

DOST, Lazada ink deal to expand market reach of Filipino

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) formalized its partnership with e-commerce platform Lazada Philippines on Wednesday to help Filipino micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) expand their market reach and strengthen competitiveness through the digital platform.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on September 24, 2025, at the DOST Central Office in Bicutan, Taguig City.

Under the MoU, DOST and Lazada will collaborate in several key areas.

\$1B in revenues possible with seamless airport upgrades - Zubiri

Senate Majority Leader Juan Miguel Zubiri on Tuesday pushed for additional funding to the Department of Transportation (DOTr) to accelerate upgrades of airports in major tourist destinations.

Zubiri urged his colleagues to consider institutional amendments to cover improvements for airports in Camiguin, Siargao, El Nido, and Coron, among others.

He said Camiguin has an initial allocation but construction could stall without more funds, while Siargao's runway needs expansion to accommodate larger aircraft and direct flights.

"Kung makahanap tayo ng budget, magbigay din tayo ng dagdag doon sa Camiguin at dagdagan din natin 'yung sa airport ng Siargao (If we can find budget, let's add to Camiguin and also increase funding for the Siargao airport)," he said in a news release, noting that island airports must be able to land A320s to sustain tourist arrivals.

Zubiri called for a whole-of-government approach to tourism plan-



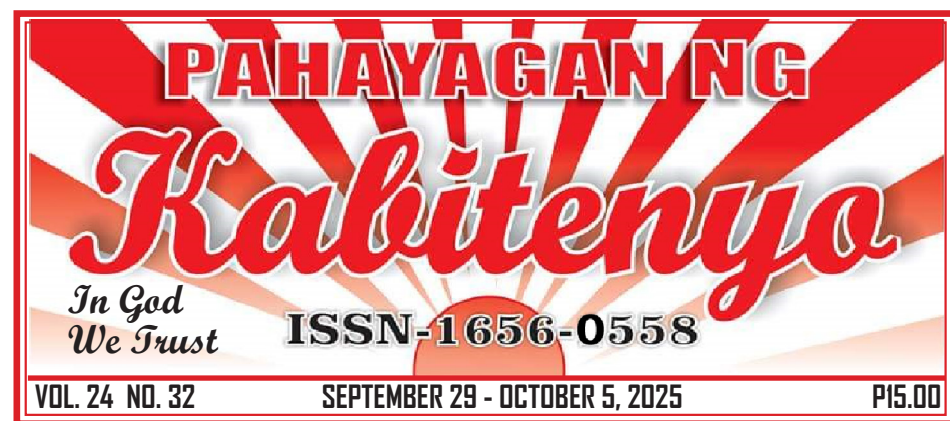
These include onboarding DOST-assisted MSMEs to Lazada's platform, providing them access to a wider consumer base through the Lazada Marketplace and LazMall, and leveraging Lazada's logistics, marketing, and payment systems.

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ning, stressing that the DOTr should anticipate aviation policy impacts and coordinate closely with the Department of Tourism (DOT) instead of waiting for issues to arise. "It should be an all-government approach. Do not wait for the DOT to react (do not wait for DOT to react). We just have to think out of the box and we have to think progressively," he said.

Investing in airports, he said, would deliver direct economic benefits, estimating that even one million additional tourists spending USD1,000 each could contribute an extra USD1 billion to the economy. "That is not difficult if the country provides seamless gateways comparable to Cambodia, Thailand, or Vietnam," he said. (PNA)



DOST-PCHR, PhilHealth strengthen partnership, showcase expanded research-based health benefits thru PhilHealth STUDIES Conference

The Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (DOST-PCHR) and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), reaffirmed the commitment to provide health-care that truly responds to the needs of Filipinos at the PhilHealth STUDIES (Supporting the Thrust for Universal Health Care through Data, Information, and Knowledge-Exchange Systems) Conference recently held at the Marquis Hotel in Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.

Now in its 10th



year, the PhilHealth STUDIES Conference helps integrate research into the core policy making process of the corporation to align benefit packages with the real and evolving health needs of the Filipino people. The theme: "From Mission to Milestone: A decade of strengthening health financing policy research to

advance universal health care", highlights the combination of looking back on the progress achieved in the past 10 years and looking ahead to what's next for the upcoming years.

In his keynote message, Dr. Lluís Vinyals Torres, Director of the Division of Health Systems and Services at the World

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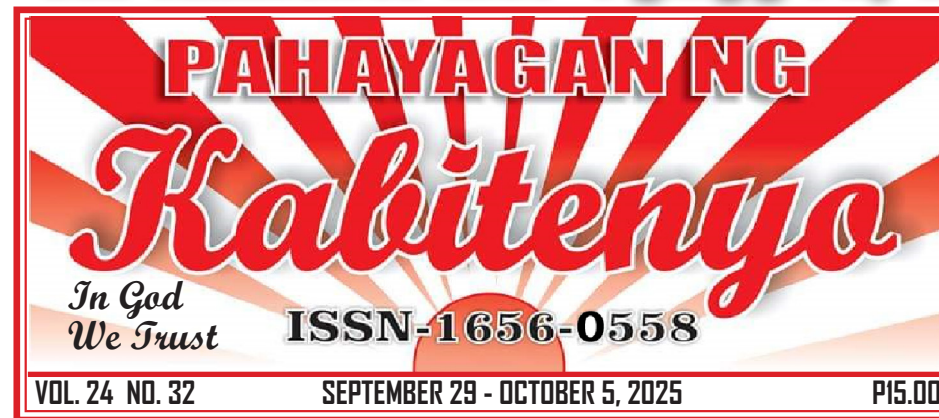
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SSS launches EMV-equipped, dual-function MySSS Card

READ ON PAGE 7



FNG at the forefront of Cavite's transformation into a prime investment destination

Once seen as Metro Manila's bedroom community, Cavite is now carving out its own identity as a thriving location

Cavite, one of the fastest-growing provinces in the Calabarzon Region, is emerging as an economic and lifestyle hub, with its growth being fueled by the big-ticket infrastructure projects and investments from firms that value its long-term potential. With improved connectivity, thriving businesses, a growing population, and steady expansion of masterplanned communities, Cavite today has become a

destination in itself where people can live, work, play and prosper.

