

## P239-billion investments from Marcos trips 'materialize' so far: Palace



MANILA — Around P239 billion in investment commitments that President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr. secured in his official foreign trips “have materialized”

so far, Malacañang said on Friday.

Marcos’ trips yielded a total of P3.48 trillion or \$62.926 billion worth of investment pledges covering 116 projects, Presidential Communications Office (PCO) said in a statement.

It said the commitments covered the President’s trips to Indonesia (\$8.48 billion), Singapore \$6.54 billion, United States (\$3.84 billion), Thailand (\$4.62 billion), Belgium (\$2.20 billion), China (\$24.239 billion), and Japan (\$13 billion).

“Of the commitments, US\$4.349 billion or P239 billion have materialized with

*See page 5...*



ATM| Launching of the OTOP Hub at the 2nd Floor Main Square Mall, Bacoor City, Cavite

This is the second OTOP Hub in the province of Cavite. OTOP.PH or OTOP Philippines Hub provides the physical and online channels and market access platform where OTOP products, especially those which have been assisted via product development, are showcased on a day-to-day basis.



## MPT DriveHub Booms from Recent Promo: “The response was amazing,” says MPTC President

MANILA, Philippines—The Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC; operator of CCLEX, CAVITEX, CALAX, NLEX, NLEX Connector, and SCTEX) and MPT Mobility have concluded their Download, Drive, and Win! promo as of the end of January 2023. A massive uptick in downloads as a result of the promo has expanded their user base past targets, al-

lowing the MPT DriveHub app to integrate seamlessly into the driving experience of the Philippine metropolitan.

(see page 5)



MPT DriveHub AVP for Business Development, Gines Barot NLEX VP for Communication and Stakeholder Management, Donna Marcelo MPT South AVP for Communication and Stakeholder Management, Maria Teresa Capistrano Easytrip President, Jack Coson Grand Prize Winner Representative, Bob Florendo Catamora Grand Prize Winner, Consuelo Siscar MPTC CEO and Group President, Rodrigo Franco NLEX President, Luigi Bautista MPT South President and General Manager, Raul Ignacio NLEX AVP for Customer Experience and Marketing, Grace Ayento Covenant Car Company President and CEO, Atty. Alberto Arcilla

## 3 barangay sa Cavite at Quezon City, napili sa pilot testing ng BSKE

MANILA, Philippines — Nakapili na ang Commission on Elections (Comelec) ng tatlong barangay na isasagawa ang pilot testing ng automated election para sa darating na Barangay at Sangguniang Kabataan Elections (BSKE) sa Oktubre 30.

Base sa pulong ng Commission en banc nitong Peb-roero 15, napili ang barangays Poblacion at Paliparan III sa Dasmariñas City sa Cavite at ang Brgy. Pasong Tamo sa ikaanim na distrito ng Quezon City.

May kabuuang 227 clustered precincts, 84,100 rehistradong botante para sa barangay election at 27,817 rehistradong botante para sa SK election, ang tatlong barangay.

Sinabi ni John Rex Laudiangco, tagapagsalita ng Comelec, na mas mapapaaga ang pagsusumite ng COC (certificate of candidacies) sa naturang mga barangay para mas maagang maimprenta ang pangalan ng mga



kandidato sa “machine-readable official ballots”. Samantala, umabot na sa 22 milyon ang balota na naimprenta para sa BSKE. Nasa 16,027,280 ang naimprenta sa Barangay election at 5,958,931 para sa SK election.

Gamit pa rin ng Comelec ang lumang lay-out ng balota na para sa na-postpone at muling na-iskedyul na eleksyon nitong nakalipas na Disyembre 5, 2022.

## Mga Pagkain para sa Lalaki Payo ni Doc Willie Ong

Itong mga pagkain ang bagay sa mga lalaki. Para maging masigla at malusog:

1. Matabang isda (fatty fish) tulad ng dilis, sardinas, bangus, tanigui, tuna, tawilis.

Ang sustansyang nakukuha sa isda ay ang omega-3 fatty acids. Ang fatty fish ay posibleng tumutulong laban sa sakit sa puso, stroke, hypertension, depression, joint pain, lupus at rheumatoid arthritis.

