

World's first green travel mart in PH held in Silang, Cavite



SILANG, CAVITE — The International Ecotourism Travel Mart officially started yesterday, March 29, 2023. In the photo, DOT Secretary Frasco together with Dr. Mina T. Gabor, ISST chair and president, DOTr Secretary Jaime Bautista, Asian Ecotourism Network (AEN) Chair Mr. Masaru Takayama, Dr. Glenn Gregorio, Director of Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture graced the opening ceremonies with their respective welcome remark.

Municipality of Silang is also set to showcase SILANG PRIDE Products at the IETM exhibit.

Other distinctive exhibit features are the ACB Pavilion which presents Heritage Parks from ASEAN, Tribal Pavilion which is prepared with participating tribal communities, and Green Technologies for various products and services with strong

eco-components.

A key event in the IETM is the two-day Ecotourism Forum where participants learn about best practices, do's and don'ts about authentic ecotourism to protect nature and



biodiversity while ensuring that communities living around the ecotourism sites benefit from the gains of ecotourism enterprises. Experts from all over the world are speakers and panelists.

Silang Mayor Alston Kevin Anarna said it is an honor for Silang to be the site of this global undertaking and Silanguenos are committed to do their part to help achieve IETM goals.

“It is for this reason that we feel honored to be part as the host local government unit of the first ever International Ecotourism Travel Mart. Ecotourism is one of the current movements towards finding a balance between environmental conservation and economic development.

We are all here as we believe that shared taking care of our planet is a responsibility. The International Ecotourism Travel Mart has provided an avenue for all participants, exhibitors, and speakers in

raising awareness of ecotourism and sharing best practices and green technology in our communities. We have now presented this opportunity for cross-learning and networking with fellow environmental advocates and market leaders across the globe. We must make the most of it as we start to shift towards a more sustainable tourism sector.

Mabuhay ang Bagong Silang!”

PAHAYAGAN NG
Kabitenyo

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235 LGUs eyed as PH multisectoral nutrition project recipients

MANILA – The Philippine Multisectoral Nutrition Project (PMNP) will be implemented in 235 local government units (LGUs) with the highest burden of childhood stunting and undernutrition, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) said on Thursday.



Under the project, participating municipalities will receive packages of support from PMNP in the form of performance-based grants (PBG) for the LGU and input support packages

such as primary health care and nutrition commodities, municipal grant allocation (MGA) for the covered communities/barangays, and capacity building and technical assistance pack-

ages.

The municipalities will also be provided with support for social and behavioral change communication strategies and approaches and support for the development of a harmonized information system.

The project will also cover additional 40 municipalities from three provinces in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), identified as part of the priority areas of Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cabinet Cluster (HDPRC) and Phil-

see page 7...

SSS mandatory provident fund savings tumaas ng P35 bilyon

MANILA, Philippines — Umaabot sa P35 bilyon ang kabuuang savings collection ng Social Security System (SSS) mula sa Workers Investment and Savings program mula sa 4.9 milyong SSS members sa ikalawang taon ng implementasyon nito.

Ayon kay SSS President at Chief Executive Officer Rolando Ledesma Macasaet, ang savings collection sa ilalim ng WISP doble ang laki simula ng umpisahan ang programa noong 2021.

“From January to December 2021, we initially collected P15.48 billion. In 2022, the savings collection grew by 31% to P20.4 billion which brought the total WISP contributions to P35.84 billion,” pahayag ni Macasaet. Anya, mula sa 3.7 milyong miyembro noong 2021 ay umaabot na ito ngayon ng 4.9 milyon.

Ang WISP ay isang mandatory provident fund scheme na pinamamahalaan ng SSS na nagsisilbing dagdag na savings para sa private-sector workers at ibang individual paying members mula January 2021. Dagdag itong sa-vings na magagamit sa retirement bukod sa regular SSS benefit.



Qualified dito ang mga private-sector employees, self-employed individuals, OFWs, at voluntary members na walang final claim na may contributions sa regular SSS program at may Monthly Salary Credit (MSC) na higit sa P20,000.

Maaaring tingnan ng mga miyembro ang kanilang WISP contribution online sa pamamagitan ng My.SSS account.

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SMC will build a P44.7-billion expressway connecting Nasugbu and Bauan



This expressway will help boost economic activity within the Batangas region.

We will start seeing more expressways in the southern region of Luzon as San Miguel

Corporation has inked a joint venture with the Batangas government to create the Nasugbu-Bauan Expressway (or NBEX), which is a P44.7-billion, 60.9km, four-lane toll road that aims to interconnect

Nasugbu to Bauan.

The NBEX will be located parallel to the Tagaytay-Nasugbu and Palico-Balayan highways, and the terminus of the expressway found at Barangay *see page 5*

DepEd 'di ibabalik ang summer break sa Abril at Mayo

MANILA, Philippines — Sa kabila ng napakainit na panahon, wala pang plano ang Department of Education (DepEd) na ibalik na ang summer break sa mga paaralan sa Abril at Mayo.

“At the moment, there are no plans to revert,” ayon kay DepEd Spokesman Michael Poa bilang reaksiyon sa pahayag ni Sen. Sherwin Gatchalian na panahon na upang ibalik



ang April-May summer break bunsod ng pagkospital ng mga estudyante sa isang fire drill sa

paaralan sa Laguna.

Ipinaliwanag ni Poa na ang pinuno ng mga *see page 6...*

CAVITEX, C5 LINK, and CALAX Prepares for Increased Traffic Volume for Upcoming Long Weekend

Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPT South), a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the toll road development arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC), is gearing up in preparation for the influx of motorists for the upcoming five-day long weekend holiday from April 6 to April 10, 2023. The toll road operator anticipates a 10% to 15% increase in traffic volume along its high-speed road networks, from an average of 160,000 daily travelers in the Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX), 16,000 in CAVITEX C5 Link, and 34,000 in Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX), with many people looking to travel to their hometowns or take a short break.

