

DOTr: Bulacan airport terminal starts construction in January 2026

MANILA, Philippines — The passenger terminal building (PTB) of the Bulacan airport will begin construction in January next year, putting the project on track for completion by late 2028, according to the Department of Transportation.

DOTr Secretary Vince Dizon told The STAR that San Miguel Aerocity Inc. (SMAI) has committed to start the construction of the New Manila International Airport (NMIA)'s PTB by January 2026.

If SMAI manages to stay within this timeline, Dizon said the first phase of the airport should be completed and operational by November 2028.

"Completion of Phase 1, which will enable the airport to accommodate



35 million passengers per annum, remains to be November 2028, and operations will start right after that. DOTr is closely monitoring the implementation of NMIA PPP (public-private partnership)," Dizon said.

SMAI is currently developing the land where the airport and its facilities will be built. SMAI, a subsidiary of San Miguel Holdings Corp. under San Miguel Corp. (SMC), manages the 50-year con-

cession for the build-operate-transfer of NMIA.

However, SMC chairman and CEO Ramon Ang said SMAI has faced problems acquiring sand for land development as a result of a presidential order in 2023 to stop all reclamation projects in Manila Bay.

Ang said the issue would force SMAI to spend hundreds of millions of dollars more to construct NMIA on top of the original plan.

PROPOSED PLAYGROUND AND SENIOR CITIZENS' PARK



The proposed project aims to develop a combined recreational space that caters to both children and senior citizens, promoting intergenerational engagement and community well-being. The playground will feature modern, safe play equipment designed for various age groups, encouraging physical activity and social interaction among children.



Adjacent to the playground, the senior citizens' park will offer walk-

ing paths, shaded seating areas, exercise stations tailored for older adults, and serene landscaping to support relaxation and healthy aging. This inclusive space will serve as a community hub, fostering a sense of belonging, enhancing quality of life, and encouraging active lifestyles for all ages.

groups. "A goal without a plan is just a wish"

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BYD BACOOR GRANDLY INAUGURATED, MARKING EXPANSION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE MARKET IN THE CITY

Bacoor City - BYD Bacoor, the first branch of the electric vehicle (EV) manufacturer in the city, was officially inaugurated today, marking a significant milestone in the expansion of the EV market in Bacoor. The grand opening ceremony was led by BYD Bacoor officials, with Mayor Strike B. Revilla as the guest of honor.



Joining Mayor Strike B. Revilla were Mr. Dennis Salvador, Chief Operating Officer of Iconic Dealer Shop Inc., Ms. Lovelyn Labrador, Deputy General Manager of BYD Philippines, Mr. Jaime Alfonso Zobel De Ayala, COO of AC Mobility, Mr. Antonio "Toti" Zara III, AC Mobility, and Mr. Bob Palanca, BYD Philippines. The event was attended by BYD Philippines officials and employees, AC Mobility officials, banking partners, and Iconic dealers.

The new BYD villa as the guest of honor. The event was attended by BYD Philippines officials and employees, AC Mobility officials, banking partners, and Iconic dealers.

MAYOR STRIKE B. REVILLA JOINS MAX'S RESTAURANT IN SM MOLINO FOR GRAND RE-LAUNCHING

Bacoor City, - Mayor Strike B. Revilla joined the Max's Restaurant community today for the grand re-launching of their branch in SM Molino. The event, organized by Max's Restaurant, saw the Mayor participate in the ribbon-cutting ceremony and the symbolic chicken slicing, marking a fresh start for the beloved restaurant.



The re-launching was attended by various community leaders, Max's Village officers, customers, and Max's employees, all eager to celebrate the renewed dining experience.

Mr. Joseph Forrosuelo, Mall Manager, and Mr. John Mendoza, Store Manager, welcomed the guests, highlighting the restaurant's commitment to providing delicious food and excellent service.

The event also saw the presence of Max's Restaurant officials, including Ms. Carlyn Trota Salud, Ms. Cristina Trota Garcia, Mr. Bill Rodgers, Mr. Paolo Salud, and Ms. Kay Lee, who joined in the celebration. The re-launching of Max's Restaurant in SM Molino signifies a renewed commitment to serving the Bacoor community, offering a familiar and comfortable dining experience with a fresh new look.

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EXTENSION OF MUNICIPAL HALL WITH PARKING AND TERMINAL

The proposed project involves the strategic extension of the existing Municipal Hall to enhance administrative operations and strengthen the delivery of essential public services. A key component of this expansion includes the construction of dedicated office spaces for the Office of the Senior Citizens Affairs (OSCA) and the Municipal



Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO). These offices will be designed for accessibility and efficiency, ensuring a more inclusive environment for senior citizens and marginalized sectors.

Moreover, the plan includes the establishment of a modern public transport terminal, designed to accommodate local transport services. This terminal will provide an organized, secure, and commuter-friendly space to support the growing transportation demands of the municipality.

In response to increasing vehicular activity and space constraints, the project will also feature the development of a parking facility to improve traffic flow and provide adequate parking for employees, visitors, and service vehicles.

Gov't to install wheelchair lifts at EDSA busway stations



MANILA — All EDSA Busway stations will have a wheelchair lift to accommodate persons with disability, senior citizens, and pregnant women, Malacañang said on Thursday.

Presidential Communications Office Undersecretary and Palace Press Officer Claire Castro said the installation of el-

evators was in accordance with President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s directive to improve the public's commuting experience.

"Lalagyan na ng wheelchair lift ang lahat ng EDSA busway station para makatulong po ito sa mga pasahero na may kapaanan o PWDs (All EDSA busway stations will be equipped with wheelchair

lift to help passengers with disabilities or PWDs)," Castro said in a Palace press briefing.

Castro said the government did not spend money for the construction of the wheelchair lifts because the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA) requested it from the contractor.

Transportation Secretary Vince Dizon and MMDA Chairperson Romando Artes on Tuesday

PHILHEALTH AND DEPED FORGE PARTNERSHIP TO ENSURE HEALTH COVERAGE

FOR ALL LEARNERS In a significant step towards ensuring the health and well-being of public school students, the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) and the Department of Education (DepEd) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on May 8, 2025 at the Department of Education head office in Pasig City. The partnership aligns with the mandate of President Ferdinand Marcos, Jr.'s over-all accessibility of government services to learners, teaching and non-teaching personnel in academic institutions.