2. Mga beans at munggo.

Mababa sa taba, ang mga beans ay isang mahusay na pinagmumulan ng protina at fiber. Maaaring magkaroon ng proteksiyong epekto ang beans laban sa sakit sa puso at kanser.

3. Kamatis at Tomato sauce.

Ang kamatis ay may lycopene, isang mabisang panglaban sa prostate cancer sa lalaki at sakit sa puso. May tulong ang lycopene sa balat at pagprotekta laban sa UV light ng araw.

4. Pulang karne (red meat) at hindi taba.

Ang karagdagang protina ay nakapagpapalusog. Ang protina ay gumagamit din ng mas maraming calories at nasusunog ang protina. Ang amino acid leucine ay matatagpuan sa pulang karne (red meat). Mahalaga ang amino acid dahil sa pagpapatatag ng masel sa katawan. Piliin ang lean meat na walang taba. Kumain ng katamtaman

5. Seafoods.

Ang mga alimango, tulya, talaba, hipon at iba pang shellfish ay may Zinc, mababa sa calories at mataas sa protina. Kailangan ng lalaki ang zinc para makabuo ng semilya. Tinutulungan din nito ang iyong prostate. Kung ikaw ay kulang sa Zinc, tataas ang tsansa na ikaw ay magkaroon ng prostate cancer.

6. Saging at potassium.

Para sa mga masakit na kalamnan at pulikat. subukan ang mga saging. Kung sapat ang potassium ay pwede maka-iwas sa mga ito. Ang mga saging ay puno sa potassium. At kung ikaw ay may mataas na presyon (high blood), ang potassium ay mahalaga bilang pagbawas ng sodium para mapababa ang blood pressure.

7. Berdeng Gulay (Green Leafy Vegetable).

Madahon at berdeng gulay ang kangkong, malunggay, spinach, alugbati, dahon ng sili at lahat ng talbos. Ito ay mayaman sa antioxidants lutein at zeaxanthin na mabuti sa paningin. Ang phytochemicals sa gulay ay pinatataas ang cellular health at makatutulong sa pagpapababa ng tsansa na magkaroon ng kanser.

8. Orange na gulay.

Subukan ang mga karot, kamote, kalabasa at orange bell peppers. Ang orange na gulay ay may maraming bitamina C, lutein at beta-carotene. Mabuti ito sa mata at pinipigilan ang sakit sa puso at kanser. Kaya kumain ng maraming mga gulay na iba't iba ang kulay.

9. Itlog.

Ang itlog ay masarap at masustansyang protina na puwede idagdag sa iyong pagkain. Ang isang malaking itlog ay mayroong 6 grams protina, 63 mg potassium at 78 calories lamang. Puwede kumain ng isang itlog bawat araw.

10. Luya.

Ang luya ay may tulong sa masakit at pagod na kalamnan. Ang luya ay mabisa sa pamamaga, tulad ng pain relievers. Sa pag-aaral sa mga pasyenteng may arthritis sa tuhod, ang katas ng purong luya ay nakababawas ng paninigas at sakit ng 40%. Ang salabat ay maganda rin sa pagduduwal, mabilis na paggaling at pag-alaga ng boses.



## 73 farm clusters, nabuo ng DA-4A F2C2; mas pinaigting na suporta sa mga grupo, isinulong.

Aabot na sa 73 farm clusters o pinagsamang grupo ng mga DA-4A F2C2 para magsasaka ang binuo ng Farm and Fisheries Clustering and Consolidation (F2C2) Program ng Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) sa mga magsasaka sa taong 2023. Samantala, inaasahan

simula taong 2021 hanggang 2022.