To help motorists have a comfortable and stress-free trip, operations of MPT South will be placing its operations on ‘high alert’ status and reactivating the “Safe Trip Mo, Sagot Ko (SMSK)” motorist assistance program from 6AM of April 5 to 6AM of April 11, 2023 across its road network. The program provides a range of services such as the provision of additional manpower for on-ground services such as traffic management and toll collection, standby emergency medical services, and incident response teams to render assistance to motorists.

Also under the SMSK



program, the toll road operator will offer free towing for CLASS 1 vehicles (up to the nearest exit only). The SMSK program in CAVITEX is being done in partnership with its joint venture partner, Philippine

Reclamation Authority through its operator, PEATC.

Motorists assistance is also made available through the following channels: 24/7 Customer Service Centers, 24/7 Customer Care Hotline 1-35000, and 24/7 social channels (Facebook: fb.com/cavitexpressway, fb.com/

OfficialCALAX, and Twitter accounts: twitter.com/cavitexpressway, twitter.com/OfficialCALAX) during this period.

“We always encourage *see page 6 ...*

STANDARD FEES FOR DRIVING COURSES RELEASED BY LTO



To get a driving license in the Philippines, you should pass a driving test. With the influx of student drivers learning the ropes, LTO released the standard fees for driving courses.

Last March 22, 2023, the Land Transportation Office (LTO) released new guidelines for the accreditation and management of driving schools. The guidelines also include the stan-

dard way of teaching student drivers and those who plan to apply as a conductor.

The new guidelines will be implemented starting April 15, 2023.

According to the Memorandum Circular No. JMT- 2023-2390, released by the LTO, private driving institutions may set their theoretical driving (TDC) fee to 1,000. Meanwhile, they may charge 2,500 to 8,000 for practical driving courses (PDC). The PDC fees will depend on the type *see page 5...*

KAGAT NG ASO AT PUSA

Payo ni Doc Willie Ong

MARAMING Pilipino ang nakakagat ng aso o pusa. Delikado po ito dahil puwede itong magdulot ng rabies. Sa bawat taon, 600 Pilipino ang namamatay sa rabies, at 100,000 naman ang binabakunahan laban sa rabies.

Ang rabies ay nakukuha sa laway ng aso, pusa, daga at paniki na may sakit ng rabies. Kapag tinamaan ang pasyente ng rabies, maghihintay pa ng tatlo hanggang walong linggo bago magkaroon ng sintomas.

Ang sintomas ng rabies ay ang pamamanhid sa lugar- ng sugat, pagwawala, paglalaway at paninigas ng mukha.

Tandaan: Kapag nagkaroon na ng sintomas ng rabies, mahirap na itong gamutin. Dahil dito, kailangang maagapan kapag nakagat ng aso at pusa.

First-aid sa kagat ng aso at pusa:

1. Hugasan ang sugat gamit ang sabon at tubig sa loob ng 10 minuto.
2. Lagyan ng povidone iodine ang sugat. Huwag lagyan- ng ointment o takpan nang masikip ang sugat. Dapat lumabas ang laway ng hayop na posibleng may dala ng rabies.
3. Huwag lagyan ng bawang, suka, patis o toyo ang sugat. Hindi ito nakagagamot at baka magdulot pa ng tetanus.
4. Dalhin kaagad ang pasyente sa ospital o Animal Bite Center tulad ng PGH sa Taft Avenue, San Lazaro Hospital sa Tayuman, Manila, RITM sa Alabang at mga malalaking ospital.
5. Hulihin ang aso at obserbahan ito ng 10 araw. Kapag nagpakita ang aso ng senyales ng rabies (naglalaway at nagwawala), dalhin ito sa ospital (tulad ng RITM) para ma-eksamen ang utak ng hayop.

Kailan nagbibigay ng bakuna:

1. Kapag nalawayan lang ng hayop at wala namang sugat sa balat, ligtas ito at hindi kailangang magpabakuna.
2. Ngunit kapag nakagat ng hayop at may sugat, kailangan ng bakuna laban sa rabies. Obserbahan ang aso ng 10 araw. Kapag walang nangyari sa hayop, ang ibig sabihin ay wala itong rabies at ligtas ang pasyente.
3. Kapag malalim ang kagat ng aso, o nakagat sa bandang mukha o leeg, kailangang agad bigyan ng bakuna at gamot ang pasyente. Dalhin agad sa mga nabanggit na ospital.

Tips para makaiwas sa rabies:

1. Para makaiwas na makasakit ng ibang tao, pabakunahan ang inyong mga alagang aso.
2. Huwag hayaang makawala ang aso. Lagyan ito ng tali.
3. Ireport sa awtoridad ang mga gumagalang aso.
4. Kapag naglalakad sa kalsada, magdala ng payong para may pangtaboy ng aso.
5. Huwag hayaan ang bata na maglaro sa hindi ninyo alagang hayop.
6. Huwag aabalahin ang mga hayop habang sila ay kumakain, natutulog o nagpapasuso ng kanilang anak (tuta o kuting).
7. Kapag may sugat kayo sa katawan, huwag hayaang dilaan ng aso ang sugat at baka mahawahan ng rabies virus.
8. Sa mga nag-aalaga ng hayop, puwede kayong magpabakuna laban sa rabies. Kumunsulta sa inyong doktor.



Agri stakeholders say Landbank-DBP merger could hurt farm sector growth

MANILA, Philippines — Agriculture stakeholders slammed the government's plan to merge state-run lenders Landbank of the Philippines and Development Bank of the Philippines, saying the move could hurt the growth prospects of the long-neglected farm sector.

In a statement on Thursday, the stakeholders said they were "seriously concerned" about the upcoming tie-up which, they pointed out, came about "without any public consultations".

Landbank would be the surviving entity in the merger.