1. Connectivity though Infrastructure Cavite is at the center of one of the most ambitious infrastructure networks in the country.

South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) and the Manila-Cavite Expressway (CaviteX) currently serve as lifelines connecting the province to Metro Manila, while the nearing

completion of the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX) is poised to further cut travel time. On the horizon, too, are the LRT-1 Cavite Extension, the proposed LRT-6A line, and the Cavite Rapid Transit System, which promise faster, more affordable mobility. For residents, these mean shorter commutes, better access to essentials and institutions, and a higher quality of life. For investors, this connectivity ensures growth and capital appreciation.

2. A market see page 9...

IMUS: THE COMMERCIAL CAPITAL OF CAVITE

Even before achieving cityhood, Imus had already been shifting toward commercialization, gradually establishing itself as the center of trade in Cavite. Today, it thrives as a bustling hub of retail stores, commercial establishments, and pioneering enterprises—holding the distinction of hosting several "firsts" in the province.

Imus was the first in Cavite to host Robinsons and Ayala malls, the first

branch of S&R Membership Shopping, the first—and largest—Landers Superstore, and the earliest outlets of many fast-food chains and restaurants before their expansion across the province. These milestones have cemented the city's reputation as Cavite's retail and commercial frontrunner.

The city's economic momentum continues with large-scale mixed-use developments such

as Vermosa, Downtown Lancaster, and Riverpark Gateway, complemented by emerging growth corridors like Imus Boulevard, Daang Hari Extension, and Advincola Avenue Extension.

With its steady expansion in both commercial and lifestyle spaces, Imus has firmly solidified its role as the Commercial Capital of Cavite—driving the province's progress and setting the pace for future development.

Trece Martires City Nutrition Division, Pinaragan bilang Nutrition Honor Award Performer

CONGRATULATIONS

OFFICE OF THE CITY NUTRITION OFFICER

TRUCE MARTIRES CITY - NUTRITION HONOR AWARD (NHA) PERFORMER

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FINALIST IN THE SEARCH FOR REGIONAL OUTSTANDING CITY/MUNICIPAL NUTRITION OFFICER (ROCNMO)

MS. AMELITA T. NARAS, RND
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MS. JOSEFA A. TOLENTINO
FINALIST IN THE SEARCH FOR REGIONAL OUTSTANDING BARANGAY NUTRITION SPECIALIST (ROBNS)

Presented to: **Mayor Gemma Buendia Lubigan**
Vice Mayor Bobby Montehermoso and 12th Sangguniang Panlungsod

Barangay Luciano
Finalist in the Search for Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Committee (ROBNC)

PhilHealth reminds Filipinos of thyroid cancer benefit packages

The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) on Monday urged Filipinos to take advantage of its benefit packages for the diagnosis, treatment, and surgery of thyroid cancer.

This is in line with the celebration of the National Thyroid Cancer Awareness Week, usually during the last week of September, as established by Republic Act 10786 to inform the public about the symptoms and early actions to prevent the disease.

Thyroid cancer is one of the most common

cancers in the Philippines but is often curable if detected early.

PhilHealth emphasized the importance of regular check-ups and awareness of symptoms such as a lump or swelling in the neck, changes in voice, and difficulty swallowing or breathing.

To help patients manage costs, PhilHealth offers the following benefit packages:

--PHP22,230 for Malignant Neoplasm of the Thyroid Gland (Thyroid Cancer) – covering part of the expenses for diagnosis, consultation, and initial medical management.

Up to PHP60,450 for a Total or Complete Thyroidectomy.

Up to PHP90,675 for more complicated cases of Thyroidectomy, such as those involving neck dissection.

These benefit packages include both professional fees and hospital charges.

The agency also encouraged the public to participate in awareness activities, undergo regular screenings, and learn more about the full range of services available. (PNA)

Congratulations

Hon. Gemma Buendia Lubigan

CITY MAYOR TRUCE MARTIRES

MOST OUTSTANDING LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE

AS

NAPOLCOM DEPUTIZED OFFICER

Presented to: **Mayor Gemma Buendia Lubigan** | Bagong Trece Martires Cavite

Be Blessed, Be a Blessing

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Trece Martires City Nutrition Division, Pinaragan bilang Nutrition Honor Award Performer

Buong pagmamalaking ipinahahayag ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Trece Martires ang pagkilalang iginawad sa City Nutrition Division bilang isang Nutrition Honor Award (NHA) Performer. Ito ay patunay ng mahusay na pagpapatupad ng mga programang pangkalusugan at pangnutrisyon na natatangi sa buong rehiyon.

Bilang bahagi ng naturang pagkilala, kinilala rin ang mga natatanging opisyal at yunit na nagpakita ng kahusayan at dedikasyon sa kanilang tungkulin:

- Gng. Jerlyn D. Avila-Moya, RND – Finalist, Regional Outstanding City/Municipal Nutrition Action Officer (ROCNN-AO)

- Gng. Amelia T. Naras, RND – Unang Gantimpala, Regional Outstanding City/Municipal Nutrition Program Coordinator (ROCNMPC)

- Gng. Jofe A. Tolentino – Finalist, Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Scholar (ROBNs)

- Barangay Lu-

ciano, sa pamumuno ni Punong Barangay Luisito R. Diloy – Finalist, Regional Outstanding Barangay Nutrition Committee (ROBNC) Patuloy na isinusulong ng Lungsod ng Trece Martires

ang programang pangnutrisyon bilang pundasyon ng isang maunlad na pamayanan. Kayo ang dangal ng lungsod, huwaran ng malasakit, at inspirasyon para sa mas masiglang bukas ng bawat Treceño.