Ito ay mga Samahan na nakatuon ang pansin sa pagpapalakas ng produkyon ng palay, mais, high value crops, at sa paghahayupan.

Ang F2C2 ay isang programa ng Kagawaran na may hangaring tipunin sa iisang cluster ang mga

magsasakang may magkakalapit at magkakatulad na pamamaraan sa produksyon kalakip ang

pagsusulong ng estratehiya ng clustering at consolidation bilang isang negosyo.

Katuwang ang DA-4A Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD) ay layon ng DA-4A F2C2

na mas paigtingin ang pagsasagawa ng Enterprise Assessment na tumutukoy sa kabuuang kalagayan ng mga cluster kung saan idinedepende ang pagbibigay ng suporta o interbensyon tungo sa pagpapataas ng kanilang kita.

Nakaantabay din ang DA-4A Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation Division (PMED) kasama ang DA-4A

Banner Programs tungo sa masusing pagpapalano ng mga target, badyet, at aktibidad

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ang mga karagdagang pagsasanay na inihahanda ng DA-4A F2C2 ngayong taon na

nakapokus sa leadership, financial management, business planning, product development, branding, at iba pa.

Ayon kay Federico Laycano na punong tagapamahala ng Quilo-Quilo South Irrigators and Farmers

Association sa Padre Garcia, Batangas, hindi man naging madali ang patuloy na pakikipag-ugnayan sa mga miyembro ay naging daan ang pagbuo ng kanilang samahan upang agarang matugunan ng Kagawaran ang

kanilang mga pangangailangan sa sakahan mula sa pamimigay ng mga interbensyon gaya ng binhi, pataba, tulong-pinansyal, at mga makinarya.

Para sa iba pang katanungan at karagdagang impormasyon, maaring magtungo o mag-iwan ng mensahe sa opisyal na Facebook Page ng DA-4A: Department of Agriculture RFO 4-A. ##### (Danica Daluz, DA-4A RAFIS)



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## Private motor...

cars depending on gross weight and car type.

However, an additional service or utility fee will be asked by bank partners depending on the payment method chosen.

The online renewal is for LTMS-registered vehicles only. This means that the private vehicle should first be registered under the LTMS centralized database.

As of January 01, 2023, 10.9 million of 13.9 million registered vehicles are un-

## from page 1

der the LTMS database.

The LTO also reminds the public that the process is applicable for plain vehicle-renewal only.

The process is not mandatory, private vehicle owners can still go to LTO district offices if preferred.

The LTO aims to fully digitalize all other transactions through the LTMS portal by August 30, 2023.—



**VP Sara urges local leaders to uphold integrity, unite in service**

MANILA – Vice President Sara Duterte on Friday urged local leaders to uphold integrity and practice unity to realize true public service, as her political party Lakas-Christian Muslim Democrats (CMD) continues to expand.

In a speech, Duterte said membership in the Lakas-CMD entails the burden of public service and accountability.

“Today, we are reminded of our noble duty to uphold the highest degree of integrity and accountability in all our public pursuits. By accepting to become a member of a political party, we also accept the challenge to work in unity towards a common goal -the welfare of the people we serve,”



she said.

Duterte made the statement during the joint Davao de Oro and Davao del Norte Lakas-CMD mass oath-taking at the Tagum City Historical and Cultural Center.

She reiterated that unity in leadership, down to local governance, would mean warm recognition and development in the country despite diversity across cultures and ideologies.

“With a united political party, we can navigate the

path to inclusive growth, and espouse good governance that sees beyond political colors and principles,” she added.

Duterte also recalled the administration’s eight-point economic agenda to point the targeted direction for the country within its six-year term.

**Partnership with IBP**

Meanwhile, Duterte expressed her gratitude to Supreme Court justices for giving her advice on a possible partnership between the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP).

In another speech during the 50th founding anniversary of the IBP, Duterte, being the concurrent education chief, said she considers their advice to aid educators in legal matters.