The statement was released by Pablito Villegas, a former executive of LandBank; Leonardo Montemayor, a former agriculture secretary; and Romeo Royandoyan, executive director of Centro Saka Inc., a non-government organization that focuses on rural development research, among others.

They said the merger could further distract Landbank from doing its mandate of financing farm development. Since the lender became a universal bank, the stakeholders said Landbank's lending to agriculture stakeholders have been eclipsed by its commercial operations.

"LBP has strayed far from its principal task of servicing small agricultural producers. Merged or not, it will be hard pressed to deliver on the current administration's goals of food security, farmers' prosperity and poverty reduction," the stakeholders said.

Finance Secretary Benjamin Diokno said President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos

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Jr. has approved the merger of the two banks, a plan that goes way back to the administration of the late Benigno Aquino III.

The plan was dropped by the previous Duterte administration when it stepped into power in 2016, as former Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III had argued that the merger "will not serve the public's interest" since LandBank and DBP have different functions.

Even Marcos had, in the past, voiced loud opposition to the merger. When he was gunning for the vice presidency in 2016, then-Senator Marcos said a merger between the two banks would cut much-needed support to farmers.

Diokno said the merger

could result in the largest banking entity in the country. But Fitch Ratings noted that the combined asset size of LandBank and DBP — or about P4.2 trillion — would just be slightly larger than that of BDO.


Marcos has taken the agriculture portfolio, with a goal of growing the sector to 1.8-3.3% annually within his term.

"Such merger will need legislation by Congress to amend the existing charters of both banks and to establish a new one for the merged institution. All this will cause uncertainties, delays and other unwanted consequences in the operations of LBP and DBP," the stakeholders said.

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235 LGUs...

from page 8

ippine Plan of Action for Nutrition (PPAN).

The DSWD and partner Department of Health (DOH) jointly called on the LGUs, private sector and communities to actively participate in addressing the prevalence of childhood stunting and nutritional deficiencies.

The two agencies emphasized that improving nutrition among children and women has always been the priority in the overall PPAN and is now a priority under the Philippine Development Plan for 2023-2028.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., DSWD Secretary Rex Gatchalian and DOH officer-in-charge Secretary Ma. Rosario Singh-Vergeire spearheaded the launching of the PMNP on Wednesday.

Led by the DSWD and DOH, the PMNP is a four-year project that will support the adoption of a multisectoral nutrition approach to deliver a package of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions, together with social behavior change and communication strategy, across various platforms of LGUs in the country.

In his message, President Marcos expressed his

support to the multisectoral approach of the program in addressing the “paramount” concern on malnutrition and hunger.

“It is important because such an approach is seen to be the effective method to deal with this multi-faceted problem, the benefits from which we will feel all the way from the very top of our society down to the grassroots level,” he said.

Marcos assured that this administration is working conscientiously “to find effective and cross-cutting solutions to address these and other paramount social problems and concerns.”

According to the National Nutrition Survey 2019 Report, the prevalence of stunting among Filipino children below 5 years old ranges from 28.8 percent to 33.8 percent. This stage in that child’s life can lead to several consequences such as mortality from infections, developmental delays (cognitive, social and emotional, motor skills, speech and language), lack of physical stamina in later life and increased likelihood of low economic productivity.

In 2016, a study by UNICEF revealed that malnutrition cost the country

about USD4.5 billion (PHP240 billion) annually, representing future economic losses resulting from child mortality, developmental delays in children, adult work deficits and child morbidity.

“We know that healthy children are more likely to excel in school and become productive members of society, while undernourished children tend to struggle with illness, learning, and are more likely to drop out of school,” Vergeire said.

She said improving the health and nutrition of all children, therefore, is essential to ensuring the success of future generations of Filipinos.

“To achieve this, we need greater coordination between local and national government units and the active participation of the private sector and civil society. Together, we can finally reduce undernutrition that afflicts many poor and vulnerable families,” she added.

The DSWD said the primary beneficiaries of the PMNP are the households of the First 1,000 Days (F1KD) program in the targeted project sites. These households include preg-

nant and lactating women, children aged 2 to under 5 years with stunting, and adolescent girls.

The poorest households and the indigenous peoples will also benefit from improved nutrition-sensitive interventions while the public at large will benefit from national media campaigns as well as health- and nutrition-related interventions, it said.

Gatchalian said, “We are all aware that nutrition is a critical component of overall health and well-being, particularly for mothers and adolescents. We believe that through community-based nutrition service delivery, we can reach more people and make nutrition services available to those who may face barriers to accessing health care.”

“Using the community-driven development approach, we put communities at the center of the decision-making process. Consequently, communities are empowered to identify their nutrition challenges and design culturally appropriate and responsive solutions to their specific needs. The PMNP aims to build communities’ capacities to address nutrition challenges sustainably in the long run,” he added.

The PMNP is funded by the World Bank which granted USD178.1 million or about PHP9.7 billion loan to the Philippine government last year.

“The World Bank is fully committed to supporting the country’s goal to reduce the incidence of stunting among Filipino children,” said Ndiamé Diop, World Bank Country Director for Brunei, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand.

“Addressing undernutrition is critical to improving human capital, a central driver of sustainable growth and rapid poverty reduction,” Diop added. (PNA)

GUHIT NG KAPALARAN

ARIES: (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) Ang pakikipagtalo ay walang ibang pupuntahan kundi suliranin, kaya dapat iwasan. Ihanda ang kalooban sa maaaring mangyari. Maswerte ang tungkol sa love life pero hindi sa negosyo. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 6, 19, 39, 41 at indigo.

TAURUS: (Abr. 20-May. 20) Ipokus ang pansin sa maaaring pagkakitaan. Isang kamag-anak ang dadalaw sa iyong ta-hanan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 4, 22, 31, 40 at jade green.