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DOC WILLIE - Dr. Willie T. Ong - Salamat Dok's Willie Ong shares tips on effective use of social media in health



PASAY CITY, Metro Manila- Dr. Willie Ong, a resident doctor of ABS-CBN's Salamat Dok and a columnist of the Philippine Star, delivered the keynote address for the Healthcare Social Media Summit 2016 co-organized by the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD) and the #HealthXPh on 21 April 2016 at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Dr. Willie Ong as he delivers his keynote address

On his keynote address, Dr. Willie Ong shared his experiences in writing newspaper articles and books, producing videos, making health advisories, and using social media as platform for promotion and dissemination of health information. According to Dr. Ong, he aspires to save fifty thousand lives through his advocacy on making medicines affordable, sending advisories timely and effective, and providing basic laboratory test free for the poor.

In pushing for such an advocacy, he advised the summit participants to always find their purpose or mission, to think outside the box, to keep their momentum, to follow God's laws, and to think big and never give up.

Dr. Ong also mentioned that his social media accounts such as his Facebook page has reached a total of one million likes already. His articles on health which he also posts on his page were also shared by more than 30,000 Facebook users.

As a celebrity doctor himself, he shared tips on how to increase Facebook likes and reach such as making the content of page original, unique and interesting, text short, and photos catchy. He also emphasized that timing and promotion of posts are crucial.

"Post regularly. Talk with other friends to share your posts. Keep up with the news. Remember that posts have higher reach than shares. Check post status and follower's profile. Be positive to everyone," Dr. Ong advised.

In using social media for health, he also noted that it is important to expand health topics, find mentors, use ordinary language to break barriers in health belief, and be authentic. The second Philippine Healthcare and Social Media Summit is organized to bring together healthcare professionals, academe, healthcare industry, patients, and advocates to forge partnerships that can help translate tweets, shares, and likes to concrete actions.

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

DOST, Lazada ink deal...

To ensure long-term growth, MSMEs will undergo training through Lazada University (LAZ-U), with modules on digital marketing, supply chain management, customer engagement, and online selling.

DOST and Lazada will also co-develop targeted marketing campaigns and promote innovation and digital transformation, aligning with DOST's mandate to advance science, technology, and innovation for sustainable and inclusive growth.

"Lazada's partnership with the government is patriotic at its core. Your ability to reach millions makes you a powerful ally in promoting science, technology, and innovation, which are key drivers of national progress. This collaboration is especially sig-

nificant because MSMEs make up more than 99% of businesses in the Philippines and provide over 60% of employment," shared DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr.

Solidum added that the partnership marks a milestone in the country's growing innovation ecosystem, with the Philippines now ranking 3rd among lower-middle-income economies and proving itself a consistent regional performer. Through Lazada, DOST envisions not just a selling platform but a complete ecosystem that empowers MSMEs with logistics, training, digital tools, and access to wider markets.

DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations Engr. Sancho A. Maborang highlighted that the MoU represents a strategic alliance aimed at enhanc-

ing MSMEs' market access, operational capacity, and digital capabilities—factors essential in today's rapidly evolving business landscape.

"It is gratifying to see how that early vision has evolved and now finds a significantly enhanced platform through Lazada's expansive reach. The synergy between DOST's programs and Lazada's digital marketplace opens unprecedented opportunities for MSMEs, especially those enterprises assisted by DOST, to access a wider market," Usec. Maborang said.

Meanwhile, John Kenneth Estiller, representing Lazada CEO Carlos Barrera, emphasized that the collaboration is designed to expand MSMEs' market reach while improving operational capacity and

competitiveness both locally and globally.

He added that MSMEs will be supported in their growth journey, helping them scale from small and medium enterprises into larger businesses.

This partnership is among the DOST initiatives aimed at providing science-based, innovative, and inclusive solutions across four strategic pillars: human well-being, wealth creation, wealth protection, and sustainability. These pillars embody the mantra OneDOST4U: Solutions, Opportunities for All.

For more information, visit www.dost.gov.ph. (By Allan Mauro V. Marfal, DOST-STII and with information from the Office of the DOST Secretary and the Office of the DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations)

SSS launches EMV-equipped, dual-function MySSS Card

In response to the 8 September 2025 directive issued by Department of Finance Secretary and Social Security Commission ex-officio Chair Ralph G. Recto to roll out faster services to pensioners and members, the Social Security System (SSS) has officially launched the MySSS Card - designed to transform the way Filipino workers, pensioners, and their beneficiaries access their social security benefits and financial services.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph Montes De Claro stated that the MySSS Card fulfills two purposes. It acts as an official ID, replacing the long-standing Unified Multi-Purpose Identification (UMID) card. It also operates as a fully functional debit card linked to a savings account.

De Claro noted that the card is equipped with an EMV chip. It is integrated with the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys) eVerify and biometric authentication. This provides a safe and convenient way for members to access SSS benefits and loans, as well as manage their daily financial transactions.

It merges social security benefits with digital banking, offering members a comprehensive way to access benefits, loans, and pensions quickly and conveniently. The card can also be used for shopping, public transport fares, and online purchases, De Claro explained.

The card will be issued exclusively through SSS partner banks. Issuance will start with Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation (RCBC) and will later include other banks such as Asia United Bank (AUB), China Bank, and Union Bank of the Philippines.

De Claro said the MySSS Card will automatically serve as the main disbursement account for SSS members. "Once members apply for the MySSS Card, we will link their partner bank savings accounts to SSS for benefits, loans, and other proceeds. They no longer need to enroll the MySSS Card in the Disbursement Ac-

count Enrollment Module (DAEM)."

