huwes. Matatamoanghinahangadna financial freedom. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 53, 46, 28, 13, 51 at dollar green.

LIBRA: (Set. 24-Okt. 23) Tagumpayangiyong advice sa online services, increasing daily ang clients. Masaya kasa financial abundance. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 33, 46, 58, 21, 12 at crimson red.

SCORPIO: (Okt. 24-Nob. 22) Good karma angpag-aalagangkalikasan. Masaganang opportunity angnaghinhintay. Alagaanang health. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 43, 36, 28, 15, 55 at cobalt blue.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nob. 23-Dis. 21) Huwagsabay-sabaygawinang sari-sari project, hinay-hinay lang. Malalampasananglahat. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 23, 36, 49, 51, 11 at mango orange.

CAPRICORN: (Dis. 22-Ene. 19) Nasatugmanglugarangkabuhayan. Matatamoang financial provision. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 33, 26, 49, 55, 13 at vanilla brow.

AQUARIUS: (Ene. 20-Peb. 18) Angiyong best friend nakaibiganrinnganakmo ay partner niyasapag-unlad. I-push angplanong business. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 53, 26, 49, 13, 41 at sun yellow.

PISCES: (Peb. 19-Mar. 20) Angmgapangarap ay unti-untingmakakamitdahilsasipag at tiyaga, naglalandasangpag-unlad. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 33, 48, 29, 16, 51 at magenta red.

ARIES: (Mar. 21-Abr. 19) Magigingmasayakasamaangbagong team. Angmagandangsamahanangsusiparamagtagumpay. Lucky numbers at color for the day ay 23, 36, 49, 51, 12, at amethyst violet.

SSS urges members...

its offices and branches as the national government extends quarantine limits to curb the spread of COVID-19.

Only 50 percent of branch employees during this period are assigned to physically report for work, while the rest will use alternative work arrangements.

With the 8:00 PM to 5:00 AM curfew enforced during the MECQ period, the said SSS branches will be open on weekdays only from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Branch transactions are limited to the following:

Appointments set with the branch,

Submission of documents through the drop box (for transactions that are not available online),

Pick-up of Unified Multi-purpose Identification (UMID) Cards and subsequent educational loan checks,

Compliance with the Annual Confirmation of Pensioners' Program (only for those with suspended pensions), and

Use of tellering services.

The said measures will also apply to other areas placed under MECQ by virtue of an Executive Order issued by their respective Local Government Units.

Selected SSS branches will continuously implement the number coding system. The prescribed transaction days of members, claimants, and employers are based on the 10th digit of their social security (SS) or employer (ER) ID—1 and 2 every Monday, 3

and 4 every Tuesday, 5 and 6 every Wednesday, 7 and 8 every Thursday, and 9 and 0 every Friday.

For Funeral or Death Benefit Claims, the basis for the prescribed transaction day will be the 10th digit of the deceased SSS member's SS ID.

However, if the prescribed transaction day falls on a holiday, the member, claimant, or employer may transact with the SSS on the next working day. In case of system downtime, the SSS will set an appointment with those in line or opt to wait until the system is operational.

The SSS also encourages the transacting public to use the pension fund's online service channels such as the My.SSS Portal of the SSS website at www.sss.gov.ph, SSS Mobile App, and Text-SSS at 2600.

Information about the mandatory online transactions and other online services are posted on the SSS' Facebook page at <https://bit.ly/31wTXch> and <https://bit.ly/3tnW12c>.

Likewise, members can access the list of various payment channels at <https://bit.ly/3lpPYaR>.

Branches not affected by the MECQ declaration will follow the regular working hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

For more information, follow the SSS on Facebook and YouTube at "Philippine Social Security System," Instagram at "mysssp," and Twitter at "PHLSSS," or join the SSS Viber Community at "MYSSSPH Updates." (SSS)

Bong Go lauds move...

from news outlets, in the A4 group in their meeting scheduled on Thursday, April 15.

"Ang media ay napakaimportanteng sektor at maituturing ding essential workers dahil sa tungkulin na kanilang ginagampanan. Sila ang nagdadala ng balita at kasangga natin sila sa pagbibigay ng tamang impormasyon sa publiko," Go explained.