GEMINI: (May.21-Hun. 21) Isang sorpresa ang naghihintay sa araw na ito. Maligaya at makulay ang romansa na maaa-ring mauwi sa kasalan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 1, 6, 14, 31 at strawberry red.**CANCER:** (Hun. 22-Hul. 22) Ang naisip na gawain ay huwag ipagpabukas. Ang kutob ay magkakatotoo. Ilagay sa ginagawa ang buong konsentrasyon. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 15, 23, 38, 41 at white.

LEO: (Hul. 23-Ago. 22) Ang panahon ay umaayon sa pagtuklas ng mga bagay na makatutulong sa trabaho o sarili. Ma-ging bukas sa positibong bagay. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 19, 24, 30, 33 at ivory white.

VIRGO: (Ago. 23-Set.23) Pag-aralan ng mabuti ang mga detalye bago pumalaot. Maaaring maging katangi-tangi ang tulong ng isang kaibigan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 2, 8, 32, 36 at purple.

LIBRA: (Set. 24-Okt. 23) Madali kang mabighani sa mga magandang bagay o pananalita. Maisasaayos ang pro-blema sa pananalapi. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 16, 21, 33, 37 at yellow.

SCORPIO: (Okt. 24-Nob. 22) Magiging masigla ang paggawa, maging sa nakahiligang palaro. Matutuhan ang dapat matutuhan sa career. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 8, 11, 12, 35 at magenta.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nob. 23-Dis. 21) Ang pagbabago o pag-laki ng mga gastusin ay makakaapekto sa takbo ng negosyo. Simulan ang magtipid. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 1, 5, 10, 20 at green.

CAPRICORN: (Dis. 22-Ene. 19) Maging maunawain kung ang mga kasamahan ay mabagal kumilos. Ang taglay na karisma ay mabisang sandata. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 4, 8, 11, 21 at blue.

AQUARIUS: (Ene. 20-Peb. 18) Walang magiging ba-lakid sa ibig. Ang sama ng loob sa minamahal tungkol sa tahanan ay magkaroon ng solusyon. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 9, 26, 34, 37 at jade green.

PISCES: (Peb. 19-Mar. 20) Magiging maganda ang panahon kung iiwasan ang masangkot sa hindi pagkakaunawaan. May lihim na matutuklasan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 1, 4, 30, 35 at aquamarine.

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DepEd...

paaralan ay may diskresyon para suspindihin ang in-person classes at gumamit ng alternative delivery modes o blended learning kung ang kapaligiran doon ay 'not conducive to learning.'

Matatandaang may 100 estudyante ang naospital matapos ma-dehydrate sa isang fire drill sa Laguna kamakailan.

Noong araw ng drill, ang heat index sa lungsod ay nasa 39 to 42 degrees Celsius, ayon sa disaster management official.

Ayon kay Gatchalian, ang summer vacation ay dati nang itinakda ng April to May dahil sa eleksyon at extra-curricular activities ng mga estudyante.

"May logic 'yan e kaya nilagay diyan [in those months]. Two reasons: Number one, ang eleksyon natin is always summer. So people will go out to vote kasi 'pag tag-ulan people will not go out to vote,'" wika niya.

"And then, pangalawa, summer kasi that's the time students can go out, spend time with their families as opposed to tag-ulan. So mas maganda na ibalik natin sa dating April,

May ang summer vacation," dagdag pa niya. (Mer Layson) Namahagi ng tulong si Senador Christopher "Bong" Go sa mga residenteng naapektuhan ng oil spill sa Oriental Mindoro.

Nagpahayag ng matinding pagkabahala si Sen. Go sa mga komunidad na nalalagay sa peligro ng oil spill.

"My heart goes out to the residents of Oriental Mindoro and nearby areas who are facing the effects of this oil spill," ani Go.

"Gagawin po natin ang lahat ng ating makakaya upang makatulong sa kanila," dagdag ng senador.

Nauna rito, hinimok ni Go ang mga kinauukulan na gumawa ng agarang aksyon upang matugunan ang insidente ng oil spill sa pagtaob ng MT Princess Empress na nagdulot ng napakalaking pinsala sa mga apektadong komunidad. Hinikayat din ni Go ang may-ari ng barko na akuin ang buong responsibilidad sa insidente.

Ang MT Princess Empress, na may kargang

900,000 litro ng industrial fuel ay lumubog sa karagatan sa bayan ng Naujan, Oriental Mindoro noong Pebrero 28.

GINANAP SA BRGY. ANG Zone 1 covered court sa Barangay Wawa covered court, Pinamalayan, namahagi ng tulong gaya ng makakain ang grupo ni Go sa 500 residente. Bukod dito, ang mga piling benepisyaryo ay binigyan ng cellphone, sapatos, at bola para sa basketball.

Nagsagawa rin ng relief operation ang grupo ni Go sa mga biktima ng oil spill sa Gloria, Oriental Mindoro, isang araw matapos ang aktibidad sa Pinamalayan. Namahagi ang team ni Go ng food packs sa 500 apektadong residente sa Gloria municipal covered court.

Nitong Lunes, personal na bumisita at nagkaloob ng tulong si Senator Go sa mga residenteng naapektuhan ng oil spill sa bayan ng Pola.

Ang napapanahong interbensyon ni Go ay isang malaking kaluwagan para sa mga apektadong residente na nahihirapan sa idinulot ng oil spill.

tracking of passages, calculation of toll fees, and monitoring of traffic conditions of MPTC expressways.

Moreover, MPT South encourages travelers to take the great opportunity of the long weekend and explore the beautiful destinations down South that are easily accessible thru MPT South's toll road. For those who are looking for exciting adventures or serene getaways in the provinces of Cavite and Laguna, MPT South's Biyaheng South social channels on Facebook and Tiktok (@biyahengsouth) and Instagram (@biyahengsouthph) offer valuable recommendations. Visitors can explore the garden capital of Silang, visit historical places in Kawit and Imus, or discover the coffee capital, Amadeo, and

Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge to open up economic opportunities



IMPROVING MOBILITY. President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. (center) graces the Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge milestone ceremony at the Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific in Mariveles, Bataan on Friday (March 31, 2023). Marcos noted that the BCIB is projected to reduce the Central Luzon - Calabarzon travel time from 5 hours to just 45 minutes. (PNA photo by Alfred Frias)

MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. said Friday the PHP175.6 billion Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge (BCIB) project is seen to boost the regional economies of the two provinces through improved connectivity.