“I sought their advice on how to help our public school teachers with regard to their loan obligations,” she said. “They gave me good advice and I am looking forward to partnering with the Integrated Bar of the Philippines to help our public school teachers with regard to their problems sa mga utang nila at sa mga kontrata nila (in their loans and contracts).”

Besides legal assistance, Duterte assured the DepEd is doubling its efforts to address the concerns of teachers.

These include the review and updating of the Magna Carta for Public School Teachers with the aid of legislators, the provision of free medical check-ups through a partnership with the Department of Health (DOH), and addressing concerns of teachers for their insurance and benefits through coordination with the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), among others.

The DepEd also vowed to hire teaching and non-teaching personnel to drop unnecessary loads of teachers, particularly their administrative tasks. (PNA)

**P6.4 billion allotted to boost PH tourism image in 2023**

MANILA – Around PHP6.39 billion of the PHP5.268-trillion national budget for 2023 will be used to improve the country’s tourism sector, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) said Wednesday.

In a statement, the DBM said the multibillion-peso funding is part of the Marcos administration’s resolve to promote the Philippines as a tourist hub and attract more foreign investments.

“A total of PHP6.39 billion has been allocated for the tourism sector under the FY (fiscal year) 2023 National Budget to support the Department of Tourism (DOT) in its campaigns for the promotion of the Philippines as a tourist destination and to boost the interest of foreign investors in the Philippine experience,” the Budget department said.

The DBM issued the statement, as it joined the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in providing support for the DOT to boost the Philippine tourism.

DBM Secretary Amenah Pangandaman, in a recent event in Tokyo during President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.’s five-day working visit to Japan, said the administration’s priority expenditures, including “Build Better More” infrastructure program, will improve the overall tourism experience in the Philippines.

Pangandaman, the DBM said, acknowledged the “great contribution” of both the Japanese investors and tourists to the Philippines’ economic growth.

“The Japanese [people] love leisure and recreation so we are enticing them to visit the Philippines more,” the Budget chief was quoted as saying.

Under the 2023 national budget, the “Build Better More” program is given around PHP1.3 trillion, which is equivalent to 5.5 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP).

The bulk of the PHP1.3-trillion budget will go to physical infrastructure, covering the construction and maintenance of road



networks (PHP 478.7 billion) and railways (PHP40.1 billion).

Social infrastructure will also be prioritized, allocating around PHP29.2 billion for school buildings and PHP14.4 billion for hospitals and health centers.

Meantime, the DOTr and the DOT signed a memorandum of agreement to establish better airports and seaports, to improve the overall tourist experience.

The DPWH, through its Tourism Road Infrastructure Program, also allocated some PHP17.69 billion for the construction and improvement of roads and infrastructure facilities in tourist zones.

The DOT is also keen on developing tourist rest areas, establishing tourism assistance call centers for tourist convenience, bringing tourism to the digital age and implementing fiscal and non-fiscal incentives to tourists.

Based on the figures from the DOT, the tourism sector has already recovered over 62 percent of its pre-pandemic flights and generated nearly USD4 billion (PHP220 billion), contributing to the country’s GDP growth.

The DOT is hoping to exceed the current tourism numbers. (PNA)

**GUHIT NG KAPALARAN**

**AQUARIUS:** ( Ene. 20-Peb. 18) Ang transaksyon ay magiging tagumpay kung gagawin sa umaga. Ingatan na makasakit ng damdamin ng kapwa. Matutuklasan ang isang lihim na tagahanga. Iwasan ang magalit. Huwag magsugal at magla-sing. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 4, 13, 25, 30 at sky blue.

**PISCES:** (Peb. 19-Mar. 20) Unawain at pag-isipan ng mabuti bago lumagda ng kasulatan. Huwag magtiwala sa mga taong makakaharap. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 2, 5, 6, 37 at emerald green.

**ARIES:** ( Mar. 21-Abr. 19) Makakatanggap ng impormasyon na makapagpapabago sa istilo ng hanapbuhay. Mahalaga na sundin ang badyet. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 12, 21, 24, 40 at pearl pink.

