

# PhilHealth: P654-M benefits distributed to cancer patients

MANILA – The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) has distributed PHP654,000,000 worth of benefits to cancer patients so far.

PhilHealth Quality Assurance Group Vice President Francisco Soria Jr. said Friday the amount has served 7,475 patients based on claims filed since 2012.

While the exact cost of treatment varies according to the type of cancer, Soria said the PhilHealth offers Z benefit packages for cancer care treatment.

"In the case of breast cancer, merong hormone therapy, tapos kailangan din ng surveillance sa kanila (then surveillance is also needed for them). So



for example, targeted therapy for breast cancer, it costs one million pesos," he said during a media forum in Quezon City.

In May, PhilHealth has increased its package for breast cancer patients to PHP1.4 million for stages 0 to 4 of the disease.

It covers the different components of breast cancer management: diagnosis up to PHP14,900;

surgery up to PHP140,000; chemotherapy up to PHP198,000 for the whole treatment course; hormone therapy, up to PHP36,000 per year; for targeted therapy PHP1,000,000 per year that constitutes 18 cycles of targeted therapy; and surveillance up to PHP 14,000 per year.

"The good thing about surveillance is that it is good for the whole life-

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## NATIONWIDE DISTRIBUTION OF COMPREHENSIVE GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO CELEBRATE PRESIDENT MARCOS BIRTHDAY



In a significant nationwide initiative to mark the birthday of President Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos, the government launched a simultaneous distribution of comprehensive assistance and services across the country. In Cavite, the event took place at the Ternate Municipal Town Plaza, where various government agencies and partners came together to provide essential services to the community.

Ternate Mayor Lamberto Bambao extended a warm welcome to all attendees, expressing gratitude to the President for the timely services provided

gagawa sa Yumex Phils. Corp., which received Php395,280.00, and Chin Su Phils. Co. Inc. Workers Independent Union, awarded with Php295,926.00.

Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) offered skills demonstrations, training support for scholars, and starter tool kits for selected beneficiaries. The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), represented by DTI Calabarzon OIC-Asst. Regional Director Revelyn Cortez and DTI-Cavite OIC-Provincial Director Lilibeth Chavez, provided business and trade information and services.

The Department of Agriculture awarded a total of Php3,506,504.00 in grants for agricultural services and farm inputs intended for Caviteño farmers. Mr. Ruben R. Perlas, Agricultural Program Coordinating Officer, present-

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**PAHAYAGAN NG**  
*Kabitenyo*  
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## DASMARIÑAS-GENERAL TRIAS DIVERSION ROAD BINUKSAN!



**Opisyal ng Binuksan ang DASMARIÑAS-GENERAL TRIAS DIVERSION ROAD**  
na mag Durugtong sa Barangay San Jose, Dasmariñas City, Cavite at lalabas naman sa Barangay San Francisco, General Trias City, Cavite  
Inaasahang Mas Mapapadali nito ang Biyahe Patungo sa mag kabilang bayan at Maiihsan din ang Masikip na daloy ng Trapiko na Nararanasan sa Don Placido Campos Avenue.  
Bubuksan sa Publiko ang Nasabing Kalsada itong Darating na Sabado

## CALAX Governor's Drive Interchange reaches 25% completion, to open by Q1 2025



MPCALA Holdings Inc., the concessionaire of the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX), announced that the CALAX Governor's Drive Interchange has reached its 25% completion milestone. The interchange, slated to open by the first quarter of 2025, is expected to decongest traffic on major roads in Cavite, specifically Aguinaldo Highway in Silang, and help spur economic

activities for the cities and municipalities along the alignment in the province of Cavite.

Spanning 7.8 km from the Silang (Aguinaldo) Interchange to Governor's Drive, this segment will be the longest operational section of CALAX by the first quarter of 2025, while the two remaining segments are still under construction. Currently, ongoing work includes ex-

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## DepEd retrieves learning materials withheld in Cavite warehouse

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Education (DepEd) has retrieved the last batch of the P3 billion worth of learning materials that were withheld in a warehouse in Cavite due to unpaid storage fees.

With the help of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), the DepEd hauled laptops, television sets and other devices from the warehouse owned by Transpac.

The AFP transported 630 units each of TV, laptops and laptop bags with accessories to Central Visayas, where 156 schools and 407 teachers are set to



benefit. Up to 290 units each of TV and external hard drives were delivered to Caraga, benefitting 73 schools and 62 teachers.

Northern Mindanao will receive 464 units each of laptops, laptop bags with accessories and television sets for the region's 412 schools and 686 teach-

ers. "The delivery of these items will support the digital learning needs of schools in these regions, in line with DepEd's efforts to improve access to technology in education," the agency said.

Earlier, lawmakers deplored the non-

*see page 7...*

## DAGDAG SAHOD NG MGA MANGGAGAWA SA CALABARZON, APRUBADO NA!



Buong galak at pagmamalaki ko pong ibabahagi sa inyo ang magandang balita na aprubado na ang ipinaglaban at binantayan nating umento sa sahod ng mga mang-

gagawa mula sa pribadong sektor sa buong rehiyon ng CALABARZON alinsunod sa Wage Order IVA-21 na inilabas ng Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board.