During the bridge's milestone ceremony in Mariveles, Bataan, Marcos said new economic opportunities would open to Bataan and Cavite and their surrounding provinces because of the easier access that will

be made available through the bridge project.

The President noted that the BCIB is projected to reduce the Central Luzon - Calabarzon travel time from 5 hours to just 45 minutes, cutting as much as 86 percent.

"That will be an incredible feat when it happens and would significantly help in decongesting Metro Manila as motorists will be able to travel without passing through the metropolis," he said.

He said the bridge, once completed, would also help bring prices down for goods and services as the transport and logistics costs would decrease, thus generating immense savings all around.

The project will also support the development of seaports in the two provinces, making them potential international shipping gateways of the country, he added.

"As such, I assure you, we will remain committed to developing a highly interconnected net-

work of transport (infrastructure) that will serve as the backbone and strong driving force of our rapid, inclusive, and sustainable (economic) growth," he said.

Marcos called on the officials and employees of the Department of Public Works and Highways, as well as all the consultants to remain committed to finishing this project on schedule.

"Do your best always to ensure that civil works for this bridge will commence by October this year," he said. "Do your best also to deliver what we have proposed so that our people and their localities may live out the picture we have painted as our goal as soon as possible."

The 32.15-km., four-lane, inter-island bridge will connect Barangay Alas-asin in Mariveles, Bataan and Barangay Timalan Concepcion in Naic, Cavite and once completed, it will be the longest bridge in the Philippines.

The BCIB will have two navigational bridges: the 400-meter North Channel Bridge and the 900-meter South Channel Bridge, which will traverse Corregidor Island. About 80 percent of the structure will be over the sea.

Primarily funded through Official Development Assistance loans from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), with co-financing from the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, BCIB's construction is expected to last for 60 months and is scheduled to be completed by the end of the third quarter of 2028. (PNA)



CAVITEX, C5 LINK.....

from page 1

age our motorists to avail of the free Easytrip RFID and ensure sufficient load balance in their Easytrip RFID for smoother travel. This makes toll transaction quicker, more efficient, helping reduce traffic congestion especially now that we are almost at the pre-pandemic level and more cars are seen traversing the roads," urged Mr. Raul L. Ignacio, President and General Manager of MPT South.

"Easytrip RFIDs can now be used on all toll roads in Luzon," reminded Ignacio. Motorists need only to enroll their Easytrip RFID to Autosweep to be able to use it on non-MPTC toll roads.

Easytrip services in Customer Service Centers of CAVITEX C5 Link and CALAX will be open during the holiday on a regular schedule (Reloading-24/7, Installation and Autosweep Enrollment- 5AM to 10PM), and 24/7 in CAVITEX Customer Service Centers- Manila and Cavite bound (except Good Friday- until 12AM only). For a full list of Easytrip stations and their schedule, motorists may visit www.easytrip.ph/subscription or Easytrip's official Facebook account (fb.com/easytripPH).

Motorists can also reload and check their balance in the palm of their hand via the MPT DriveHub app available on IOS and android devices. It allows

For inquiries about this press release please email us at:

copcomm@mptsouth.com

Harmonization of DepEd, CHED, TESDA education policies pushed

MANILA – Senator Sherwin Gatchalian has filed a measure seeking to strengthen the country’s educational system through the creation of the National Education Council (NEDCO) that will promote a culture of long-term, strategic and collaborative planning among the three education sub-sectors.



In a press statement Thursday, Gatchalian said Senate Bill No 2017, or the National Education Council Act, shall create the NEDCO to institutionalize a system of national coordination, planning, monitoring, evaluation and management among the Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

In pushing for the measure, the chairperson of the Senate Committee on Basic Education said the trifocalization of the country’s education system in 1994 – CHED to handle higher education; TESDA to handle technical and vocational education; and DepEd to focus on basic education covering elementary and secondary levels – was intended for the agencies to focus on their basic mandates to deliver and

produce the outcomes expected of them.

“While tri-focalization led to greater focus and depth in sub-sectors’ planning and implementation of development programs, the Presidential Commission on Educational Reform (PCER) created in 1998 flagged how it resulted in possible overlaps, gaps, inconsistencies in and non-alignment of policies, plans, and programs,” Gatchalian said.

He said that through the proposed NEDCO, the country will strengthen the coordination among different government agencies to uplift the quality of education.

SB 2017 seeks the formulation of a national education agenda, which shall be anchored on national development plans.

It shall establish, among others, the country’s strategic vision for education, long-term and me-

dium-term goals, strategies for a coordinated and coherent implementation, and recommendations on the corresponding investments and appropriations.

The NEDCO’s powers and functions will include the implementation of an action agenda for the development of the country’s capacity for and success in education as measured by indices and measures such as the National Achievement Test, Program for International Student Assessment, Education Index, Education for All Development Index, and others it may deem appropriate in measuring growth and development of the education sector.