**TAURUS:** (Abr. 20-May. 20) Iwasan na manatili sa pangako dahil hindi tutuparin. Ang relasyong pangpamilya ay mapagtitibay kung gugustuhin. Lucky numbers ang 5, 19, 37, 41 at peach.

**GEMINI :** (May.21-Hun. 21) Ang hinahangad ay maisasakatuparan. Maligayang romansa ang mararanasan na hahantong sa pag-isang dibdib. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 9, 24, 29, 32 at avocado green.

**CANCER:** (Hun. 22-Hul. 22) Huwag padala sa bugso ng damdamin dahil mapapahamak. Isang tao na may nunal sa kanang pisngi ang makikilala. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 9, 15, 29, 39 at white.

**LEO :** (Hul. 23-Ago. 22) Isang kaibigan ang maaaring makadalaw. Maganda ang panahon kung iiwasan ang makipagtalos. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 8, 9, 24, 39 at agate green.

**VIRGO:** (Ago. 23-Set.23) Ang maglingkod ng tapat ay kailangan. Patungo sa tagumpay ang nilalandas. Mapapaunlad ang kalagayang pinansyal. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 11, 13, 29, 40 at orange.

**LIBRA:** (Set. 24-Okt. 23) Iwasan ang makipagtalos. Ayusin ang mga schedule para hindi magkabuhol-buhol ang gawain. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 1, 7, 33, 34 at crimson red.

**SCORPIO:** (Okt. 24-Nob. 22) Ngayon mabubuhos ang kakayahan sa gawain. Kailangan ang mag-ingat. Iwasan ang tsismis. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 7, 11, 25, 33 at Nile green.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (Nob. 23-Dis. 21) Magplano ng gagawin. Iwasan ang maging emosyonal. Panindigan ang sinabi at ginawa. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 3, 7, 16, 33, at coral red.

**CAPRICORN:** (Dis. 22-Ene. 19) Iwasan ang magalit. Mag-ingat sa mga taong mapaghamon ng pagtitimpi. Magtatagumpay ka. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 4, 11, 15, 28 at electric blue.

## MPT SOUTH REMINDS: Below 400cc Motorcycles, Still Prohibited on Expressways

Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPT South), a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), continues to remind motorists to obey the Limited Access Facility Act (Republic Act 2000) which prohibits the entry of motorcycles with engine displacement less than 400cc in expressways, including the Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX), its CAVITEX C5 Link Segment, and the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX).

The reminder followed an increase in R.A. 2000 violations, particularly among below 400 cc motorcycles entering the high-speed road network CAVITEX in the first month of the year. From January 1 to January 31, 2023, a total of 273 motorcycle riders were intervened by the security patrolmen at CAVITEX entry points. Motorcycle usage experienced an uptick in 2020 when our country suc-



cumbed to the Covid-19 pandemic, and we do recognize the benefits that this development has brought – both in ride-sharing and logistics services. A reminder to our motorcycle community that CAVITEX and CALAX are declared by the DOTr through their Department Order (D.O) 2007-15 DESIGNATION AND DECLARATION OF ALL EXPRESSWAYS AS LIMITED ACCESS FACILI-

TIES, and as such will only allow Motorcycles 400cc and above.

Expressways are high-speed road facilities, and we aim for all our motorists to be safe while using our network of toll roads, we encourage them to follow the signs and speed limits,” said Mr. Raul L. Ignacio, President of MPT South.

The toll road company advised below 400cc *see page 4...*

## Private motor vehicle owners can now renew their vehicle registration online

MANILA, Philippines — The Land Transportation Office (LTO) launched its online renewal for private motor vehicle registration on Tuesday.

Private vehicle owners can renew their registration at the Land Transportation Management System (LTMS) Portal. This initiative is in line with the office’s efforts to digitize its operations.