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## First-time job hunters urged to avail of free pre-employment docs

MANILA – The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) reminded first-time job-seekers to avail of the free pre-employment documents for their applications.

The measure is pursuant to Republic Act 11261 or the First Time Jobseekers Assistance Act, DOLE said in a social media post on Friday.

To avail of the benefit, a barangay certification must be secured, stating that the applicant is a first-time jobseeker and has been a resident for at least six months.

The certification will be presented to the concerned government agencies where the pre-employment documents will



be obtained.

The applicant must then report back to the barangay.

The pre-employment documents include barangay certification and clearance for first time job-seekers, police clearance (local or national); National Bureau of Investigation clearance; medical certificate from public hospitals; birth and marriage certi-

icates; transcript of records, certificate of graduation/completion and diploma from state colleges and universities, as well as local colleges and universities; tax identification number and Philippine Health Insurance Corporation identification cards; Civil Service certificate of eligibility; Department of Migrant Workers certificates; mayor's

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## 'Win-win' para sa bansa ang pagdaraos ng FIVB: Cayetano



Ipinunto ni Senador Alan Peter Cayetano nitong Sabado ang kakayahang ng sports na baguhin ang isang bansa, hindi lamang sa paglilinig ng pagkakaisa sa mga tagasuporta nito kundi pati na rin sa pagpapaulad ng turismo.

"Hindi natin dapat bale-walain na ang sports, lalo na kapag hosting, nakakapag-unite sa atin. We

need events like this because win-win [situation] ito," wika niya Cayetano, na nagsisilbi bilang chair ng Local Organizing Committee (LOC), sa isang panayam sa media matapos ang Drawing of Lots (DOL) para sa Volleyball Men's World Championship Philippines 2025 na gaganapin sa bansa sa susunod na taon.

"Ang daling sabi-

hin na hu'wag gawin ito,' but sports is something that we can really use for transformation," dagdag niya.

Binanggit din ng senador, na siya ring Chairman Emeritus of the Philippine National Volleyball Federation (PNVF), ang kakayahang ng sports events tulad ng FIVB na magbuklod ng mga tao lalo na't ang volleyball ay patuloy na sumisikat sa bansa.

"Volleyball is a community, it's growing, and it's a good seed. One way for us to honor God and build communities is to support all of these competitions all around the world, and to support not only the athletes but the people be-

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**HOTEL**      ホテル ソウゴ  
**SOGO**

## Paano maiiwasan ang stress

### Payo ni Doc Ong

AYON sa American Psychological Association ang mga karaniwang pinanggagalingan ng stress: 1) Pag-aalala dahil sa kapos sa pera; 2) Stress sa trabaho at pamilya; 3) Nag-alala sa ekonomiya; 4) Problema sa kalusugan.

Mga paraan upang maiiwasan ang stress:

1. Mamuhay nang simple at masaya.
2. Mag-focus sa malusog na pangangatawan at pamumuhay.
3. Mamuhay ng may moralidad.
4. Matutong makuntento at magpasalamat sa mga bagay na mayroon ka.
5. Kung gagamit ng gadgets at computers ay mas mainam kung hinay-hinay lang. Maaaring ito ay nakatutulong ngunit ang sobrang paggamit ay nakapagdudulot din ng stress.

6. Gumastos nang naayon sa iyong pangangailangan. Mas makabubuti na gumastos nang tama. Kung hindi naman kailangan huwag na lamang bilhin. Sa ganitong paraan ay makakaipon pa.

7. Hamapin ang oportunidad. Mamuhay lamang ng simple at makabuluhan kaysa mamuhay sa karangyaan.

8. Maglibang paminsan-minsan. Para mas ma-enjoy ang paglibang, hindi kinakailangan gumastos nang mahal. Maaari rin namang gawin ang paglibang kahit sa simpleng pamamasyal lamang sa tabi-tabi.

9. Pasalamatang at maging masaya sa mga bagay na mayroon ka.

10. Alamin ang mga bagay na nakapagpapasaya sa iyo at iwasan ang mga bagay na nakagagalit sa iyo.

11. Ihiwalay ang malaking gawain sa mas maliit na gawain. Kung ang inyong mga gawain ay masyadong marami, hatiin ito sa maliit na gawain at gawin ito ng paisa-isa. Panatilihin na nakatuon ang isip sa mga gawain na ginagawa sa halip na isipin ang mga susunod pang mga gawain.

12. Matutunan na tumanggi, kung nakaramdam ng sobrang tuwa sa inyong personal at propesyonal na responsibilidad, subukan na umurong at pag-isipan ng mabuti kung ano ang aalisin.

13. Magkaroon nang maikling pahinga habang nagtatrabaho. Tumayo sa iyong lamesa at mag-unat, o gamitin ang iyong lunch break para maglakad sa park.

14. Palitan ang inyong araw-araw na pressure ng physical na gawain. Ang healthy lifestyle ay ang iyong mabuting depensa panlaban sa stress. Sundin ang balanced diet, limitahan ang pag-inom ng kape at alak at matulog nang sapat.

15. Ibahagi ang iyong nararamdaman. Kumausap sa inyong matalik na kaibigan o miyembro ng pamilya, ang mga malulungkot na tao ay mas nakararanas ng stress at hindi malusog na pangangatawan.