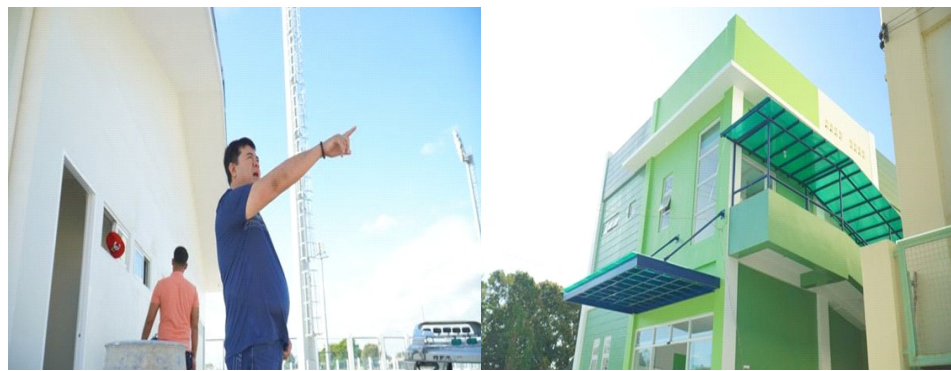
The three sub-sectors, concerned government agencies and concerned stakeholders shall strictly comply with the national education agenda, and shall incorporate its pertinent policies in their respective programs.

Under the proposed measure, the President of the Philippines will be the chairperson of NEDCO while the DepEd Secretary, CHED chairperson, and TESDA Director-General will serve as co-chairpersons.

Other members of the Council will include the Senate President, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and selected members of the Cabinet.

The bill further provides that the national education agenda shall have a minimum five-year horizon, to be updated annually and reviewed periodically by the NEDCO. (PNA)

Ininspeksyon ni Mayor Advincula ang itinatatayong bagong Birth at Dialysis Center sa Malagasang 1-G malapit sa ating Imus City Grandstand and Track Oval.



Hangarin po ng buong Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Imus na matutukan at mabigyang solusyon ang mga problemang pangkalusugang kinakaharap ng ating mga kababayan. Kaya naman, umasa po kayong tuloy-tuloy ang pagbibigay namin ng maayos na serbisyo para sa Imuseño! #AAngatAngImus #AlagangAdvincula

Pinangunahan ni Mayor Strike B. Revilla ang pagbabasbas sa bagong gawang Multipurpose Building sa Garden 4, Camella Springville, Molino 3.

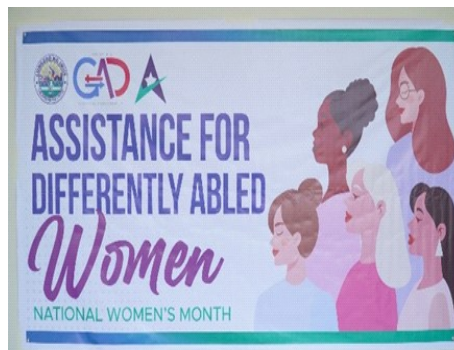
Ang proyektong ito ay pinondohan ni Mayor Strike B. Revilla noong siya ay nasa kongreso pa. Malakirin ang bahagi ng LGU Bacoor dahil ang ating City Engineering Office sa pangunguna ni Engr. Jicky Jutba at Arch. Maricon De Castro ang tumugon upang maisakatuparan ang napakagandang proyekto.

Tiyak na malaking tulong ang proyektong ito sa mga residente ng Garden 4, dahil mas maayos nilang mapagsisilbihan ang mga HOA Officers sa kanilang subdivision.

Dumalo naman sina Coun. Rey Fabian, Coun. Bok Nolasco, Coun. Simplicio Dominguez gayundin ang Barangay Official ng Molino 3 sa pangunguna ni Kap. Jun Advincula at ng Garden 4 Officers sa pangunguna ni Pres. Romeo Elisa.



Sa pamamagitan ng mga kinatawan ng iba’t ibang cluster sa Imus, naipamahagi sa humigit-kumulang 400 Imuseñong kababaihang may kapansanan ang health and hygiene kits nitong Huwebes, Marso 30, na handog ng Gender and Development Unit (GAD) ngayong National Women’s Month.



Hangad ng GAD na maramdaman ng mga kababaihang may kapansanan na narito ang Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Imus para alalayan at serbisuhan sila bilang bahagi ng lipunan. (Photos by: Imus CIO) #AAngatAngImus #NationalWomensMonth2023



DILG orders PNP, BFP to ramp up security preps for Holy Week

MANILA – The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) on Thursday ordered the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) to maximize efforts to ensure peace and order during the observance of the Holy Week.

“Nakahanda po ang inyong Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), katuwang ang Philippine National Police (PNP) at Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) at mga lokal na pamahalaan, na patuloy na pangalagaan at protektahan ang ating mga kababayan sa mahalagang panahon ng paggunita sa Semana Santa 2023 (The DILG, in cooperation with the PNP, BFP, and local government units [LGUs], is ready to protect our countrymen during the observance of Holy Week 2023),” Interior Secretary Benjamin Abalos Jr. said in a statement.

Abalos directed the PNP, BFP, and LGUs to be on alert as part of security preparations

to ensure safe travel for motorists and commuters during the Lenten season.

“Sa pangunguna ng PNP ay paiigtingin natin ang police visibility sa buong bansa, lalong-lalo na sa mga identified areas of convergence tulad ng malalaking simbahan, pilgrim sites, terminal, pantalan, at paliparan, pati na rin sa mga mall at iba pang pasyalan upang matiyak na mababantayan at mapananatili ang kaligtasan ng publiko (Under the leadership of the PNP, we will intensify police visibility across the country, especially in identified areas of convergence, such as major churches, pilgrim sites, terminals, seaports, and airports, as well as malls and other leisure sites to ensure public safety),” he said.

Abalos has also ordered to PNP to coordinate with local officials in monitoring areas considered as political “hotspots.”

Nearly 78,000 police officers across the country have been deployed to ensure safe travel during the Lenten season exodus and the summer months, PNP chief Gen. Rodolfo Azurin Jr. said.

Azurin has issued operational guidelines for regional and provincial police offices to implement their respective law enforcement and public safety plans for the 60-day summer holiday season.

He directed police units to establish Assistance Hubs and Police Assistance Desks to assist the public and promptly address specific complaints.

A total of 38,387 officers will be deployed for enhanced police presence through mobile and foot/beat patrol, while an additional 39,504 officers will be deployed to specific areas of convergence, such as major thoroughfares, transportation hubs, terminals, commercial areas, and places of worship.