Under the agreement, DepEd will adopt mechanisms necessary for PhilHealth registration, transforming schools into health-promoting learning environments and school clinics into efficient providers of primary care. By making sure that all enrolled learners are properly registered with PhilHealth, affordable and

quality health services will become more accessible to children. Moreover, PhilHealth commits to facilitate the registration of not only the learners but also their families to a Konsulta Package Provider for them to access primary care services.

"The future this landmark partnership offers is one with healthier children that will transition to adults with better

MPT South Kicks Off Road Safety Month with 'Drayberks: Ready 4 Safety' Campaign



With the goal of building a safer future on Philippine roads, Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPT South) marked Road Safety Month by unveiling its latest theme for road safety advocacy campaign "Drayberks: Ready 4 Safety," in a ceremonial launch held at the Golden Phoenix Hotel in Pasay City.

Over 100 stakeholders from both the public and private sectors attended the celebration, in partnership with national agencies including the Department of Transportation (DOTr), Toll Regulatory

Board (TRB), Land Transportation Office (LTO), Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), Metropolitan Manila Development Authority (MMDA), PNP Highway Patrol Group Region IV-A, Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA), and PEA Tollway Corporation (PEATC). Local government units in Metro Manila and CALABARZON also joined the celebration, including representatives from Taguig, Parañaque, Pasay, Las Piñas, Bacoor, Imus, Kawit, General Trias, Dasmariñas, Silang, Santa

logistics sector. Mr. Jose Ma. K. Lim, the President and CEO of Metro Pacific Toll-

Mga Mabisang Tips Kapag Masakit ang Balikat

Ang pananakit ng balikat ay maaaring sanhi ng iba't ibang salik gaya ng overuse o labis na paggamit, injury, maling postura, o kaya'y sakit sa kasukasan tulad ng arthritis o tendonitis. Narito ang ilang mabisang paraan upang maibsan ang pananakit ng balikat at mapabilis ang paggaling:

1. Ipahinga ang Balikat

Ang unang hakbang ay ang pagpapahinga sa masakit na bahagi. Iwasan muna ang mga aktibidad na maaaring magpalala ng pananakit gaya ng pagbubuhay ng mabibigat na bagay, pag-akyat ng matataas, o madalas na paggalaw ng apektadong braso. Limitahan ang mga ganitong gawain sa loob ng apat hanggang pitong araw. Sa panahong ito, hayaan munang maghilom ang nasirang kalamnan o kasukasan. Mahalaga ang pahinga upang hindi lumala ang pinsala at maiwasan ang karagdagang pamamaga.

2. Gamitin ang Cold Pack at Hot Pack

Para sa mga unang dalawa hanggang tatlong araw, mainam na gumamit ng cold pack upang mabawasan ang pamamaga at pamumula. Balutin ang yelo sa malinis na towel at ipatong ito sa balikat ng 15 hanggang 20 minuto kada oras, depende sa antas ng pananakit. Ulitin ito kada oras kung kinakailangan.

Pagkatapos ng ilang araw, kung humupa na ang pamamaga, maaari nang lumipat sa hot compress o heating pad. Ang init ay tumutulong para lumuwag ang paninigas at mapagaan ang paninikip ng kalamnan. Ngunit tandaan, huwag lalampas sa 20 minuto ang paglalagay ng init upang maiwasan ang iritasyon ng balat o karagdagang pinsala.

3. Uminom ng Over-the-Counter na Gamot

Maaaring gumamit ng pampawala ng sakit tulad ng ibuprofen, paracetamol, o topical pain relievers. Ang mga ito ay makakatulong upang pansamantalang maibsan ang kirot at pamamaga. Ngunit gamitin lamang ito sa loob ng ilang araw, at sundin ang tamang dosage. Kung may allergy o may ibang iniinom na gamot, makabubuting kumonsulta muna sa doktor.

4. Gumawa ng Magagaan na Stretching Exercises

Pagkatapos ng isa o dalawang araw, simulan ang banayad na paggalaw ng balikat upang mapanatili ang flexibility at maiwasan ang paninigas ng mga joints. Ang simpleng stretching at range-of-motion exercises ay makakatulong upang maibalik ang normal na galaw ng kasukasan. Siguraduhing hindi masasaktan habang ginagawa ang ehersisyo, at huwag pilitin kung nakakaramdam pa rin ng matinding sakit. Maaaring gawin ang mga sumusunod:

Pag-ikot ng balikat (shoulder rolls)

Pag-abot ng braso sa harap at itaas (arm raises)

Wall crawling gamit ang mga daliri

Kapag humupa na ang sakit, maaari nang magdagdag ng strengthening exercises upang mapatatag ang muscles ng balikat at maiwasan ang pag-ulit ng pinsala.

5. Unti-unting Bumalik sa Dating Aktibidad

Huwag biglain ang pagbabalik sa normal na gawain, lalo na kung ito ang sanhi ng pananakit. Maghintay hanggang tuluyang mawala ang sakit at paninigas. Para sa maraming tao, tatlo hanggang anim na linggo ang kinakailangan upang tuluyang gumaling ang balikat, depende sa tindi ng pinsala.

Simulan sa magagaan na aktibidad at unahin muna ang mga simpleng kilos bago muling bumalik sa mas matitinding gawain gaya ng pagbubuhay, sports, o trabaho na nangangailangan ng paggamit ng braso. Kung makaramdam ng muling pananakit, huminto at magpahinga muli.

6. Maging Maingat sa Paglalaro ng Sports

Kung ang pananakit ng balikat ay nauugnay sa mga sports gaya ng tennis, golf, baseball, o swimming, mahalagang suriin ang porma at galaw habang naglalaro. Maaaring hindi akma ang iyong teknik, o kaya nama'y sobrang paggamit ng balikat. Sa ganitong mga kaso:

Magpahinga muna sa nasabing sport.

Isaalang-alang ang pagbabago ng laro o teknik.