"Sa araw-araw nilang coverage, palagi silang exposed sa banta ng COVID-19. Kaya dapat lang na maproteksyunan agad sila ng bakuna," he added.

Testing czar Secretary Vince Dizon on Tuesday, April 13, already said that members of the media will be included in the A4 group of the government's vaccine priority list which is comprised of frontline personnel in essential sectors.

Specifically, the National Economic and Development Authority said that the A4 classification includes workers who have "high levels of interaction with or exposure to the public" and economic sectors that are "needed to ensure security, consumers and worker safety."

Even prior to the start of the vaccine rollout, Go already earlier appealed to the government to include members of the media in the COVID-19 priority list without prejudice to other sectors already identified as priorities, such as frontliners, senior citizens and other vulnerable sectors.

"Dapat po ang media ay bigyan din ng prayoridad 'pag andyan na ang safe at epektibong vaccine para tuloy-tuloy din po ang inyong pagtatrabaho, pagkocover at pagdadala ng balita sa ating mga kababayan," he said earlier.

Recognizing their equally important contributions, the Senator also lauded essential workers whose roles allow society to weather the challenges brought by COVID-19. Go

added that the media workers, particularly field reporters, are also like frontliners who risk their safety just to keep Filipinos informed on the country's COVID-19 situation.

"Saludo po tayo sa kagitingan ng lahat ng frontliners. Bukod sa mga medical at uniformed personnel, kilalanin rin natin ang serbisyo at sakripisyo ng iba pang mga ordinaryong manggagawa, tulad ng media, na nakikipagbayanihan sa laban na ito," Go said.

Meanwhile, Go encouraged the public to get vaccinated as soon as they are eligible. He also urged everyone to educate themselves about the vaccines, particularly with regard to their safety and efficacy, and to rely on the verified information released by the proper authorities and health experts.

"Sabi ko nga, magtiwala kayo sa bakuna. Huwag kayong matakot sa bakuna. Matakot kayo sa COVID-19. Ang bakuna po ang solusyon para malampasan natin itong problemang ito ... bakuna po ang tanging susi para ma-attain po natin 'yung herd immunity sa community," explained Go.

By providing the right information, Go said that this can empower communities to participate more in the bayanihan efforts. He then urged the media to continue providing timely, accurate and relevant information to the public to strengthen public confidence in the vaccines and further raise awareness on all the efforts being done to defeat COVID-19.

"Makiisa po tayong lahat. Bawat isa sa atin ay may mahalagang papel na ginagampanan sa laban na ito. Hindi po ito laban ng gobyerno lamang kundi laban ng buong sambayanang Pilipino. Hindi ito panahon para magsisihan. Panahon ito upang makipagtulungan," Go ended. (OSBG)



Bong Go assists hundreds of fire victims in Dasmariñas City, Cavite

By OSBG

An outreach team of Senator Christopher “Bong” Go arrived in Dasmariñas City, Cavite on Monday, April 12, where they met with victims of a fire incident which injured one individual and caused damage to numerous houses last April 7.

“Magandang araw po sa inyong lahat, mga kababayan ko. Kumusta po kayo? Sana nasa mabuti po kayong kalagayan. Alam ko pong mahirap ang panahon ngayon, nasa pandemya pa po tayo dahil sa COVID-19 at tinamaan din po kayo ng sunog,” Go said in a video message.

“Magtutulongan lang po tayo. Sino ba naman ang magtutulongan



kung hindi tayo lang po kapwa natin Pilipino para malampasan natin itong krisis na ating kinakaharap sa ngayon,” he reminded them.

To comply with the government’s health and safety protocols, the Senator’s team conducted the distribution activity in batches at the Dasmariñas East Integrated High School Covered Court. Proper health standards were also in place to avoid the further spread of COVID-19 and other diseases.

A total of 400 residents belonging to 140 families were provided with meals, food packs and financial assistance. They also received vitamins, masks and face shields so they can protect themselves from COVID-19.