He stated that starting today, 1 October 2025, SSS will accept applications for the MySSS Card. RCBC, through its digital arm DiskarTech, will be the card's first implementer.

"The SSS and RCBC partnership marks a significant milestone in the digital transformation of government services," he continued. "The MySSS Card's rollout will expand as more partner banks join the program. This will provide more options for card issuance and banking features."

How to Apply for the MySSS Card

The MySSS Card is available to all SSS members, pensioners, individual claimants, beneficiaries, and representative payees who meet the following requirements:

Possess a permanent SS number;

Have an active account on the My.SSS Portal with updated personal details, including local address, mobile number, and email; and

Be registered with the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) under the National ID system, previously known as the Philippine Identification System (PhilSys).

Members with old SSS, UMID, or previous ID cards may apply for the MySSS Card to replace lost or existing cards.

De Claro said the MySSS Card application is simple and can be completed via My.SSS. "Members choose their partner bank—initially RCBC—and consent to data sharing between SSS, the National ID system, and the bank."

After online verification and identity confirmation, members open a bank account either using their online app or by visiting a branch. For RCBC, members use the DiskarTech app to open the account.

The partner bank will produce and distribute

GUHIT NG KAPALARAN

LIBRA: (Set. 24-Okt. 23) – Ang oportunidad ay kakatok at dapat maging maagap para hindi ito makakawala. Panatilihin bukas ang komunikasyon. Taglayin ang kahinahunan sa pakikipag-usap. Maging malapit ka sa mapang-asar, kaya cool ka lang. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 11, 12, 14, 41 at sky blue.

SCORPIO: (Okt. 24-Nob. 22) – Paganda nang paganda ang takbo ng career. Mananatiling sapat ang pa-ngangailangan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 15, 16, 36, 37 at light gray.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nob. 23-Dic. 21) – May posibilidad na mapili ka sa bakanateng puwesto sa in-aaplayan. Tiyakin ang sarili at kakayahan bago mang-gako. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 2, 8, 21, 30 at pink.

CAPRICORN: (Dic. 22-Ene. 19) – May mahalagang gawain na ipagkakatiwala sa'yo. Pero kung hindi nakakasiguro, huwag maging mapangahas. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 11, 26, 28, 39 at white.

AQUARIUS: (Ene. 20-Peb. 18) – Magpapatuloy sa pagganda ang impresyon ng nakakataas sa trabaho dahil sa husay at kasipagan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 10, 11, 24, 31 at lilac.

PISCES: (Peb. 19-Mar. 20) – Matatag ang career. Iwasan ang magmamot para hindi pagtampuhan ng kapalaran. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 12, 26, 30, 42 at peach.

ARIES: (Mar. 21-Abr. 19) – Palampasin ang maririnig na makakapikon mula sa mga kasamahan dahil inggit lang sila. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 3, 9, 39, 41 at white.

TAURUS: (Abr. 20-May. 20) – Isang Cancer ang magbibigay ng suwerte, at isang Gemini ang magdadala ng kaligayahan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 2, 9, 13, 31 at red.

GEMINI: (May.21-Hun. 21) – Kung gagamitin ang likas na talino, maaabot ang tagum-pay. Ituwid ang pagkakamali. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 13, 31, 39, 42 at pink.

CANCER: (Hun. 22-Hul. 22) – May magtatangkang sukatin ang pagtitimpi mo. Maging mahinahon at gamitin ang karunungan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 5, 15, 26, 34 at green.

LEO: (Hul. 23-Ago. 22) – Ang nakalimutang pangako ay maisasakatuparan. Iwasan ang paglalakbay at mga barkada. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 1, 4, 34, 40 at orange.

VIRGO: (Ago. 23-Set.23) – bayaan ang matagal nang suliranin ay lalong lalala. Kumilos ka na. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 9, 10, 23m 32 at neon green.

the cards. Metro Manila residents will receive their cards within 15 working days, while those outside Metro Manila will receive theirs within 20 working days.

He concluded that launching the MySSS Card is part of a larger government push. This initiative is led by Finance Secretary and Social Security Commission ex-officio Chair Recto, who has championed reforms within the SSS to enhance its service delivery. #

**ARMY
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DOST-PCHRD, PhilHealth strengthen...

Health Organization, emphasized that the Philippines and the region need more research on health financing and systems. He noted that although robust evidence is available, it is not generating sufficient policy space. He also highlighted the need to broaden the unit of analysis in evaluating social health insurance performance—from focusing solely on beneficiaries to considering all citizens.

Meanwhile, during his welcome remarks, Dr. Edwin Mercado, Acting President and CEO of PhilHealth, highlighted the importance of research in ensuring that policies are tailored to the needs of Filipinos. “We depend on research to draft our policies, especially our health benefit program,” further highlighting the newly expanded Yaman ng Kalusugan Program (YAKAP).

“YAKAP is a shift toward primary care to address the significant gaps in access to health services, and we ensure that our health benefit programs align with the needs of the Filipino people,” he added.

YAKAP is PhilHealth’s expanded primary care benefit package, providing members with up to Php 20,000 worth of benefits each year. These services include:

- Medical consultations;
Laboratory tests and diagnostics;
Cancer screening; and

Essential medicines for chronic illnesses and maintenance.

This program builds on previous packages like Konsulta, evolving based on feedback and evidence gathered from the research and studies from the ground.

“Our findings validated the urgent need to expand benefits. With YAKAP, we’ve seen real joy from ordinary people. Even our neighbors now ask us how to register to utilize their Php 20,000 benefit,” said Rowena Luciano, a PhilHealth researcher who helped study the factors affecting benefit availment.

Studies presented during the conference revealed that despite awareness, many indigent members had trouble accessing services due to lack of medicines, medical personnel, and clear information. These findings led to concrete policy changes now being addressed through YAKAP.