Kumonsulta sa physical therapist o coach para sa tamang form at paggalaw.

Magsuot ng shoulder support kung inirerekomenda ng espesyalista.

Karagdagang Paalala

Kung ang pananakit ay hindi mawala sa loob ng ilang linggo, o lumalala pa habang nagpapahinga, magpatingin sa doktor.

Ingatan ang postura lalo na kung nagtatrabaho ng matagal sa harap ng computer. Iwasan ang biglaang kilos o pagbubuhay ng biglaang mabibigat.

Ang maagang pagtugon sa pananakit ng balikat ay mahalaga upang makaiwas sa chronic injury. Sa tamang pahinga, pag-aalaga, at exercise, makakamit ang tuloy-tuloy na paggaling.

LEE RECEIVES IPAO 'PRESIDENTIAL AWARD' FOR CHAMPIONING EYE AND VISION CARE, FREE OPTOMETRIC SERVICES

AGRI Party-list Rep. Manoy Wilbert Lee expressed gratitude for being conferred the Presidential Award by the Integrated Philippine Association of Optometrists (IPAO) in recognition of his fight for the inclusion of optometric services in the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation's (PhilHealth) coverage that will benefit millions of Filipinos, including children.

According to IPAO, this makes the Philippines the first country in the world to provide insurance for optometric services and free prescription eyeglasses to address the problem of avoidable blindness among Filipinos.

The award was given to Lee during the IPAO Midyear Convention on Tuesday.

"Maraming salamat po sa pagkilalang ito na talagang nakakataba ng puso. This kind of accolade makes our work worthwhile, sa pakikipaglaban natin para sa nararapat na mga serbisyong pangkalusugan para sa mga Pilipino, na human-tong pa nga sa pang-aagaw natin ng mic," Lee said in his speech after receiving the award.

"Nagbibigay po ito ng panibagong inspirasyon. Pero sabi ko nga po, hindi po ninyo kailangan magpasalamat. As much as I appreciate this award, I am just doing my duty and mandate to you and the Filipino people,"

he added.

It can be recalled that as early as March 5, 2024, Lee filed House Resolution (HR) No. 1623 urging PhilHealth to include optometric services in its benefit package.

According to IPAO President Dr. Charlie Ho, Lee's HR 1623 "paved the way and advocated for Filipinos' right to comprehensive optometric services and free prescription eyeglasses to improve productivity and reduce the financial burden of Filipinos."

Free optometric services and prescription glasses are among the health commitments secured by Lee and signed by Department of Health (DOH) Secretary Ted Herbosa and then PhilHealth President and Chief Executive Officer Emmanuel Ledesma Jr. before the approval of the 2025 DOH budget that ended in a mic scuffle on September 25, 2024 at the House of Representatives.

A staunch health advocate, Lee urged optometrists to take action and work out their PhilHealth accreditation to be able to help many of our countrymen, especially the 41.4 million Filipinos experiencing vision problems.

The Bicolano lawmaker then vowed to continue fighting for his advocacies to ease the burden and concerns of Filipino families on falling ill, as they fear sinking further into poverty due to their inability to pay for medicines and hospital bills.

"Hindi man pinalad ang AGRI Party-list nitong nakaraang eleksyon, wala pong magbabago. In my personal capacity, I will continue to fight for our shared advocacies—to continuously expand PhilHealth's benefit package with the end goal of achieving Universal Health Care," Lee said.

"Tuloy-tuloy lang tayo sa ating laban para sa libreng gamot at pagpapagamot. Mahalaga po ang papel ng IPAO dito, at alam ko na kasama ko kayo sa laban na ito. Laban natin itong lahat," he concluded. ###

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MPT South Kicks...

ways Corporation (MPTC), delivered the welcome remarks. He emphasized the critical role expressway operators play not just in building infrastructure, but also in promoting a culture of safety on and beyond their roads. He stated, "This project is just one of the many ways MPTC demonstrates its unwavering commitment to the safety of all road users. We believe that true progress in road safety comes through collaboration—by working hand-in-hand with government, private partners, and the communities we serve."

The main event was the unveiling of the new Road Safety Campaign of MPT South, "Drayberks: Ready 4 Safety" Campaign, which was led by Ms. Arlette V. Capistrano, MPT South Vice President

for Communication and Stakeholder Management. The Drayberks program, first introduced in 2018, has evolved into a well-regarded platform for promoting road discipline.

Now in its sixth year, Drayberks has been recognized as a model road safety program, most recently earning a Bronze Stevie® Award in the Innovation in Communications/Public Relations category at the 2025 Asia-Pacific Stevie Awards. With the refreshed Ready 4 Safety campaign, MPT South aims to reach drivers of all classifications—from public utility drivers and logistics operators to private motorists—through updated modules grounded in four key points: Responsible driving, expressway rules, pre-trip vehicle inspection,

BYD BACOOR GRANDLY...

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Bacoor branch, strategically located at Molino Boulevard, Barangay Bayanan, is poised to cater to the growing demand for EVs in the city and surrounding areas. The inauguration highlights the City Government's commitment to promoting sustainable transportation and supporting the development of the EV industry in Bacoor.

The opening of BYD Bacoor signifies a

major step towards a greener and more sustainable future for Bacoor, as the city embraces the transition to electric vehicles and contributes to a cleaner environment. The event also underscores the growing confidence in the EV market, with BYD's expansion reflecting the increasing popularity of electric vehicles among Filipino consumers.

MPT DriveHub SAFE RIDE, FREE LOAD! FREE P100 RFID LOAD Get CTPL Insurance via the app now! M PIONEER INSURANCE For more details visit the MPT DriveHub website. Promo runs from March 15, 2025 to August 6, 2025. Per DTI Fair FTB-216239 Series of 2025

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and practicing discipline on the road.

"'Ready 4 Safety' strengthens our promise to equip every driver with the knowledge and values needed to navigate roads safely—not only for their own benefit, but for everyone's," Capistrano shared during the unveiling.

The event culminated in a powerful moment as participants stood together to recite the Drayberks Pledge, led by MPT South OIC Elnora D. Rumawak. This collective commitment to safe, disciplined, and responsible driving was further solidified with a symbolic pledge signing, uniting government agencies, transport groups, and local leaders under one shared goal.