16. Subukan ang meditation. Ang meditation ay nagpapataas ng immune function, nakabababa ng pangamba, at tumutulong na mas maka-isip na mga kapaki-pakinabang na bagay.

17. Sa bawat araw gawing sentro ang iyong sarili, Sa halip na bumangon agad sa kama, isipin ang mga bagay na mayroon ka o mga dapat na ipagpasalamat, o kaya naman ay magbasa nang maaaring makapagpa-inspire sa iyo.

18. Tawagan ang ilang kaibigan o kaya naman ay maglakad ng 30 minuto. Sa pamamagitan nito, maibabalik mo ang iyong lakas at makapagtatrabaho ka nang epektibo.



## LEE TO HEALTH OFFICIALS: FAST-TRACK IMPLEMENTATION OF PHILHEALTH BENEFITS INCREASES

With Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) having more than P500 billion worth of investments, Cong. Wilbert "Manoy" T. Lee filed House Resolution No. 2015 urging the Benefits Committee (BenCom) of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) led by the Department of Health (DOH), to immediately convene for the implementation of benefit increases and that the meeting must be livestreamed for public's access.

The measure was filed as soon as the DOH announced the increase in the hemodialysis package rate from P4,000 per session to P6,350—a decision from the recent meeting of BenCom spearheaded by DOH Secretary Ted Herbosa.

"Nagpapasalamat tayo sa pakikinig ng DOH at PhilHealth sa panawagan nating taasan ang coverage sa mga medical treatment tulad ng hemodialysis. Ito yung sinasabi natin na kaya naman nilang gawin agad. Pero ang tanong pa rin: Bakit patin-gi-tingi ang dagdag?" Lee asked.

"If the DOH, through the BenCom, can promptly convene and increase certain PhilHealth benefit packages, why can't it be done with the coverage of other case rates with their enormous available funds," he added.

In his Resolution, the Bicolano lawmaker also said that the BenCom meeting must be livestreamed for the public's real time updates so that more Filipinos have access to the information and can stay informed about what's transpiring in the deliberation

### EDITOR'S NOTE:

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of their entitlements and benefits in PhilHealth.

Lee stressed that with the hundreds of billions of PhilHealth funds, "dapat ipatupad na sa lalong madaling panahon ang dagdag na coverage ng PhilHealth sa cancer treatment, coronary artery disease, MRI, PET scan, CT scan, maternity care, dental care, eye care, emergency care, comprehensive outpatient benefit package, iba pang klase ng mabibigat na karamdaman at sobrang mahal na mga operasyon sa ospital."

It can be recalled that during the 2025 DOH budget hearing held last September 4, Lee warned to defer the health agency's budget if the proposed increase in PhilHealth benefits will remain unaddressed before the House Plenary debates.

"Para saan pa na Chairperson ang DOH sa Benefits Committee na ang layunin ay suriin at magmungkahi ng pagpapalawak sa mga benepisyong pangkalusugan? Napakarami rin nating mga kababayan ang nalilimas ang ipon at nababaon sa utang dahil sa laki ng bayarin sa ospital, at hindi maramdaman ang sinasagot ng PhilHealth," Lee pointed out.

Lee, a staunch health advocate, successfully led the 30% increase in PhilHealth benefits which was implemented last February 14. Currently, he is pushing for another 50% increase in PhilHealth benefits and if funds would suffice, an eventual decrease in members' monthly contribution.

"Pinag-uusapan ngayon kung saan pwede i-invest o gamitin ang sobrang pondo ng PhilHealth. Hindi na dapat ito pinagtatalunan pa: Ang pondo para sa kalusugan, dapat gamitin para sa kalusugan!" Lee remarked.

"Ang gamot at pagpapagamot, dapat sagot ng gobyerno para mabawasan ang pangamba ng ating mga kababayan na lalong malubog sa utang at kahirapan kapag nagkasakit dahil walang pambili ng gamot o pambayad sa ospital. Laban nating lahat ito! Gawin na natin!" he added. ###



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## DepEd retrieves... from page 1

tribution of learning materials, which were "held hostage" due to DepEd's supposed refusal to pay storage fees.

Although most of the materials had been released to DepEd, the agency told a recent congressional hearing that a majority of the items remained in Transpac's warehouse in Carmona.

## First-time job... from page 1

clearance; Maritime Industry Authority certificates; and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority national certificates and certificates of competencies.

Excluded in the coverage are applications for a professional licensure exam, Philippine passport authentication and apostille, Career Service Examination and driver's license; and laboratory tests and procedures needed to acquire a medical certificate.

## DAGDAG SAHOD... from page 1

10 trabahador.

Dahil po sa ating patuloy na pagkakaisa, nagagawa po nating posible ang mga hakbang nating ito na direktang mapakinabangan ng ating mga kababayan. Patunay po ito ng ating malinaw na intensyon na ang hangad lamang ay maisulong ang mga

DepEd thanked the AFP for assisting the agency in delivering the learning devices to schools.

Education Secretary Sonny Angara said the agency would implement reforms to prevent similar issues that cause delays in the distribution of learning equipment, textbooks and furniture.

quire a medical certificate.