“This is not just for indigents. As soon as YAKAP was launched, even senior citizens rushed to health centers asking how to have access to these free medicines,” added Michael Maglanque, another researcher. “That tells us that this program really answers a real need.”

Also mentioned during the conference was PhilHealth’s outpatient mental health benefit, now available to all its members.

This package specifically covers severe mental health conditions such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)—offering help to those affected by natural disasters, violence, or extreme stress. The benefit is designed to provide not just financial support, but also dignity and hope to those who previously had little access to mental health care.

“Through PhilHealth STUDIES program, we developed the outpatient benefit package for mental health. Now available to all PhilHealth members,” said Dr. Jaime Montoya, Executive Director of the DOST-PCHRD, a key partner in the program.

“Through this program, we see that progress is possible when knowledge is shared, decisions are grounded in evidence, and the vision of Universal Health Care is pursued with consistency and commitment,” Dr. Montoya added.

PhilHealth emphasized that research will continue to be the backbone of its future programs. Dr. Mercado also took emphasis on initia-

tives now being used to make at least Standard of Care monitoring of medicine through PhilHealth GAMOT (Guaranteed Access Medications throughout Patient Treatment); ensure proper treatment using AI and red-flag systems; track the impact of benefit packages on hospital capacity; and assess the long-term effects of Z Benefit Packages like kidney transplants and open-heart surgery.

“The implementation of initiatives based on data is the intent behind PhilHealth STUDIES. We want to employ the same practice not just in determining which benefit package to develop but also in identifying whether our packages are truly responsive,” said Dr. Mercado.

PhilHealth is urging all members, especially those from underserved sectors, to register and update their information to start availing YAKAP benefits. Outreach efforts are also ongoing through workplace partnerships and local health units.

“Access is different from universal coverage.” Dr. Mercado reminded. “Even if you have universal coverage, if there is no supply of those services in the area, it still will not lead to access. That’s why we’re asking some alignment with the DOH that when we roll out any benefit package, there should also be some supply side component.”

“We’re also talking to private sector to also re-engage because the private sector constitutes a big part of our health system,” he added.

With studies lined up to evaluate the impact of YAKAP and other packages, PhilHealth is determined to maintain its people-first, research-based approach. The agency’s partnership with DOST-PCHRD and alignment with the National Unified Health Research Agenda (2023–2028) will continue to guide its future steps.

“Let us continue this fruitful collaboration towards our achievement of Universal Health Care in the country. Sa patuloy nating pagpapatibay ng pananaliksik, tunay nating nailalapat at naipararamdam sa bawat Pilipino ang serbisyong pangkalusugan hatid ng PhilHealth na mabilis, patas, at mapagkakatiwalaan.” Mr. Mercado concluded.

Launched in 2017, PhilHealth STUDIES supports Universal Health Care (UHC) Law (RA 1123), by enhancing health data utilization, promoting evidence-based policy making, and supporting studies on health insurance coverage, health systems, and financing strategies. The program strengthens partnerships among researchers, policymakers, and health professionals to deliver data-driven, people-centered health services.

This partnership is one of the many initiatives of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) aimed at providing science-based, innovative, and inclusive solutions across four strategic pillars: human well-being, wealth creation, wealth protection, and sustainability. These pillars embody the mantra OneDOST4U: Solutions, Opportunities for All. For more information, visit www.pchrd.dost.gov.ph. (By Abigail S. Omana, DOST-STII)

Advertisement for College Educational Assistance Program (CEAP) for the first semester S.Y. 2025-2026. It features the OCSWDO logo and a QR code to register.

Gov’t troops recover war materiel in Mindoro clash with rebels

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna – Troopers from the Philippine Army’s 203rd Infantry Brigade (23Bde) engaged members of the communist New People’s Army (NPA) in a brief firefight in Mansalay, Oriental Mindoro, the military reported Friday.

The 10-minute clash, which took place in Barangay Manaul on Thursday, resulted in the recovery of several items left behind by the fleeing rebels. Among the rebel items seized were a shotgun, a generator, a commercial drone, an analog phone and tablet, ammunition, bolos, medicines, backpacks, and hammocks, among others.

Military reports indicated the operation was launched after Manaul residents alerted authorities about armed individuals allegedly extorting households, causing community fear.

Pursuit operations against the fleeing rebels are ongoing, while the Mansalay Municipal Police Station has established checkpoints to enhance security in Barangay Manaul and its surrounding areas.

Brig. Gen. Melencio Ragudo, the 203Bde commander, urged remaining NPA members “to abandon the armed struggle and avail of the government’s Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program, which assists former rebels seeking to return to mainstream society.” (PNA)

PGC’s Medical and Dental Mission brings free health services in Tanza



As part of the nationwide celebration of “Handog ng Pangulo: Serbisyong Sapat Para sa Lahat”, a Medical and Dental Mission was held last September 13, 2025, at the Tanza Convention Center, providing vital health services to local residents.

A total of 346 patients benefitted from the initiative, with 320 individuals receiving medical consultations and 26 availing of dental services. The mission was spearheaded by the Office of the Provincial Governor (OPG) medical mission team, with medical consultations and dental care rendered by dedicated health workers from the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (OPHO). Patients also received free prescribed medicines and vitamins, ensuring access to much-needed treatment and preventive care.

The event drew the support of several local leaders, including Governor Abeng Remulla, Vice Governor Ram Revilla Bautista, 7th District Congressman Ping Remulla, 1st District Board Member Jygs Gandia, 7th District Board Member Aldrin Anacan, Tanza officials led by Mayor Archangelo “SM” Matro, and mayors of different LGUs in Cavite, who visited the medical and dental mission booth to extend their solidarity with the community.