The National Capital

Region Police Office (NCRPO), he said, will have the highest number of deployments, with a total of 9,585 police officers.

NCRPO director, Maj. Gen. Edgar Alan Okubo, said police officers are ready to be deployed to the streets and vital installations of the region to conduct anti-criminality operations; target hardening measures; traffic management/direction and control; and other police public safety services.

Abalos said the BFP is also on alert for fire incidents that may occur during the Holy Week.

Travelers, meanwhile, are reminded to unplug all appliances before leaving their homes.

He has also directed the LGUs to coordinate with local traffic enforcers, barangay tanods, Local Peace and Order Councils, volunteers, and other force multipliers in planning and preparing for the influx of people in their localities. (PNA)

STRENGTHENING OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE CAPACITY OF BARANGAYS THROUGH DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES



Pinangunahan ng ating Alkalde Atty. Kevin A. Anarna, Bise Alkalde Ted Carranza, Sangguniang Bayan Members at Community Affairs Office sa Pangunguna ni Lovella De Castro, ABC President Romeo Toledo SK President Carlos Briggs Rodolfo. Ang pagbibigay ng tulong pangkalusugan sa ating 64 barangay at 62 pampublikong paaralan. Malaking tulong ang mga Oxygen tank, Nebulizer at Digital Blood Pressure na makakatulong upang maging ligtas ang ating pamayanan at kababayan.

Asahan ninyong patuloy ring magbibigay ng iba't ibang serbisyo at programang pangkalusugan ang Lokal na Pamahalaan ng Silang para sa mga Silangueñong nangangailangan ng tulong medikal.



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY CAVITE

NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION (NHMFC),
Mortgagee,

-versus-

ROBERT I. ESGUERRA, married to SHARON GENE R. ESGUERRA,
Mortgagor,
Foreclosure Case No. F-045-23

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION (NHMFC)**, with business address at 104 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City, against the Mortgagor, **ROBERT I. ESGUERRA, married to SHARON GENE R. ESGUERRA**, with residence and postal addresses at (1) Regina Ville Lot 10 Blk. 04 Brgy. De Ocampo Trece Martires, Cavite, and (2) 50 G. Visitacion St., San Joaquin Pasig, Metro, Manila, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness as of **28 February 2023** amounts to **ONE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FORTY SIX PESOS & 28/100 (Php1,476,946.28)**, excluding penalties, charges, attorney's fees and expenses of foreclosure, the undersigned Sheriff will set at public auction on **April 27, 2023 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 12:00 noon** at the main entrance of the Government Center Bldg. located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder of CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. T-10962-

A parcel of land (Lot 10 Blk. 4 of the subd. plan, Psd-042122-071517, being a portion of Lot 2089- A, Psd-042122-069180, LRC Rec. No.), situated in the Brgy. de Ocampo, Mun. of Trece Martires, Prov. of Cavite, Is. of Luzon. Bounded on the E., along line 1-2 by Lot 2, Blk. 4; on the S., along line 2-3 by Rd. Lot 1; on the W., along line 3-4 by Lot 8, and on the N., along line 4-1 by Lot 9 both Blk. 4 all of the subd. plan. Beginning at a pt. marked "1" on plan xxx **CONTAINING AN AREA OF FIFTY SIX (56) SQ. METERS. xxx**

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **May 11, 2023** without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Trece Martires City, March 28, 2023

REYNALDO L. SALOMA
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION (NHMFC)
104 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

ROBERT I. ESGUERRA, married to SHARON GENE R. ESGUERRA
(1) Regina Ville Lot 10 Blk. 04 Brgy. De Ocampo Trece Martires, Cavite
(2) 50 G. Visitacion St., San Joaquin Pasig, Metro, Manila

WARNING: IT IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED TO REMOVE, DEFACE, OR DESTROY THIS NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF SALE

Publication: **PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO**
Dates: **APRIL 3, 10 & 17, 2023**

**Republic of the Philippines
Fourth Judicial Region
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
AND EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF
Dasmariñas City, Cavite**

ROMEO M. NEMENO, Jr.,
Petitioner/Mortgagee,

-versus-

**SPS. HERMINIO P. BANTILING, Jr. and
LAURIE ANN P. PASTRANA,**
Respondents/Mortgagors,

**For: Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of Real
Estate Mortgage under Act No. 3135
as amended by Act No. 4118
File No. FC-DC-0570-23**

X-----X

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act No.3135, as amended by Act No. 4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, **ROMEO M. NEMENO, Jr.**, private individual, of legal age, Filipino, with postal address at Phase 3B Block 9 Lot 18, Pelota Drive, Macaria Avenue, Barangay San Francisco, Pacita 1, San Pedro, Laguna against the respondents/mortgagors, SPS. **HERMINIO P. BANTILING, Jr. and LAURIE ANN P. PASTRANA**, with postal address at Lot 5 Blk 11, Phase 1, Avida Sta Catalina, Barangay Salawag, Dasmariñas City, Cavite; and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of **28 February 2023** amounts to **TWO MILLION PESOS & 00/100 (Php 2,000,000.00)**, exclusive of legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction **on May 5, 2023 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning** or soon thereafter in the Court Room of Branch 90, Regional Trial Court, Ground Floor, Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Buro 1, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite to the highest bidder and for CASH or CERTIFIED CHECK, in Philippine Currency, the following described real property together with all the buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit;

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 057-2011020695

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in the Bo. of Salawag, Municipality of Dasmariñas, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon bounded and described as follows:
A parcel of land (Lot 5 Blk 11 of the cons. and subd. plan PCS-04-017801, being a portion of the cons. of Lots 5774-New, FLS-2586, 5775, 6581, 6582, 6583,6584, 6585, 6586, 6587, 6588, 6589, 6590,