"This is expected to reduce the financial burden of first-time jobseekers," the DOLE said.

The July 2024 Labor Force Survey reported that youth unemployment (ages 15 to 24) accounted for 43 percent of total jobless individuals.

They are mostly those who graduated from college or senior high school and have just entered the labor force. (PNA)

## 'Win-win' para... from page 1

hind the athletes," wika niya.

Binigyang diin din niya ang mga benepisyong pagho-host ng mga international events, lalo na ng nalalapit na volleyball championship na inaasahang magbibigay ng mga oportunidad para sa bansa.

"We're hoping that this will give so much opportunities for the country because there are eight hundred million fans worldwide and ilang percent diyan ang mahilig

manuod ng live. So even sa tourism, kahit saan mo tingnan, ay win-win [situation tayo]," wika niya.

Sa opisyal na pagsisimula ng countdown para sa FIVB, hinikayat ni Cayetano ang mga international fans na bumisita sa Pilipinas at ipinaabot ang pasasalamat sa kanilang pagsuporta sa volleyball.

"On behalf of the Filipinos, you're welcome to the Philippines, and thank you very much," wika niya. ###

## PhilHealth: P654-M... from page 8

time of the patient," Soria said.

"Maliban diyan meron ho tayong all case rates (ACR) benefits. Kung wala 'yung cancer dun sa anim na may Z benefits, 'yun pong cancer na 'yun ay covered naman ng ACR benefits (Apart from that, we have all case rates benefits. If the cancer is not among the six cancers with Z benefits, it will be covered by ACR)," he added.

PhilHealth has Z

benefits packages for childhood acute lymphocytic leukemia, breast cancer, prostate cancer, cervical cancer, colon cancer and rectal cancer.

Last Feb. 14, the ACR packages increased by 30 percent.

PhilHealth is also planning an additional increase to ACR benefits and enhance the benefit package rates for cervical and prostate cancer. (PNA)

## CALAX Governor's... from page 8

across Cavite and CALABARZON." Ignacio stated.

In addition to the Governor's Drive Interchange, two other major segments of CALAX, Subsection 2 (Open Canal Interchange) and Subsection 1 (Kawit Interchange), are progressing steadily, with 15% and 25% completion, respectively. Both segments are expected to open by the third quarter of 2025 and will eventually connect CALAX to the Manila-Cavite Express-

way (CAVITEX) via the CAVITEX-CALAX Link. Currently, the overall completion rate of the entire CALAX project stands at 64%.

At present, CALAX serves over 45,000 motorists daily. Once the full expressway is connected to CAVITEX, it will serve at least 95,000 motorists daily, significantly improving traffic flow and accessibility between Cavite, Laguna, and the greater Manila area.

## GUHIT NG KAPALARAN

**VIRGO:** (Ago. 23-Set.23) – Simulan ang concept ng sharing. Ang iyong personal choice ang magpapalago sa buhay mo. Huwag lang masyadong kampante, lalo na sa taong feeling close kahit kakilala n'yo pa lang. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 22, 35, 46, 56, 12 at electric blue.

**LIBRA:** (Set. 24-Okt. 23) – Matutuklasan ang pinagmulan ng misunderstanding. Tiyakin na pagpitan ka lang. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 18, 35, 58, 45, 22 at crimson red.

**SCORPIO:** (Okt. 24-Nob. 22) – Mararanasan ang tagumpay. Panatilihin ang humility upang magpatuloy ang success habang buhay. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 52, 31, 43, 21, 12 at pearl white.

**SAGITTARIUS:** (Nob. 23-Dic. 21) – Ang sharing ay lalong magpapalago sa kabuhayan mo. Increasing ang success mo. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 11, 21, 35, 41, 53, at cobalt blue.

**CAPRICORN:** (Dic. 22-Ene. 19) – Pag-aralan ang forgiveness. Ito ang aakit ng wealth sa buhay mo ngayon. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 28, 58, 46, 18, 32 at cinnamon brown.

**AQUARIUS:** (Ene. 20-Peb. 18) – Unawain ang love. Pairalin ang compassion at tatanggap ng love ang iyong supling. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 42, 32, 16, 51, 26, at sunyellow.

**PISCES:** (Peb. 19-Mar. 20) – Maaakit mo ang wish, piliin ang happiness sa buhay mo ngayon. Ituloy ang pagtatrabaho sa abroad. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 16, 52, 35, 41, 26, at strawberry red.

**ARIES:** (Mar. 21-Abr. 19) – Mare-realize na sobra ang media influence. Mag-meditate, magiging matatag ang iyong free will. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 35, 41, 16, 52, 22, at electric blue.

**TAURUS:** (Abr. 20-May. 20) – Kung pairalin ang greed sa negosyo, mawawala ito sa iyo. Maging patas ka. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 16, 41, 32, 52, 22 at dollar green.

**GEMINI:** (May. 21-Hun. 21) – Maso-solve mo ang legal issues sa negosyo. Ang cooperation ang magpapatag sa business. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 18, 22, 37, 45, 52 at lilac violet.

**CANCER:** (Hun. 22-Hul. 22) – Mutual aid sa kapwa ang susi ng kaligayahan. Sa daily life, malusog ang effect nito. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 33, 16, 58, 22, 55 at cyan blue.