The activity highlighted the government’s commitment to delivering accessible healthcare services to Caviteños, bringing essential medical support closer to the people as part of the province’s continuing health outreach programs.— R. Tanael

Laguna gov seeks unified master plan for drainage, flood control

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna – Governor Sol Aragonés called for a long-term, province-wide master plan for drainage and flood control systems, citing the escalating threats from stronger typhoons.

Provincial Information Officer Danilo Lucas said that during a meeting at the governor’s office with municipal, city, and district engineers, Aragonés underscored the urgency of adopting a sustained, integrated approach.

“Maybe we should have a master plan for drainage,” Aragonés was quoted as saying. Lucas added that she brought up the frequent flooding near Sunstar Mall in Santa Cruz town, stressing, “We can’t just look at it, we have to do something because it’s been going on for so long.” Aragonés also shared that a Memorandum of Agreement is being fi-



FLOOD PLAN. Laguna Governor Sol Aragonés (right) is shown with Laguna Provincial Police Office Director Col. Jonar Yupio (left) and other officials during a meeting with municipal, city, and district engineers on Thursday (Sept. 25, 2025). Aragonés underscored the urgency of adopting a long-term, province-wide master plan for drainage and flood control systems. (Photo courtesy of Laguna PIO)

nalized with Ramon Ang of San Miguel Corporation, who has pledged to help with dredging operations at no cost to the government. The agreement will be reviewed by the engineers involved in the project.

According to Aragonés, the province’s approach should go beyond temporary fixes, aiming

instead for structural solutions that mitigate recurring floods, protect communities, and foster sustainable economic growth. She urged stronger collaboration among government agencies, engineering teams, and private partners to ensure the plan’s effectiveness and longevity. (PNA)

Advertisement for Calabarzon Cacao Congress 2025. It features logos of various organizations and the text 'Flavor of the Future: Unlocking Calabarzon’s Cacao Potential'.



The 3rd Gawad Pawid Awards successfully concluded last September 27, 2025 at The Bayleaf Hotel, General Trias City, a celebration of excellence, leadership, and service as we recognized the outstanding contributions of youth leaders and organizations who continue to make an impact in their communities.

This year’s Gawad Pawid once again highlighted the dedication of Caviteño youth in championing initiatives that inspire change and foster meaningful development across the province.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all participants and awardees for their active contribution to their communities and for embodying the true spirit of servant leadership. Your achievements are a testament to the strength and potential of the Caviteño youth.

Our deepest thanks to Governor Abeng Remulla for his unwavering support of this event, and to Hon. Chelsea Sarno, Provincial SK Federation President, for her tireless dedication to the youth sector and for being the sole proponent and partner in making this initiative possible. We are also grateful to Hon. Kerby Salazar (6th District Board Member), Hon. Aidel Belamide (5th District Board Member), and Hon. Tom, Former SK Federation President, for gracing the occasion and showing their support.

Special recognition goes to our youth volunteers Ms. Crisa and Ms. Daphnie, as well as Pres. Owa, Pres. Tope, Pres. Arohn, and Pres. Kenith from the Provincial Youth Development Council for their invaluable efforts in ensuring the success of this event.

Finally, we thank our event partners — The Bayleaf Hotel, General Trias City for the warm hospitality and excellent service, and Gubby Consumer Goods Wholesaling for providing the plaques of recognition. Together, we celebrate the triumphs of the youth and continue to build a stronger, more empowered Cavite!



Gen. Emilio Aguinaldo, Cavite wagi sa 2025 DA-CALABARZON Regional On-the-Spot Poster Making Contest

Bilang suporta sa World Food Day, nagsagawa ng Regional On-the-Spot Poster Making Contest ang Department of Agriculture IV-CALABARZON (DA-4A) na pinangasiwaan ng Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Information Section (RAFIS) noong ika-19 ng Setyembre 2025 sa Lipa City, Batangas.

Dito ay 23 mag-aaral na mula sa ika-lima hanggang ika-anim na baitang sa CALABARZON ang nagtagisan ng galing sa poster making na may temang "Hand in Hand for Better Foods and a Better Future" mula sa Food and Agriculture Organization ng United Nations.

Tinanghal na kampeon si Anna Ria L. Marquez ng Bailen Elementary School ng General Emilio Aguinaldo, Cavite, ginawaran naman ng ikalawang parangal si Janna Soleiz R. De Ocampo ng Hilirang Buli Elementary School ng Tiaong, Quezon, at tumanggap naman ng ikatlong parangal si Cassandra Nicole G. Baning ng David P. Jimenez Elementary School ng Rosario, Cavite.

Tumanggap din ng papremyong salapi ang mga nagwagi kung saang iginawad ang labinlimang libong piso para sa kampeon, sampung libong piso para sa ikalawang parangal, limang libong piso para sa ikatlong parangal, at isang libong piso para sa consolation prize ng ibang lumahok.

Nagsilbing hurado sa naturang kompetisyon sina SAAD-CALABARZON Information Officer II Jonas Palma, RAFIS Social Media Specialist Cherish Lyn Opeña, at kilalang Children's Book Illustrator na si Mark Niño Balita.

Nagpasalamat si Anna sa lahat ng sumuporta sa kanyang pagsali sa kompetisyon at ipinangakong mas pagbutihin pa niya sa national level nito na gaganapin sa ika-15 ng Oktubre sa Quezon City. Bitbit ni Anna ang talento at bisyon ng isang kabataan na may pagpapahalaga sa sektor ng agrikultura.

(Carla Monic A. Basister, DA-4A RAFIS)

FNG at the forefront....

that grows with you

As the province grows more dynamic, it also becomes more appealing to every generation. For young professionals, it provides affordable yet well-connected housing options that bring Metro Manila closer. For growing families, it delivers masterplanned communities replete with establishments to ensure everyday convenience. And for retirees, it offers the space and greenery of suburban living without needing to sacrifice modern comforts.