6591, 6592 & 6593, Imus Estate, L.R.C. REC. No. 10229) situated in the Bo. of Salawag, Municipality of Dasmariñas, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NW., along line 1-2 by Lot 7 Blk. 11, on the NE, along line 2-3 by Road Lot 9; on the SE., along line 3-4 by Lot 3; and on the SW., along line 4-1 by Lot 6 both of Blk 11, all of the cons-subd. plan. Beginning at a point marked "1" on plan being S. 36 Deg. 45' W., 758.25 m. from MON. No. 174, Imus Estate; Thence N. 32 Deg. 52' E., 11.00 m to point 2, thence S. 57 Deg 08' E., 13.23 m. to point 3; Thence S. 32 Deg. 52 W., 11.00 m. to point 4; Thence N. 57 Deg. 08' W 13.23 m. to point of beginning; containing an area of **ONE HUNDRED FORTY SIX (146) Sq. Meters.**

All points referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground by Old P.S. CYL. CONC. MONS. 15x60 cm; and P.S. CYL. CONC. MONS. 15x40 cm, Bearings true; Date of original survey Jan 27, 1921 and that of the cons and subd. survey: June 4 - Sept 29, 2001 and was approved on June 19, 2002

Prospective buyers and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said real property and the encumbrance thereon, if there be any.

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the publication auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **May 12, 2023** at the same time and place without further notice.

Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite, **March 29, 2023.**

GERALD A. FARGAS
Sheriff IV

ATTY. MARCELA L. BAYBAY
Clerk Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff

Copy furnished:

Atty. Julita F. Escueta-Gonzales
Counsel of Mortgagee
216 J. Gonzales St., San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna

Romeo M. Nemeno, Jr.
Lot 18 Blk 9, Phase 3, Pelata Drive, Macaria Avenue,
Brgy San Francisco, Pacita 1, City of San Pedro, Laguna

Sps. Herminio P. Bantiling, Jr. & Laurie Ann P. Pastrana
Lot 5 Blk 11, Phase 1, Avida Sta. Catalina,
Brgy Salawag, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

Notice Posted at:

1. The Bulletin Board of Regional Trial Court Dasmariñas City, Cavite
2. The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Hall
3. The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Post Office
4. The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Public Market

**PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
APRIL 3, 10 & 17, 2023**

**Patuloy ang pamamahagi ng mga
Food Packs mula sa San Miguel
AeroCity Inc. bilang bahagi ng
kanilang Social Development and
Management Program.**



Naging matagumpay ang programang ito sa inisyatibo at pakikipagugnayan ng Pamahalaang Bayan ng Naic at Municipal Agriculture Office.

Lubos ang pasasalamat ng Naic LGU at mamamayang Naicqueños sa pagtulong at kawanggawa para sa mga mangingisda sa Bayan ng Naic.

#unlaDNaic #DisiplinaAtDiskarte

**Republic of the Philippines
Fourth Judicial Region
FAMILY COURT
BRANCH 4
Imus City, Cavite
fc1imu0004@judiciary.gov.ph
Tel. No. (046) 4181948**

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE JUDGE

**IN RE: PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT
AS A NOTARY PUBLIC FOR AND IN
THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE,**

ATTY. PETER JOSEPH LARA,
Petitioner,

NP Case No. 00316-23.

X-----X

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to Section 5, Rule III, A.M. No. 02-8-13-SC 2004 Rules on Notarial Practice, notice is hereby given that a summary hearing on the petition for notarial commission of **ATTY. PETER JOSEPH LARA**, shall be held on **April 28, 2023**, at Branch 4-Family Court, Imus City, Cavite at 8:30 a.m. Any person who has any cause or reason to object to the granting of the petition may file a verified written opposition thereto, received by the undersigned before the date of the said hearing.

In consonance with the above-mentioned rule, Atty. Lara is hereby directed to publish this notice of summary hearing once in a newspaper of general circulation, as may be chosen by raffle. The Clerk of Court, Office of the Clerk of Court, is directed to post this notice in a conspicuous place in the offices of the Executive Judge and of the Clerk of Court.

SO ORDERED.
Imus City, Cavite, March 23, 2023.

ADELIZA H. MAGNO-GINGOYON
Executive Judge

**PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
APRIL 3 - 9, 2023**



SMC will... from page 1

Kaylaway will also be connected to the Cavite-Batangas Expressway (CBEX), which will lead to Tagaytay and Cavite.

It will have four sections connecting four different town proper to the expressway.

Section 1 (10.78km) will start at Barangay Kaylaway, Nasugbu, all the way to Barangay Banilad, followed by Section 2 (13.03km), which connects Barangay Banilad to the town proper of Balayan. Section 3 (16.3km) connects Balayan to Lemery, and finally, Section 4 (20.79km) links Lemery to Bauan. This project aims to help reduce travel time between the two places from 1.5 hours down to 45 minutes (and will also cut down the five-hour trip to Manila down to two hours).

This project is targeted to be "substantially completed" in four years, which also includes the one-year development of the detailed engineering design. While building more roads within the city to alleviate traffic is one solution that doesn't always work out as intended, building more expressways to make it easier to connect two different regions is a better idea, helping boost economic activity, which in turn will decongest city centers by incentivizing people to move out to the different provinces.

STANDARD FEES FOR...

from page 1

of car or license code.

In addition, it is also stated in the memorandum that applicants may complete their mandatory 15-hour theoretical driving course within two days. However, the applicants must accomplish their mandatory 15-hour TDC in one month. On the other hand, the practical driving course (PDC) should be completed in at least 8 hours per license code.

The memorandum specified that PDC for light and heavy vehicles should be at least two days. Meanwhile, the 8-hour PDC for motorcycles may be conducted for one day. However, the student driver should prove to have excellent knowledge about motorcycle driving according to their practical driving instructor's assessment.

LTO also requires driving schools to register the biometrics and other details of their applicants to the LTO system through the Land Transportation Management System (LTMS) Client ID. This is to determine the actual start of the applicant's TDC.