**LEO:** (Hul. 23-Ago. 22) – Mararanasan ang effect ng promotion. Ang mga kasama ay aakit ng success sa iyong negosyo. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 38, 22, 42, 18, 52 at carrot orange.

# PHILHEALTH REGIONAL OFFICE IV-A HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE TO HIGHLIGHT NEW BENEFITS AND COMBAT FRAUD



PhilHealth Regional Office IV-A held a press conference today at the Strike Multi-Purpose Hall to inform the public about new benefits available through the program, including the PhilHealth Konsulta Package, and to raise awareness about health insurance fraud.

The event was organized by PhilHealth and attended by key figures including Mayor Strike B. Revilla, Mr. Edwin M. Orina, MD - Acting Regional Vice President, Mr. Arturo C. Ardiente - Field Operations Division Chief, Ms. Maria Theresa G. Liwanag, MD OIC Health Care Delivery Management Division, Mr. Benjamin A. Rodil Jr. - Head Local Health Insurance Office Trece Martirez City, and Ms. Darlene Albano -Social Insurance Officer II, LHIO Dasmariñas City. The conference also saw participation from PhilHealth staff

and various media outlets.

The main purpose of the press conference was to disseminate information about the new PhilHealth Konsulta Package, which provides access to essential healthcare services like consultations, health screenings, laboratory tests, and medications. The event also aimed to educate the public about the dangers of health insurance fraud and how to identify and report suspicious activities.

The press conference served as a valuable platform for PhilHealth to engage with the community and ensure that Filipinos are aware of the benefits and resources available to them. The event also highlighted the importance of combating fraud to protect the integrity of the health insurance program and ensure its sustainability.

## NATIONWIDE DISTRIBUTION...

the certificate of award, which was received by Provincial Administrator Rodel Vincent T. Bae on behalf of the Cavite provincial government.

Meanwhile, the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist staged Kadiwang Pangulo in partnership with DTI-Cavite promoting local agriculture produce and crafts. The Office of the Provincial Governor also conducted a Medical Mission offering free consultations, check-ups, and basic

healthcare services, while the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager organized a job fair featuring numerous private companies and government agencies, including the Social Security System (SSS) and PhilHealth, to assist job seekers with employment opportunities and social security benefits.

Department of Justice (DOJ) Secretary Boying Remulla attended the event, engaging with the community alongside



# Marcos signs Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers

MANILA – Comprehensive framework for preserving and improving the rights and welfare of Filipino seafarers in local and international shipping. It also seeks to improve seafarers' education, training, and cadetship programs to improve mariners' skills.

It will "harmonize policies" among concerned agencies such as the Commission on Higher Education, Department of Foreign Affairs, Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), Philippine Coast Guard, Department of Labor and Employment, and Department of Migrant Workers.

Meanwhile, the MARINA will be mandated to oversee maritime education with powers to accredit, regulate, and monitor education and training institutions offering maritime degree programs and technical courses.

RA No. 12021 also establishes mechanisms, rules, and procedures to ensure the fair, speedy, equitable, and just disposition and execution of decisions granting seafarers' salaries, wages, statutory benefits, and death and disability claims.

If the seafarer wins the appeal, the losing party must immediately reimburse the seafarer's bond. (PNA)

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Monday signed into law the Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers which aims to protect the rights and overall welfare of domestic and overseas Filipino seafarers, as well as promote their full employment.

In a ceremony in Malacañang, Marcos signed Republic Act (RA) No. 12021, or An Act Providing for the Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers before legislators, Cabinet members, and other stakeholders from the maritime sector.

In his message, Marcos said the signing of the Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers is part of the government's collective acknowledgment of seafarers' sacrifices and contributions to the country.

"It is our way of telling our seafarers, we see you, we hear you, and we are here to support you," Marcos said.

He also thanked lawmakers for "bolstering seafarers rights, addressing their challenges, and empowering their dreams."

Marcos said the Magna Carta of Filipino Seafarers is "very timely", citing the recent incidents of attacks on cargo ships and tankers in the Red Sea.

The new law aims to create a com-

# DBM vows to work with DSWD for employees' regularization

MANILA – The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) on Friday said it would find ways to create more plantilla positions in the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

This, as DSWD Secretary Rex Gatchalian said the agency would continue to push for the regularization of its employees under contracts of service (COS) and job orders (JOs).

In a statement, the DBM said it can only create positions in a government department or office once a requesting agency makes a proper submission of request.

"This is the case since the departments/agencies are still in the best position to identify and determine the appropriate positions for creation to enable their agency to fully implement their programs/projects," the DBM said.

During the Senate Committee on Finance hearing on DSWD's proposed 2025 budget on Monday, Gatchalian said the DSWD has submitted a three-year plan to the DBM for the regularization of its COS and JO personnel.

Gatchalian said the agency wants the gradual transition of COS and JOs into more stable positions, citing the migration of its Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) personnel to contractual employees.

The DBM said it had several consultation meetings with the DSWD since 2022 to address various concerns and facilitate the creation of the 4Ps Bureau and its corresponding positions, including those at the regional levels.