Cavite's expanding consumer base and rising land values have naturally drawn the country's top developers, who have since launched mixed-use communities that rival those in Metro Manila. One development, in particular, captures the scale and ambition of Cavite's potential.

Envisioned as a self-sustaining community, the 600-ha Riverpark brings together residential enclaves, commercial hubs, lifestyle spaces, and green corridors in a sprawling integrated community rising in General Trias, Cavite.

3. The flagship of Cavite's future Those eyeing to call Riverpark home can take a look at Yume at Riverpark, an 18-ha Japanese-inspired haven launched in 2023. This promising community is being developed by Federal Land NRE Global Inc. (FNG)—a

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT CITY OF IMUS, CAVITE

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (PAG-IBIG FUND),

Assignee/Mortgagee,
-versus-
JOSEFINA P. CABALLERO married to BONIFACIO U. CABALLERO Mortgageors.

EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER ACT 3135 AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118 FC Case No. 18403-23

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118 filed by HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (PAG-IBIG FUND), mortgagee, with principal place of business at the The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, against JOSEFINA P. CABALLERO married to BONIFACIO U. CABALLERO, mortgageors, with residential and postal addresses at Lot 7 Block 1, Molino Parkhomes, Bacoor, Cavite and/or Lot 5, Block 31, Golden Villas Ph1, Calsadang Bago, Imus, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of May 15, 2023 amounts to **THREE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FORTY NINE PESOS AND 75/100 (P348,949.75)**, Philippine Currency, including interest and penalties, but excluding attorney's fees, sheriff fees and all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned will sell at public auction on **November 4, 2025** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Office of the Clerk of Court, RTC-Imus Hall of Justice, Aguinaldo Highway, Imus City, Cavite to the highest bidder, for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all improvements therein, to wit:

Transfer Certificate of Title No. 057-2010000896

LOT NO: 5, BLOCK NO: 31, PLAN NO: PSD-04-178058
PORTION OF: LOT 1309, IMUS ESTATE (RS-04-004151) LRC

REC. NO. 8843
LOCATION: BARANGAY CALSADANG BAGO, MUNICIPALITY OF IMUS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON

BOUNDARIES:		ADJOINING LOT(S)
LINE	DIRECTION	
1-2	S	ROAD LOT 1, BLOCK 31
2-3	W	LOT 4, BLOCK 31
3-4	N	LOT 25, BLOCK 31
4-1	E	LOT 6, BLOCK 31

AREA: THIRTY-SIX (36) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS

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, it shall be held on November 11, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning without further notice.

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

City of Imus, Cavite, Philippines, September 25, 2025

EMMANUELLE H. FRANCISCO
Sheriff IV
Branch 4-FC

APPROVED **ARMIE A. FRANCISCO**
Clerk of Court VI

COPY FURNISHED:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (PAG-IBIG FUND)
The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

ATTY. AMELY D. AGMATA
c/o ATTY. MICHAEL YANCY P. YNGSON
RECEIVERS AND LIQUIDATORS INC.
Unit C, 10th Floor, Strata 2000 Bldg., F. Ortigas Jr. Rd, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

JOSEFINA P. CABALLERO
married to BONIFACIO U. CABALLERO
Lot 7 Block 1, Molino Parkhomes, Bacoor, Cavite
Lot 5, Block 31, Golden Villas Ph1, Calsadang Bago, Imus, Cavite

PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
SEPTEMBER 29 – OCTOBER 6 & 13, 2025

joint venture between Federal Land Inc. and Japan's Nomura Real Estate—into a safe, serene haven where families can relax, connect, and enjoy amenities designed to support holistic well-being.

FNG now raises the bar with upcoming house-and-lot offerings at the award-winning neighborhood. Inspired by Japan's PROUD Seasons, the future homes in Yume at Riverpark are built to adapt to every life stage, making them a prime choice for homeowners and investors. Setting these apart are their thoughtful designs and efficient layouts, allowing for maximum comfort. Within the community, future residents will also be surrounded by pocket parks and open spaces, immersing them in nature, ventilation, and a distinct living experience.

FNG also launched the Riverpark North commercial lots across SM City General Trias. The rapid take-up of the first phase signaled robust demand, paving the way for the upcoming second phase. Positioned to attract a mix of retail, dining, and office establishments, these lots are set to create jobs, boost the economy, and enrich community life.

4. Smart time to invest Indeed, Cavite is just getting started. Infrastructure is improving, townships are unfolding, and property prices are still within reach. History has shown through Makati CBD and Bonifacio Global City that early movers

always win big. Cavite is clearly next, and it's moving fast! It's against this backdrop that FNG introduced its offerings in Riverpark, reflecting its confidence in Cavite's rise.

For those looking to anchor themselves in the South's dynamic growth corridor, Riverpark is no doubt the smartest investment you can make today.

Sustamina Fresh
Fresh na, Mura pa!
MEATSHOP
BEEF • PORK • CHICKEN • EGG • VEGETABLES
HACCP CERTIFIED NMIS APPROVED

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT NAIC, CAVITE rtcinaoccc@judiciary.gov.ph 0998-520-7509

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (LOVE FUND),
Mortgagee,
-versus-

RUSSELLE JANINE N. CRUZ,
Mortgagor.