“Ngayong araw po na ito, nilulunsad po natin ang ating online renewal for private motor vehicles registration,” LTO Chief Jose Arturo “Jay Art” Tugade said at the launch.

(Today, we are launching the online renewal for private motor vehicle registration.)

“I am happy to announce that we are taking one step forward towards fully digitalizing our agency... We are once again delivering a commitment to the President and to the people... to make the transactions of the people with LTO easier, simpler, and more convenient,” he added.

The LTO believes the online registration will disentangle transactions in district offices and discourage the use of fixers.

The renewal requires a certificate of cover (COC) from your chosen insurance company and for the vehicle to be inspected by any private motor vehicle inspection cen-



ter (PMVIC). Currently, there are 101 PMVICs around the country.

Once acquired, the user can then log in at the LTMS portal, select the type of vehicle, renew, encode COC and PMVIC test results, pay, and then print, take a screenshot of their official receipt, or log in through the LTMS portal to show the official receipt as needed.

Renewal rates will remain the same — P240 for motorcycles, P300 for motorcycles with sidecars, P1,600 to P8,000 for *see page 2...*



## DA crafts strategy plan for hybrid rice production

MANILA – The Department of Agriculture (DA) is crafting a strategy plan for the local production of hybrid rice to increase crop yields in the country and make it rice self-sufficient in two years.

This was after President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., who concurrently heads the DA, sought the implementation of a program that would promote the use of hybrid rice varieties in the country to help local farmers boost their crop production. In a briefing on Thursday, DA Assistant Secretary for Operations Arnel de Mesa said the strategy plan would promote the planting of hybrid seeds on

1.5 million hectares of rice land during the dry season.

De Mesa said the DA is looking at expanding the production of hybrid rice into Western Visayas, Eastern Visayas, Soccsksargen, and the Bangsamoro Au-

adopted the hybrid rice technology, the DA noted.

Cash aid

De Mesa said the DA would also launch a financial and credit program to persuade farmers to adopt hybrid rice production.



tonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARM).

The Ilocos, Cagayan Valley, and Central Luzon regions have already

“Ipinag-utos ng ating Pangulo na siguruhing mabigyan ang ating mga kababayan na nagtatanim ng *see page 2...*”

## HALOS 80 BAGON NA DUMATING PARA SA LRT-1 CAVITE EXTENSION, DEPEKTIBO- DOTR

Kasalukuyang hindi nagagamit ng gobyerno ang halos 80 tren cars o bagon na binili nito noong administrasyong Duterte para sa proyektong LRT Line 1 dahil sa pagtagas ng tubig.

Ibinunyag ito ni Department of Transportation (DOTr) Undersecretary for Railways Cesar Chavez noong Huwebes, na sinabing nagpasya ang administrasyong Marcos noong Hulyo na suspendihin ang mga pagbabayad para sa bilyun-bilyong pisong halaga ng mga light rail vehicle na inihatid ng isang pribadong contractor noong 2021.

“Nung dumating ho dito ay hindi po natin nagagamit sapagkat ang otsenta na dumating sa ating bansa ay may water leak,” aniya sa naganap na House Hearing.

Nang tanungin upang kumpirmahin kung ang lahat ng 80 sasakyan ay may



depekto, sinabi ni Chavez, “Most of them. In fact, in the report, halos lahat po sila”

Ayon sa opisyal, ang mga sasakyan ay ginawa ng Mitsubishi ng Spanish firm na Construcciones y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles, S.A.

Ang 80 na dumating ay bahagi ng 120 train cars sa ilalim ng ± 12-billion procurement deal para sa LRT-1, partikular para sa Cavite Extension project, noong ang DOTr ay pinamumunuan ni dating Secretary Arthur Tugade. Samantala, ang natitirang 40 ay hindi pa naihatid.

Paliwanag niya, ang paghihigpit na dulot ng pandemya ng COVID-19 ang naging dahilan kaya inalis *see page 4...*