It said it provided recommendations, including the prioritization of the creation of the 4Ps Bureau, when the DSWD presented on July 23 this year the proposed structure and staffing of the proposed bureau.

"We also proposed to the DSWD the evaluation of the mix of positions within the 4Ps Bureau, including regular items which will perform permanent and continuing functions, contractual items to undertake project-based and time-bounded activities, and COS/JO workers to support the Department," the DBM said.

"Pending the submission of the DSWD's proposal for the creation of new positions and the regularization of its 4Ps workers, the DBM will continue its close coordination with the agency, especially in prescribing the number of positions and creating the organizational structure that would best serve the interest of its stakeholders, especially the 4Ps beneficiaries," it added.

A total of 16,634 contractual items have so far been created for the conversion of the DSWD's existing COS or JO items into contractual positions, the DBM said.

The DSWD's contractual workers are receiving benefits similar to the regular employees and their rendered services are creditable as government service.

"Of said created contractual items, the DBM has approved the conversion of 9,025 COS/JO items into contractual-coterminal positions, which were assigned in units concerned in the Central and Regional Offices of the DSWD, prior to the institutionalization of the 4Ps back in 2019," the DBM said.

From December 2020 to May 2024, a total of 7,609 additional contractual positions were created for the existing qualified COS or JO workers of the DSWD who are involved in the implementation of the 4Ps, the DBM said. (PNA)



# MGA BAGONG UPUAN HANDOG NI CONG JOLO PARA SA MGA MAGAARAL NG NOVELETA NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

Nakatutuwa pong makita ang malalaking ngiti at mainit na pagbati ng mga mag-aaral ng Novleta National High School matapos nilang matanggap kanina ang mga bagong Jolo Cares Armchairs na handog ng inyong lingkod, katuwang si Sen. Ramon Bong Revilla Jr. at Agimat Partylist.

Hindi po tayong magsasawang maglaan ng pondo at panahon para sa mga programa at proyektong magpapaunlad sa pag-aaral ng ating mga kabataan dahil naniniwala po tayong

ito ay ang pinakamagandang kayamanang maipamamana natin sa kanila.

Patuloy po nating gagawin ang lahat para sa katuparan ng ating handog na bigyan ng sapat na suporta ang ating mga kabataan tungo sa isang Bagong Pilipinas kung saan ang edukasyon ay mahusay at para sa lahat.



# STRIKE SA KABUHAYAN: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD PROGRAM

management, covering essential aspects such as developing a viable business plan, understanding market dynamics and customer needs, effective marketing and promotion strategies, financial management and resource allocation, and building sustainable business practices.

The program featured interactive workshops, expert panel discussions, and practical demonstrations, providing participants with a comprehensive understanding of the key elements of successful entrepreneurship. The event also served as a platform for networking and collaboration among participants, fostering a sense of community and shared purpose.

The CSWD and Ugnay ng Kababaihan recently hosted event titled "Strike sa Kabuhayan: Sustainable Livelihood Program" at the Revilla Hall. The program aimed to equip participants with valuable knowledge and skills to establish and sustain successful businesses.

The event was graced by the presence of esteemed VIPs, including Mayor Strike B. Revilla, Mr. Carlos Cataga, the SLP

unit head, and guest speakers Ms. Catherine Uy, Ms. Genesis Austria, and Ms. Grace Abilay. The event saw a strong turnout of Ugnay members and representatives from various Civil Society Organizations.

The purpose of the program was to empower participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the world of entrepreneurship. The program delved into the intricacies of business



DOH: 90% of P103.5-B health emergency allowance paid

MANILA – The total Health Emergency Allowance (HEA) obligation of PHP103.5 billion is now 90 percent paid, following the decision of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to fully fund the remaining PHP27.3 billion this year.

In a news release on Saturday, the Department of Health (DOH) said that as implementing agency, it has settled around 14.5 million claims from health workers who served during the Covid-19 pandemic.

In April of this year, the DOH recorded around PHP23.4 billion worth of HEA obligations for 4.3 million claims that could not be paid due to budget constraints. After DOH processed and granted appeals, this number rose to PHP27.3 billion.

Last July, President Marcos instructed Budget and Management Secretary Amenah Pangandaman to no longer wait for the General Appropriations



Act of 2025 to pay this amount, and to process it this year.

The DOH said surplus fund balance or excess payments which Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) returned to the national government provided the cash needed.

The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) thus immediately released a Special Allotment Release Order (SARO) to enable the DOH to fulfill the obligation.

As of Sept. 20 this year, 64 percent of the additional PHP27.3 billion has already been disbursed.

Health facilities have been key players to

sory, the Cardinal Santos Medical Center (CSMC) expressed its gratitude to Health Secretary Teodoro Herbosa for facilitating the payment of their HEA covering a 20-month period.

Health workers from the Gentri Medical Center in General Trias, Cavite also sent a video recording to the DOH where they thanked President Marcos and Herbosa for facilitating the HEA payments.