FNC-2025-075 For: Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-judicial foreclosure sale under Act 3135, as Amended by Act No. 4118, filed by Mortgagee, HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (PAG-IBIG FUND), a government financial institution duly organized and existing under and by virtue of Republic Act No. 9679 with principal office and place of business at The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Loan and Mortgage Agreement ("MORTGAGE") executed and notarized on February 14, 2024 by Mortgagor, **RUSSELLE N. CRUZ** (Principal Borrower), single, of legal age, Filipino citizen, with postal residence and postal address at Lot 4 Block 11, Phase 5, East Oslo St., San Marino City, Brgy. Salawag, Dasmariñas Cavite in favor of the Mortgagee, over a real estate property including improvements thereon, described in and covered by TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 057-2024002903 of the Registry of Deeds for Province of Cavite, in order to satisfy the outstanding loan obligation of the Mortgageors in the amount of **ONE MILLION EIGHTY NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWENTY EIGHT PESOS & 27/100 (P1,089,128.27)**, inclusive of interest, penalties and other charges, as of May 09, 2025, the undersigned Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court of Cavite thru his deputy, Leonelle E. Mendoza, will sell at public auction on October 30, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, at the Office of the Ex-Officio Sheriff at the Hall of Justice formerly Mayor Macario B. Pena Memorial Hall, Naic, Cavite, to the highest bidder, for Cash or Manager's Check and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all its improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO.
057-2024002903

LOT NO: 69 BLOCK NO: 3 PLAN NO: PCS-04-031665

PORTION OF: LOTS 3030, 3039, 3040, 3041 & 3042, ALL OF NAIC ESTATE (VS-04-000597)
LOCATION: BARANGAY OF TIMALAN MUSICIPALITY OF NAIC, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON

BOUNDARIES:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2	NE	LOT 12, BLOCK 3, PCS-04-031665
2-3	SE	LOT 68, BLOCK 3, PCS-04-031665
3-4	SW	ROAD LOT 29, PCS-04-031665
4-1	NW	LOT 70, BLOCK 3, PCS-04-031665

AREA: FIFTY-FOUR (54) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on November 06, 2025 without further notice.

Prospective bidders or buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate and verify for themselves the TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. (T-057-2024002903) the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

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

Naic, Cavite, Philippines, August 14, 2025,

REUEL SANTOS JIMENEZ
Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff

LEONELLE. MENDOZA
Sheriff-in-Charge

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Extra Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale

Copy Furnished:

ATTY. AMELY D. AGMATA
c/o ATTY. MELANIO A. BADENAS
Aif, GCCS & ASSOCIATES CORP
RM. 209 Megastate Bldg. 737 G. Araneta Ave., Tatalon, Quezon City

RUSSELLE JANINE N. CRUZ
Lot 4 Bk 11 Phase 5 East Oslo St., Brgy. Salawag Dasmariñas, Cavite
and Lot 69 Block 3 Pagsibol Village South Timalan Naic, Cavite

Publication: PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
Dates: SEPTEMBER 29 – OCTOBER 6 & 13, 2025

OOPESM Empowers Youth through SPES Orientation in Silang

In line with its commitment to provide meaningful opportunities for the youth, the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPESM), in partnership with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), successfully held an orientation for the Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES) on September 18, 2025, at McDonald's Highway, Silang, Cavite. A total of 55 beneficiaries took part in the activity, gaining valuable knowledge about the program's objectives, benefits, and guidelines. The SPES, a



flagship initiative that bridges education and employment, aims to assist students in pursuing their studies while acquiring essential workplace experience. The joint effort of OPESM and DOLE highlights the Provincial Government's continuing commitment to empower the youth by creating opportunities that provide both financial support and professional growth.--R. Dones

ANG INYONG KAPULISAN DITO SA CAVITE AY NAKAHANDANG TUMUGON PARA SA KALIGTASAN NG PUBLIKO SA GITNANG BAGYONG 'OPONG'



Ang Cavite Police Provincial Office sa pamumuno ni PCOL ARIEL R RED, Acting Provincial Director, ay kasalukuyang naka-alerto at mahigpit na nagmomonitor para sa mga posibleng rescue operations dulot ng bagyong 'OPONG.'

Katuwang ang iba't ibang ahensya ng pamahalaan, nakahanda ang Cavite PPO sa pagtugon upang matiyak ang kaligtasan at seguridad ng bawat Caviteño kung kinakailangan ang agarang pagliligtas at pagresponde sa mga apektadong lugar.

Ayon kay PCOL ARIEL R RED, Acting Provincial Director ng Cavite PPO:

"Mahigpit pong nagmomonitor ang ating Cavite Police at nakahanda para sa mga posibleng rescue operations dulot ng bagyong 'OPONG.' Kaisa po namin ang iba't ibang ahensya ng pamahalaan upang masiguro ang kaligtasan at kapakanan ng ating mga kababayan."

Nananawagan kami sa publiko na makipagtulungan at sumunod sa mga paalala ng awtoridad upang matiyak ang kaligtasan ng lahat.

Maging alerto at laging handa sa banta ng bagyong "OPONG."

Calabarzon logs high ICT access, digital use

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna – More households and individuals in Calabarzon are gaining access to digital technologies, reflecting the region's growing shift toward online connectivity and electronic transactions, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).

Charity Bautista, officer in charge of the Statistical Operations and Coordination Division, PSA 4-A, bared during the 2024 National Information and Communications Technology Household Survey (NICTHS) forum on Monday that 95.8 percent of mobile phone users in the region owned smartphones, higher than the national average of 93 percent and up from 81.5 percent in 2019.

Use of basic cellular phones dropped to 4.7 percent from 20.9 percent. Internet use also expanded significantly, with 53.2 percent of households reporting home connections in 2024, compared to 24.2 percent in 2019. Individual internet users rose to 71.4 percent, more than double the 33.1 percent recorded in 2019.

Electronic or mobile money account holders likewise grew sharply from 5.1 percent in 2019 to 43.6 percent in 2024, while online buying and selling accounts increased from 7.9 percent to 38.3 percent.

"About one in every five internet users sold goods or services to earn money," PSA 4-A Statistical Specialist II Jan Irvin Mark A. Sison said during the forum.

He added that more than half of internet users considered their mobile devices as the most effective source of information on disaster preparedness. (PNA)