As the curtains

closed on this milestone celebration, MPT South reaffirmed its mission: that beyond building roads, it is building a culture of safety, accountability, and readiness—one driver, one community at a time.

About MPT South MPT South is a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the infrastructure arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC). Beyond its management of the CALAX and CAVITEX networks, MPTC's domestic portfolio encompasses concessions for the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), the NLEX Connector Road, the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX), and the Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in Cebu.

PHILHEALTH...

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health-seeking behavior," said PhilHealth Acting President and CEO Dr. Edwin M. Mercado. This strategic shift towards preventive care for students also aims to improve overall learning and productivity with lesser absences and lower medical costs for children with chronic conditions.

DepEd Secretary Juan Edgardo M. Angara expressed the agency's support for the initiative,

"This is what we envisioned when we passed the Universal Health Care. Importante ay may tiwala ang tao na makakuha sila ng serbisyo."

This partnership aligns with the government's broader goals of achieving Universal Health Care. In ensuring we provide quality healthcare for our children, we set the stage for improving the health and well-being of all Filipinos.

Ang Heatstroke ay malubha at nakamamatay! SINTOMAS NG HEAT STROKE Pagkahilo Lagnat Pangangalay Mainit at namumulang balat Pagkawalang malay Sa Bagong Pilipinas: Bawat Buhay Mahalaga

GUHIT NG KAPALARAN

GEMINI: (May.21-Hun.21) – Gumawa ng pasya na makakabuti para sa sariling kapaka-nan, kung palagi ang problema mo dahil sa pagiging irresponsible ng ka-partner. Huwag manghina-yang na mawala siya sa'yo. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 18, 23, 30, 41 at blue.

CANCER: (Hun.22-Hul.22) – Wala kang dapat alalahanin, sapat ka sa lahat ng bagay huwag lamang pasukan ng malas. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 22, 13, 17, 28 at turquoise.

LEO: (Hul.23-Ago.22) – Tumupad ka sa iyong pangako nang sa ga-yon hindi na Maulit ang pagtampo sa iyo ng minamahal. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 02, 22, 31, 41 at green.

VIRGO: (Ago.23-Set.23) – Hindi masama ang makatulong pero tiyak na masagana at may sobra na maa-ring ipamahagi sa iba. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 08, 15, 24, 35 at blue.

LIBRA: (Set.24-Okt.23) – Magiging istablisado ang tungkol sa trabaho at pag-ibig kaya walang dapat alalahanin tungkol dito. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 04, 18, 28, 34 jade green.

SCORPIO: (Okt.24-Nob.22) – Iwasan muna ang plano't balak sa pagla-lakbay dahil negatibo ang resulta sa pakay. Maging alerto. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 07, 15, 35, 36 at purple.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nob.23-Dis.21) – Kayang-kaya mo magantihan ang kabutihan ng tao na na-ging karamay mo sa problema noon. Gawin ito. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 02, 18, 28, 36 at indigo.

CAPRICORN: (Dis.22-Ene.19) – Kung may mag-aalok ng magandang pagkakakitaan, pag-aralan muna bago sunggaban. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 02, 10, 18, 41 at red.

AQUARIUS: (Ene.20-Peb.18) – Isang Sagittarius ang magbibigay ng sakit ng ulo mo ngayon. Lilibangin ka naman ng isang Taurus. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 04, 10, 24, 30 at avocado green.

PISCES: (Peb.19-Mar.20) – Bugbog sarado ka ngayon sa mga "marites." Aminin kung totoo, maging ito ay tama o mali. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 11, 20, 37, 39 at white.

ARIES: (Mar.21-Abr.19) – Ang simpleng pamumuhay ang mas makapagpaligaya sa iyo. Maging magaan ang pananalapi. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 06, 09, 23, 38 at magenta.

TAURUS: (Abr.20-May.20) – Ang paglalaro o makipagtsismisan sa oras ng trabaho lalo na kung nag-o-overtime ay dapat iwasan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 04, 14, 28, 38 at lavender.

DA directed to expedite support to local farmers, fishers

MANILA – Agriculture Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel Jr. on Monday pushed for the fast delivery of programs supporting local farmers and fishers in the country in line with the food security, accessibility, and affordability targets of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s administration.

"Let us do our part because every day we spend in public service is a day truly felt by those who need it most," he said in a statement for the celebration of Farmers and Fisherfolk Month.

Tiu Laurel said the programs include increasing the National Food Authority's (NFA) buying price for palay (unhusked rice), which ranges from PHP23/kg to PHP30/kg for dry palay; and PHP17/kg to PHP23/kg for fresh or wet palay to boost the income of local farmers.

He also mentioned the modernization of NFA through additional



warehouses and post-harvest facilities; tripling of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund to PHP30 billion; and scaling up of the AgriPuhunan and Pantawid (agricultural capital and assistance) program and the Agricultural Credit Policy Council.

On April 30, Tiu Laurel also announced the target operationalization of the DA Command Center by the third quarter of the year to help monitor and track supply and include data on agricultural commodities.

To date, he said the DA is advancing the change of cropping calendar to prevent massive agricultural losses due to

natural calamities; adoption of wet-and-dry technology for rice cropping; improvement of climate-resilient crop varieties; establishment of greenhouses; use of drip irrigation and fertigation; procurement of farm machinery to reduce post-harvest losses; and establishment of cold storage facilities, among others.

In terms of rice processing centers nationwide, the DA logged 150 constructed centers since the start of the Marcos administration in June 2022.

The DA plans to build 22 and 30 more rice processing centers this year and in 2026, respectively. (PNA)

DepEd new teaching posts seen as investment in quality education

MANILA – Senators Joel Villanueva and Sherwin Gatchalian on Tuesday hailed the approval of 16,000 new teaching positions, framing the move as a strategic investment in strengthening the education system and securing the nation's long-term development.

Villanueva, the commissioner of the Second Congressional Commission on Education (ED-COM II), said hiring more educators is not merely about filling vacancies but empowering the next generation with quality instruction that can uplift communities and drive national progress.