Selected beneficiaries were provided new pairs of shoes while some were given bicycles for their commuting needs.

Others received computer tablets to help their children continue to access educational materials and stay connected with their teachers under the blended learning set-up.

Additionally, personnel from the Department of Social Welfare and Development distributed separate financial assistance while the Department of Health gave away medicine packs and additional vitamins during the activities.

Meanwhile, the Department of Trade and Industry conducted an assessment of individuals and households who are eligible for their various programs.

Go also offered help to residents who were injured during the incident or may be in need of medical care. He advised them to visit the Malasakit Center at the General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital in Trece Martires

City where they may conveniently avail the medical assistance offered by various government agencies, namely, the DOH,

DSWD, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office and Philippine Health Insurance Corporation.

The Senator also expressed his gratitude to the local officials, led by Dasmariñas City Mayor Jenny Austria-Barzaga and Vice Mayor Rex Mangubat, for responding to the

needs and ensuring the safety and health of their constituents following the incident.

Concluding his message, Go assured the senior citizens and indigent residents that they will be inoculated next, after the medical frontliners. He also asked them not to be afraid of the vaccine.

“Huwag po kayong mag-alala, unti-unti na pong dumadating ang bakuna. Inuuna lang po ang mga frontliners, susunod naman ang mga senior citizens, susunod naman po ‘yung mga indigents, pababa na po ‘yan,” he said.

“Huwag po kayong matakot sa bakuna, matakot ho kayo sa COVID-19. Ang bakuna po ang susi tungo sa pagbalik sa normal na pamumuhay at isa sa mga solusyon upang malampasan natin itong pandemya. Magtiwala po kayo sa ating gobyerno,” he ended. (OSBG)

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DOH 4-A sets up modular health facilities to augment Calabarzon hospital capacities

By Patricia Bermudez

(PIA) -- More modular health facilities are being delivered in Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon) as hospitals all over the region are reaching their capacity limits amid the rising coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) cases.

The Department of Health Region IV-A (DOH 4-A) turned over a total of 16 collapsible tents to priority health facilities, which will serve as an emergency intensive case unit (ICU) and ward of COVID-19 patients.

According to DOH 4-A, each 60 square-meter modular tent costs around P294,850 and can accommodate up to 44 patients.

Regional Director Eduardo Janairo said that because the COVID-19 pandemic is an unprecedented health crisis that ‘requires extraordinary amount of resources for an indefinite period of time’, health sector must ensure sufficient facilities that are stable enough to provide health care for all.

“We have to augment and expand the ca-

capacity of our health facilities to accommodate the increasing number of Covid patients in the region. Hindi natin pwedeng sabihing puno na ang mga hospitals natin at hindi sila tanggapin [We cannot say that hospitals are full and we cannot accept them]. We have to find ways to help them,” Janairo said.

Among the sixteen (16) health facilities that received the heavy duty collapsible tents were Carsigma District Hospital in GMA, General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital in Trece Martires City, Ospital ng

Imus in Imus and Southern Tagalog Regional Hospital in Bacoor in the province of Cavite; General Cailles Memorial District Hospital in Pakil, Laguna Medical Center in Sta. Cruz, San Pablo City General Hospital in San Pablo City, and San Pablo City District Hospital in San Pablo City in Laguna; Bondoc Peninsula District Hospital in Catanauan, Claro M. Recto Memorial District Hospital in Infanta, Gumaca District Hospital in Gumaca, Magsaysay Memorial District Hospital in Lopez, Quezon Medical Center in Lucena City and RAKK Prophet Medical Center Inc. in Gumaca in the province of Quezon; San Juan District Hospital in San Juan and Mabini Community Hospital in Mabini in Batangas province.

“We have to be prepared to handle the influx of Covid patients not only from the provinces but also those of nearby Metro Manila. Our health facilities in the region are already accepting Covid patients from NCR for treatment and care,” Janairo said.

The four mega quarantine facilities in the region are now at 64% occupancy rate with a total of 534 admitted patients from a total number of 839 beds capacity. (PB/DOH 4-A)

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