"Ang sobrang bayad na di naman nagamit at siyang isinauli ng PhilHealth ay naging pang pondo para sa HEA ng ating mga health workers. Lumipat po mula sa bangko, papunta sa tao. Sa ngalan ng ating mga Covid-19 frontliners, maraming salamat po (The excess payment that was not used and that was returned by PhilHealth became a fund for the HEA of our health workers. On behalf of our Covid-19 frontliners, thank you very much)," Herbosa said. (PR)

In an online human resources (HR) advisory, the Cardinal Santos Medical Center (CSMC) expressed its gratitude to Health Secretary Teodoro Herbosa for facilitating the payment of their HEA covering a 20-month period.

Health workers from the Gentri Medical Center in General Trias, Cavite also sent a video recording to the DOH where they thanked President Marcos and Herbosa for facilitating the HEA payments.

Health facilities have been key players to

DOST research and dev't support fund gets P8.8 billion – DBM

MANILA – The government has allocated a total of PHP8.8 billion for the Grants-In-Aid (GIA) program of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) said Sunday.

In a statement, the DBM said the funding aims to sustain the implementation of various science, technology, and innovation programs.

"This GIA Program aims to spur economic growth through the strategic application of science and technology," President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. said in his Budget Message, as quoted by the DBM statement.

"By providing grants or funding to projects and proposals aligned with the DOST's priorities and thrusts, the program intends to foster innovation



and drive sustainable development," he added.

The GIA program also aims to strengthen the participation of various science and technology sectors, particularly in research and development, promotion, technology transfer and utilization, human resources development, information dissemination, advocacy, and linkages.

For her part, Budget Secretary Amenah Pangandaman said the allocation will "empower" innovators and researchers

the final payment of HEA to health workers themselves, the DOH said.

"DOH has listed 2,853 such facilities. Checks have been issued to 2,070 (73 percent) of them. In compliance with Commission on Audit (COA) guidelines, the DOH is continually reminding 517 of them to finalize the Memorandum of Agreement or MOA, and 649 of them to completely liquidate previous payments," it said.

Both health facilities and groups of health workers have publicly acknowledged receipt of their well-deserved HEA.

In an online human resources (HR) advisory,

society through science and technology undertakings," Pangandaman said.

In his Budget Message, Marcos underscored the need to accelerate the use of science, technology, and innovation as tools for achieving economic and social transformation.

He also affirmed his administration's goal of establishing the Philippines as a regional hub for smart and sustainable manufacturing, innovation, creativity, and sustainability.

To attain this objective, the DOST will be provided with PHP28.8 billion under the proposed 2025 budget. (PNA)

FamilyMart

Free rides available during 2-day transport strike



MANILA – The Philippine National Police (PNP) will deploy vehicles to provide rides to commuters who may be affected by the two-day strike of transport groups Manibela and Piston beginning Monday.

In a radio interview Sunday, PNP spokesperson Col. Jean Fajardo said police units were tasked to monitor their areas of jurisdiction and to assist stranded passengers.

"The order of our Chief PNP (Gen. Rommel Marbil) is to provide free rides to the stranded commuters," Fajardo said.

Free rides will also be provided by local government units, Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board and Metropolitan Manila Development Authority.

Transport groups Manibela and Piston continue to oppose the government's Public Transport Modernization Program and demand the following: junking of forced franchise consolidation; renewal of franchises and registrations for all public utility vehicle (PUV) operators, including those who choose not to consolidate; redirecting funds for the phasout pro-

grams to the rehabilitation of traditional jeepneys and subsidies for local industries; and allowing the withdrawal of those who have made franchise consolidation.

Senate President Francis Escudero recently met with Department of Transportation Secretary Jaime Bautista and Undersecretary for Road Transport and Infrastructure Jesus Ferdinand Ortega to make sure the PTMP has minimal impacts on drivers and operators.

"We are all for organizing and modernizing the operations of our PUVs but we should also exert all efforts to include every driver and operator who have relied on jeepneys as their sources of livelihood," Escudero said in a statement.

Fajardo said that while the government fully respects the right to protest, Manibela and Piston must also recognize the right of other transport operators and drivers to ply their routes.

"We are always ready and our police forces are always on standby," she said. (PNA)

TANONG Anong tanim mong pagkain sa bahay o bakuran nyo ka-Agri? DA-Calaborzon rafrc@calaborzon.da.gov.ph

Expect longer nights, cooler days ahead: PAGASA



MANILA – The upcoming onset of the northeast monsoon or "amihan" season may bring cooler days ahead and longer nights due to the equinoxes, the head of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) said Monday.

PAGASA Administrator Nathaniel Servando said Sept. 22 is autumnal or fall equinox, when neither the earth's pole is tilted.

"It marks the beginning of the earth to tilt away from the sun, and just the beginning of longer night and shorter daytime," he told the Philippine News Agency.

He added that meteorologically, Sept. 22 marks the end of northern hemisphere summer and the start of autumn season.

PAGASA's recorded sunrise on Sept. 22 was 5:45 a.m. and sunset at 5:52 p.m.

Servando said sunrise on Monday is at 5:45 a.m. and sunset at 5:51 p.m., a minute earlier from the previous sunset.

Those in the equator had an equal daytime and nighttime on Sept. 22, he said.

The Philippines, which is in the northern hemisphere, could expect the start of the winter season on Dec. 21 (winter solstice) until March 20 (vernal or spring equinox) or the start of spring.