"We're not just hiring teachers. We're building the foundation for a more skilled, competitive and enlightened Filipino workforce," he said in a statement.

"With 18 million Filipinos still functionally illiterate, this investment is



long overdue."

Villanueva also pointed out that adding educators is crucial to easing classroom burdens, particularly in remote and underserved areas where teacher-to-student ratios remain alarmingly high.

To further boost teacher quality, Villanueva cited Republic Act 11713 or Excellence in Teacher Education Act, which enhances teacher training, offers scholarships and promotes career-long professional development.

Gatchalian, ED-COM II co-chairperson, noted that the additional positions will help improve learning outcomes by en-

suring that students receive adequate attention and instruction, particularly as the country confronts learning losses amplified by the pandemic.

He warned, however, that the benefits of the new posts hinge on the Department of Education's (DepEd) ability to streamline its hiring process.

"The new teaching items are only as effective as our ability to fill them promptly with qualified educators," he said, renewing his call for DepEd to revise its recruitment rules to shorten the current six-month average hiring time. (PNA)

More execs under OP submit courtesy resignation

MANILA – More officials under the Office of the President, including Presidential Adviser Larry Gadon, as well as the heads of the Presidential Management Staff (PMS) and the Presidential Legislative Liaison Office (PLLO), joined the government executives who tendered their courtesy resignations on Thursday.

Gadon said he resigned from his post in line with President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s directive to realign government with the people's expectations.

Gadon said he is grateful for the trust and confidence Marcos has extended to him.

"It has been an honor to serve under your leadership and in service to the Filipino people," he said in his resignation letter.

PMS Secretary Elaine Masukat confirmed in a statement that she submitted her resignation "in faithful compliance" with Marcos' directive.

"I remain committed to serving the Filipino people with integrity, wherever duty may call," Masukat said.

PLLO head Secretary Mark Llandro Mendoza, who also serves as Presidential Adviser on Legislative Affairs, said his resignation takes effect "immediately."

"I am also endorsing all the necessary and pertinent tasks, duties, files, and records, under my accountability as part of my turn-over," Mendoza said.

Mendoza said it is a pleasure and an honor to work with Marcos and his administration.

He said the fruitful collaboration with Congress and proactive advocacy campaign of the Marcos administration have made significant impact that led to the "immediate and remarkable passage" of major legislative priorities.

"I wish to express my sincere gratitude for the opportunity to serve the country through the PLLO under your legislative guidance and leadership," Mendoza said.

"As we approach the incoming 20th Congress, we look forward to the enactment of more productive, reform-driven, and people-centered measures which are in line with Your Excellency's core policies and programs under the banner of Bagong Pilipinas." (PNA)

24 FCAs sa CALABARZON, tampok sa Farmer's and Fisherfolk's Month Trade Fair sa Laguna

Tampok ang 24 samahan ng mga magsasaka at mangingisda mula sa rehiyon ng CALABARZON sa Farmer's & Fisherfolk's Month Celebration Trade Fair and Exhibit cum KADIWA na isinagawa noong ika-17 hanggang ika-18 ng Mayo sa Sta. Rosa, Laguna.

Ipinagmalaki sa naturang aktibidad ang mga de-kalidad at sariwang produktong lokal mula sa mga magsasaka at mangingisda na direktang naipagbili at nailapit sa merkado sa pamamagitan ng KADIWA.

Layunin nito na gawing abot-kaya at madaling ma-access ang pagkain habang pinapalakas ang kita ng mga lokal na prodyuser.

Kabilang din sa mga isinagawang aktibidad ang oryentasyon ukol sa akreditasyon para sa mga nais maging KADIWA Program Consolidator at Sup-



plier. Isa ring mahalagang bahagi ng programa ang presentasyon ng Farmers and Fisherfolk Enterprise Development Information System na naglalayong palawakin ang kaalaman ng mga lumahok sa pag-nenegosyo at paggamit ng datos sa pagpapaunlad ng kanilang kabuhayan.

Pinangunahan ito ng #DACalabarzon Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division, at dinaluhan nina Farmer Regional Executive Director G. Gaudencio Genil; OIC-Regional Technical

Director for Research, Regulations, and ILD Editha Salvosa; OIC-Regional Technical Director for Operations Engr. Redelliza Gruezo; at Field Operations Division OIC-Chief Felix Joselito Noceda, kasama ang iba pang mga kawani ng ahensya.

Ang aktibidad ay bahagi ng mas malawak na inisyatibo ng Kagawaran upang kilalanin at patatagin ang sektor ng agrikultura at pangisdaan ngayong Buwan ng Magsasaka at Mangingisda. ##### (Carla Monic A. Basister, DA-4A RAFIS)

DICT begins assessment for free WiFi rollout at MRT-3

MANILA – The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) has started technical assessment and preparatory planning for the installation of free WiFi models in all trains and stations of the Metro Rail Transit Line 3 (MRT-3).

In a statement on Tuesday, the DICT announced the dispatch of teams from its Free WiFi for All (FWFA) Program in coordination with executives from the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the MRT-3 to begin the proj-

ect's groundworks.

The free WiFi program is an initiative under President Ferdinand R. Marcos' Bagong Pilipinas to provide free connectivity to the hundreds of thousands of commuters daily in Metro Manila's busiest rail service.

"A Memorandum of Agreement is also in the works, signaling the project's swift transition from announcement to action," the DICT said.

"Whether a student reviews lessons or a delivery rider tracks updates mid-route or a

worker accesses online services, the government under President Marcos is empowering the everyday Filipino to thrive in a connected world."

On April 22, DICT Secretary Henry Aguda announced plans to enhance the free WiFi coverage in the MRT-3 and boost the rail line's services by adopting cashless fare payments and improved security.

The free WiFi program is planned to be initially rolled out in all MRT-3 stations, with a long-term goal of expanding WiFi access even inside trains. (PNA)

Group Enrollment Program, Isinusulong ng PhilHealth

PRO IV-A News Release No. 2025-06 Isinagawa ng PhilHealth Regional Office IVA ang serye ng oryentasyon ukol sa group enrollment na dinaluhan ng mga HR practitioners at kinatawan ng mga LGUs, National

Government Agencies at iba pang pribadong institusyon.