"The longest

nighttime will be on Dec. 21, when either of the earth's pole reaches its maximum tilt (23.5 degrees) away from the Sun," Servando said.

Servando said that on Dec. 21, the day will be shorter by about 1 hour and 44 minutes.

For comparison, he said that last June 21, sunrise was at 5:28 a.m. and sunset was at 6:28 p.m.

On Dec. 21, sunrise will be at 6:16 a.m. while sunset will be at 5:32 p.m.

"Then the earth's tilt will move towards zero degree again on March 20 (during vernal or spring equinox) and daytime and nighttime will be equal again," he said.

Meanwhile, Servando said the public could also look forward to cooler temperatures in the coming days due to the "amihan" season.

"In the coming days, the winds will be colder due to the shift from 'habagat' (southwest monsoon) to 'amihan'," he said. However, there is no indication yet to terminate "habagat" as the prevailing weather system, Servando said.

"But normally, the onset of 'amihan' season falls between the last week of September to first week of October. It varies," he said.

The onset of "amihan" season was declared on Oct. 20, 2023 and was terminated last March 22. (PNA)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Fourth Judicial Region Regional Trial Court Office of the Clerk of Court Imus, Cavite

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

-versus- EVELYN D. CAPUTOLAN for herself and as Atty-in-Fact of her husband LEONIDES C. CAPUTOLAN, Mortgageors,

FC CASE NO. 17986-23 Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of Real Estate Mortgage Under Act No. 3135, as Amended, Republic Act. No. 4118

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 office at The Petron Mega Plaza Bldg. No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, against EVELYN D. CAPUTOLAN for herself and as Atty-in-Fact of her husband LEONIDES C. CAPUTOLAN, mortgageors, with postal address at Davis Norte, Carmen, Cebu City and/or Lot 6 Blk 22, Pacific Terraces Community, Brgy. Calsadang Bago, Imus, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of March 15, 2023 amounts to FOUR HUNDRED ONE THOUSAND FIFTY THREE PESOS AND 40/100 (P401,053.40) Philippine Currency, including interest and penalty charges, but excluding attorney's fees, sheriff's fees and all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff IV will sell at Public Auction on November 5, 2024 at 10:00 am, or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Office of the Clerk of Court, Bulwagan Ng Katarungan, Aguinaldo Highway, Imus, Cavite, to the highest bidder for cash and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all the improvements therein, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 057-2012009058 A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 6 BLK 22 OF THE CONS./ SUBD. PLAN PCS-04-023741, BEING A PORTION OF LOTS 1272 & 1273, IMUS ESTATE, L.R.C. REC. NO.), SITUATED IN BRGY. OF CALSADANG BAGO, MUN. OF IMUS, PROV. OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON. BOUNDED ON THE NW, ALONG LINE 1-2 BY LOT 5, BLK. 22; ON THE NE, ALONG LINE 2-3 BY ROAD 16; ON THE SE, ALONG LINE 3-4 BY LOT 7; ON THE SW., ALONG LINE 4-1 BY LOT 3, BLK 22, ALL OF THE CONS.-SUBD. PLAN. x x x CONTAINING AN AREA OF ONE HUNDRED FIVE (105) SQ. METERS. x x x

All sealed bid must be submitted to the undersigned on the stated tune and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on November 12, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. without prior notice.

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

Imus, Cavite, Philippines, September 17, 2023

ANSELMO P. RAGUNSAN, JR Sheriff IV RTC, Branch 20

Approved: ARMIE A. FRANCISCO Clerk of Court VI

Copy Furnished: HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (Pag-IBIG FUND) The Petron Mega Plaza Bldg., No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City ATTY. RIZALDY F. DE LEON ATF, Bernales and Associates. Suite 6 Third Floor, A. Francisco Gold Condominium I, 784 EDSA West Kamias District, Quezon City SPS. EVELYN D. CAPUTOLAN & LEONIDES C. CAPUTOLAN Davis Norte, Carmen, Cebu City Lot 6 Blk 22, Pacific Terraces Community, Brgy. Calsadang Bago, Imus, Cavite

PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO SEPTEMBER 23, 30 & OCTOBER 7, 2024

DOTr defers tollway fines on motorists without RFID to 2025



MANILA – The Department of Transportation (DOTr) has deferred to 2025 the imposition of fines on motorists along expressways with no radio frequency identification (RFID) tags or insufficient funds on their accounts.

According to the DOTr, the postponement will give operators more time to address faulty RFIDs and other issues in their operations.

"We are extending to January next year the implementation of the penalties, not the whole program of cashless expressways under the Joint Memorandum Circular 2024-001," DOTr Secretary Jaime Bautista said in a Palace press briefing Monday.

"We are collating inputs from recent consultation meetings with vari-

ous tollway stakeholders, including information and profiles of violators. This information will be used to make any amendments to the joint memorandum circular," he added.

Bautista affirmed the government's commitment to pursuing "convenient and traffic-less travels at all expressways using cashless toll exits."

The imposition of fines was supposed to take effect starting Sept. 1. It was later moved to Oct. 1 to give time for tollway operators and concerned agencies to fine-tune their operations and conduct a public information campaign.

According to the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB), around 100,000 vehicles or 4.8% of motorists still have no RFIDs. (PNA)

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