Ang Group Enrollment Program o GEP ng PhilHealth ay isang alternatibong paraan para sa mga organisadong grupo, National Government Agencies na mapadali ang pagbibigay ng PhilHealth coverage sa mga Job Order Contract Workers, seasonal employees o ang mga walang tinatawag na employer-employee relationship sa ilalim ng batas.

Batay sa PhilHealth Circular 2017-0008, mandatory ang coverage ng mga indibidwal na directly hired Job Orders (JOs) at Project Based Contractors (PBCs) sa gobyerno bilang miyembro ng PhilHealth sa ilalim ng Informal Economy. Sa ilalim din nito, binibigyan ng kapangyarihan ang mga employers na magbawas at mag-remit ng premium contributions nga mga naturang empleyado bilang Individually Paying Members o Self Earning Individuals sa ilalim ng Group Enrollment Scheme.

Ang mga Local Government Agencies, National Government Agencies at pribadong institusyon na nagpakita ng intensyon na sumali sa implementasyon ng Group Enrollment Program ay kinakailangan na magsumite ng mga sumusunod na dokumento:

1. Pirmadong Memorandum of Agreement or Letter of Commitment at
2. Non-Disclosure



Agreement

Matapos, makapagpa-rehistro, magi-isyu ng PhilHealth Organized Group Number (POGN) na magsisilbing pagkakakilanlan ng kanilang grupo. Ang POGN din ang gagamitin sa pagpaparehistro o renewal ng mga taong nakalista sa programa at pagbabayad ng kanilang premium contributions.

Lahat ng Pilipinong indibidwal na hindi kasapi ng National Health Insurance Program ay maaaring mai-enroll sa Group Enrollment Program na hindi limitado sa mga sumusunod:

1. Contract of Service (COS), Job order and Project-based personnel
2. Miyembro ng mga microfinance institutions at iba pang organisadong grupo
3. Self-earning individuals
4. Professional practitioners

5. LGU constituents na nabibilang sa may mababang sahod, barangay health workers, nutrition scholars at iba pang mga nagtatrabaho ng boluntaryo sa barangay

6. Estudyante na edad na 21 at pataas

Sa pagpaparehistro, ang mga group partners ay kinakailangang magsumite sa PhilHealth ng listahan ng kanilang naisali sa programa kalakip ang napunan na PhilHealth Member Registration Form (PMRF) at mga kaulang dokumento.

Sa mga kaso na

may mga indibidwal na may intensyon na mag withdraw ng kanilang pagiging miyembro, ang mga group partners ay dapat agarang ipahayag ang kanilang pag withdraw at magpasa ng Group Enrollment Withdrawal Form.

Ang premium contribution sa ilalim ng Group Enrollment Program ay naaayon sa PhilHealth Circular 2020-0005 na base sa idineklarang kita ng miyembro sa pamamagitan ng group partner.

Ang mga group partners ay regular na e-bill sa pamamagitan ng pagbibigay ng Statement of Premium Account (SPA) na maaaring monthly, quarterly, semi-annually at annually. Ito ay maaaring bayaran sa mga Local Health Insurance Offices o Accredited Collecting Agents na awtomatikong papasok sa indibidwal account ng mga miyembro.

Ang mga indibidwal na gagamit ng benepisyo ng PhilHealth ay bibigyan ng Certificate of Premium Payment na maaaring maging batayan kung updated ang kanyang kontribusyon sa PhilHealth.

Sa kasalukuyan, mayroon nang 42 group partners at 1,210 miyembro sa ilalim ng Group Enrollment Program.

Sa mga grupo or organisasyon na nais mapabilang sa GEP, maaaring makipag-ugnayan sa aling-mang tanggapan ng PhilHealth sa inyong lugar. ### (JDB)

EXPRESSWAY

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 New Justice Hall, J.P. Rizal Avenue,
 Kaybagal South, Tagaytay City

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND
 (otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund),
 Mortgagee,

-versus-
VICTOR C. ONG married to **JOCELYN B. ONG**,
 Mortgagors,

EJF NO. TG-23-115
FOR: Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of
Real Estate Mortgage under Act No.
3135 as amended by Act No. 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 (otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund)**, a government financial institution duly organized and existing under the laws of the Philippines, 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 July 7, 1998 by Mortgagors, **VICTOR C. ONG** married to **JOCELYN B. ONG**, both of legal age, Filipino citizen, with residence and postal addresses at (1) No. 702 Tiaga St., Barangka Drive, Mandaluyong City and (2) Lot 9 Blk.32, Rancho Imperial De Silang, Brgy. Tartaria, Silang, Cavite, in favor of the Mortgagee, over a real estate property including improvements thereon, described in and covered by TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. (T-808940) 16561 of the Registry of Deeds for Tagaytay City, in order to satisfy the outstanding loan obligation of the Mortgagors/Borrowers in the amount of **TWO HUNDRED ELEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FORTY-FIVE PESOS & 31/100 (Php 211,745.31)** inclusive of interest, penalties and other charges, as of September 5, 2023, the undersigned Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court of Cavite thru her deputy, Oliver N. Mendoza, will sell at public auction on **July 24, 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning** or soon thereafter, at the New Hall of Justice of Tagaytay City, 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. (T-808940) 16561
Registry of Deeds for the Province of Cavite

"IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in the Mun. of Silang Prov. Of Cavite bounded and described as follows:

A parcel of land (Lot 9 Blk. no. 32 of the cons./ subd. plan Pcs-04-012899, being a portion of Lot 8014, 8015, 8017, 8018, Cad. 452-D, Silang Cad., Lots 8016-A to 8016-H, Csd-04-006071-D, Lot 15709-A, Csd-042118-012810-D, & Lot Blk. 71.

Gov't to install...

from page 1

conducted an inspection of the installed elevator at the EDSA-Philam Busway Station in Quezon City to ensure that it is operational.

A total of 18 elevators across six EDSA Busway stations are already operational.

The EDSA Busway currently has 23

Pcs-04-011250, LRC Rec. No.), situated in the Brgy. of Tartaria, Mun.of Silang, Prov. of Cavite. Bounded on the SW., along line 1-2-by Lot 3 Pcs-22355; on the NW., along line 2-3 by Lot 8 Bik. 32; on the NE., along line 3-4 by Rd. Lot 33; and on the SE., along line 4-1 by Lot 10 Bik. 32, all of the cons./subd. plan. Beginning at a pt. marked "1" on plan being S. 63 deg. 47' E., 5020.76 m. from BLLM No. 1, Cad. 452-D, Silang Cad.; thence N. 13 deg. 31' W., 3.50 m. to pt. 2; thence N. 76 deg. 25'E., 10.00 m. to pt. 3; thence S. 13 deg. 31'E., 3.50 m. to pt. 4; thence S. 76 deg. 25W., 10.00 m. to pt.1; beginning, containing an area of THIRTY FIVE (35) SQ. METERS. All pts. referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground by PS cyl. conc. mons. 15x60 cm.; bearings true; date of orig. survey, Dec. 7, 1973-Dec. 4, 1975 and that of the subd. survey Aug. 1-30, 1997and was approved on Dec. 5 1997.

is registered in accordance with the provisions of the Property Registration Decree in the name of* **VICTOR C. ONG, married to JOCELYN B. ONG**, both of legal age, Filipino.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on **July 31, 2025** without further notice.

Prospective bidders or buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate and verify for themselves the **TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. (T-808940) 16561** the encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

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

Tagaytay City, Philippines, April 29, 2025.

ATTY. VARBRA ANN A. VARIAS-DIMAYUGA
 Clerk of Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff

OLIVER N. MENDOZA
 Sheriff-In-Charge

WARNING: IT IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED TO REMOVE, DEFACE OR DESTROY THIS NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF THE AUCTION SALE UNDER THE PENALTY OF LAW

Copy Furnished:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund) Mortgagee
 The Petron Mega Plaza Building,
 No. 358 Sen Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

MARIA VICTORIA D. CAPIRAL
C/O ATTY. JULIUS VOLTAIRE ROMMEL C. CUBELO
24K ACCOUNTS CONSULTANT, INC.
 Representative of Mortgagee
 3F Fass Inteli College, Bldg., No. 11,
 Pittsburgh St., Brgy. Silangan, Cubao, Quezon City

VICTOR C. ONG married to **JOCELYN B. ONG**
 Mortgagor-Borrower
 (1) No. 702 Tiaga St., Barangka Drive, Mandaluyong City
 (2) Lot 9 Blk.32, Rancho Imperial De Silang,
 Brgy. Tartaria, Silang, Cavite

PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
MAY 26, JUNE 2 & 9, 2025

commuters. It has reduced the end-to-end travel time on EDSA from three hours to one and a half hours. The EDSA Busway served over 63 million commuters in 2024, according to data from the Department of Transportation. In January 2025 alone, the busway served over 5.5 million passengers, averaging 177,000 daily commuters. (PNA)



Bulacan airport...
from page 8

nal cost of P735.63 billion. Apart from this, the shortage in fill sand delayed the completion of NMIA's first phase by a year, from 2027 as originally planned.

The NMIA, located in Bulakan, Bulacan, is set to become the biggest airport in the Philippines. The first phase of the project can facilitate more than 35 million passengers a year and is projected to generate over one million jobs.

Ultimately, NMIA will feature four parallel runways, supported by airside and landside facilities. In its finality, the airport should be able to handle up to 100 million passengers per annum, as it is expected to decongest air traffic at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).

Aside from building NMIA, SMC leads the New NAIA Infrastructure Corp. (NNIC), which is in charge of the P170.6-billion project to rehabilitate NAIA.

The NNIC is tasked to increase NAIA's passenger capacity to 62 million per annum and aircraft movement to 48 an hour to prepare the country's main gateway for future demand.

SMC Infrastructure unit Trans Aire Development Holdings Corp. also operates the Godofredo P. Ramos Airport, also known as the Caticlan Airport, which serves as the gateway to Boracay.

As such, Dizon underscored how important it is for the DOTr to closely coordinate with SMC on the airports it is developing and operating. He is also confident that SMC would comply with its timelines for NMIA, NAIA and Caticlan Airport.

"I will be discussing Bulacan airport with SMC. I will also be discussing a very important airport to me, which is Caticlan," Dizon said.

In 2024, infrastructure builder Megawide Construction Corp. won the contract to design and build a new PTB in Caticlan Airport.

Ang wants the new PTB in the airport finished in three years or less, citing the urgency for larger capacity to welcome more tourists in Boracay.

With three airport developments on hand, Ang last year said SMC would focus first on delivering its current pipeline before thinking about bidding for a new one.



Please be advised of our schedule from **MAY 5 - JUNE 29, 2025** and plan your visits accordingly:

MONDAY	CLOSED
TUESDAY	CLOSED
WEDNESDAY	11AM - 8PM
THURSDAY	11AM - 8PM
FRIDAY	11AM - 8PM
SATURDAY	11AM - 8PM
SUNDAY	11AM - 8PM

DATES TO REMEMBER

MAY 10 (Private Function)	CLOSED
MAY 12 (Election Day)	CLOSED
MAY 17 (Private Function)	CLOSED
JUNE 12 (Independence Day)	11AM - 8PM

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SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

For more information, kindly call (+632) 8 584 3535 or (+632) 8 830 3535.

Republic of the Philippines
 REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
 FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
 Branch 21
 City of Imus, Cavite
 Tel. No. 046-471-2518
 Rtc1imu021@judiciary.gov.ph

In the Matter of Petition for Change of Name of **Conrado Javines Leonardo Jr. to Mark Anthony Javines**,
 Petitioner,

-VS-

Office of the Civil Registrar Angeles City,
 Philippine Statistics Authority, Office of the Civil Registrar General,
 Respondents.

SP. PROC. NO. 1978-25

X-----X

ORDER

This is a verified petition filed by petitioner praying that after due notice, publication and hearing, an Order be issued ordering the Office of the Civil Registrar Angeles City to correct his name from Conrado Javines Leonardo Jr. to Mark Anthony Javines.

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, let the same be set for hearing on **June 25, 2025 at 8:30am** before this Court sitting at Bulwagan ng Katarungan, Aguinaldo Highway, Palico IV, Imus City, Cavite on which date, hour and place, any person interested may appear and show cause, if any, why the petition should be granted.

Let a copy of this Order be published at the expense of the petitioner in a newspaper of general circulation which will be raffled by the Clerk of Court among accredited newspapers in the Province of Cavite once a week for three consecutive weeks.

Furnish a copy of this Order to the Office of the Solicitor General, Office of the City Prosecutor, Office of the Civil Registrar Angeles City and the Civil Registrar General, Quezon City.

SO ORDERED.

City of Imus, Cavite, April 28, 2025.

ROCILLE S. AQUINO-TAMBASACAN
 Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

Atty. Judy Santos-Lopez
 Blk 4 Lot 23 Mahogany St
 Vista Verde South Mambog 2, Bacoor City
 attyjudylopez@gmail.com

Pros. Roehl de Castro

Office of the Solicitor General
 134 Amorsolo St. Legaspi Village, Makati City

Office of the Civil Registrar
 City Hall Bldg Aniceto Gueco St. Angeles City Pampanga

Civil Registrar General
 PSA Complex East Avenue Diliman Quezon City

PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
MAY 12, 19 & 26, 2025



Republic of the Philippines
 Fourth Judicial Region
 REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
 Branch 90
 City of Dasmariñas, Cavite

IN RE: PETITION FOR CORRECTION OF ENTRY IN THE CERTIFICATE OF LIVE BIRTH OF **MELISSA ASIS FUNCION**,
 Petitioner,

-versus-

THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR OF DASMARINAS CITY, CAVITE AND THE PHILIPPINE STATISTICS AUTHORITY AND ALL PERSONS WHO MAY HAVE CLAIM OR INTEREST WHICH WOULD BE AFFECTED THEREBY,
 Respondents.

SP. PROC. CASE NO. DC-1607-25

X-----X

ORDER

This is a verified Petition for Correction of Entry in the Certificate of Live Birth of Melissa Asis Funcion filed on January 26, 2024 by the above-named Petitioner, through counsels, Atty. Nathaniel Torres and Atty. Laarni Gay C. Arroyo Masung-song of the Public Attorney's Office, asking this Court that, after due notice, publication and hearing, judgment be rendered ordering the Local Civil Registrar of the City of Dasmariñas, Cavite and the Philippine Statistics Authority to correct the erroneous entries as follows: 1) Entry No. 1 regarding Petitioner's middle name from Asis to Andes; and 2) Entry No. 6 regarding her mother's maiden name from Asis to Andes and other pertinent records relative thereto.

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the same is set for hearing on **June 10, 2025 at 2:00 in the afternoon**, whereby any interested persons may appear and show cause, if any, why the petition should not be granted.

Let this Order be published at the expense of the Petitioners in a newspaper of general circulation which will be raffled by RTC Br. 90 City of Dasmariñas, Cavite, before the scheduled date of hearing at least once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks. The Clerk of Court of this Court is directed to include this Order in the raffle of notices of publication.

The Petitioner is also directed to furnish the Office of the Solicitor General and the Civil Registry of the City of Dasmariñas, Cavite with a copy of the petition and to show proof of compliance thereof.

SO ORDERED.

Dasmariñas City, Cavite, April 7, 2025.

FRANCISCO VICTOR L. COLLADO, JR.
 Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

1. Public Attorney's Office
 Counsel for the Petitioner
 DASCA Bldg., Dasmariñas City, Cavite

2. Office of the City Prosecutor
 DASCA Building, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

3. Office of the Solicitor General
 134 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

4. Melissa Asis Funcion
 F. Dela Cuesta St., Sitio Pintong Gubat,
 Paliparan III, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

5. Philippine Statistics Authority
 PSA Complex, East Ave., Diliman, Quezon City

6. Office of the Local Civil Registrar
 Dasmariñas City, Cavite

7. Office of the Clerk of Court
 2nd Flr., DASCA Building, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
MAY 12, 19 & 26, 2024

Palayan housing project shows admin's transformative vision

MANILA—House Speaker Ferdinand Martin Romualdez on Monday inspected the Palayan City Township Housing Project in Nueva Ecija and described the site as a symbol of real and lasting transformation under the Pambansang Pahayag Para sa Pilipino (4PH) program of the Marcos administration.

In a speech, Romualdez reflected on the progress made since he joined President Marcos during the groundbreaking ceremony of one of the largest 4PH developments so far, nearly two and a half years ago.

Now, he said, real changes are happening in the housing project.

Of the 24 planned mid-rise buildings in the first phase, eight are already under active construction. Two buildings, comprising 538 units, are currently in the Pag-IBIG Fund's loan takeout process, while another 538 units are on track for turnover by June 2026.

Several families have already moved into their new homes, completing interior work with help from the local government and the Department of Human Settlements and Urban Development (DHSUD).

The development also boasts several completed amenities, including a clubhouse, swimming pool, basketball and tennis

courts, a central park, and open recreational areas. The facilities were donated by BellaVita Land Corporation, a subsidiary of the Ayala Group.

"Kaya saludo po tayo sa kanila. Iyan ang tunay na bayanihan -- ang pagtutulungan ng gobyerno at pribadong sektor para sa kabutihan ng mga tao (We salute them. This is the real collective action -- the collaboration between the government and the private sector for the good of the people)," Romualdez said.

The Palayan City government also reopened applications for housing, allowing more Nueva Ecija residents, to avail of the 4PH program, particularly low-income families, informal settlers and local employees.

Romualdez praised President Marcos for his "visionary leadership," crediting the administration's 4PH program for delivering "life-changing results" to Filipinos.

He emphasized that the Palayan project is part of a broader national goal to address the country's massive housing backlog, estimated by DHSUD at 6.5 to 7 million units.

He pledged continued support from the House of Representatives in crafting laws and securing funding to sustain the 4PH's momentum. (PNA)

