

CICC, PLDT to boost telecoms resiliency vs. disasters, cyberattacks



MANILA – The Cybercrime Investigation and Coordination Center (CICC) and telecommunications firm PLDT-Smart are leading a public-private collaboration to improve the resiliency of the sector against disasters and cyberattacks.

In a statement Friday, Smart vice president Roy Ibay announced the formation of the Protect Technology-Telecom Alliance (PROTECTA) Pilipinas, a movement that seeks to safeguard technology

The memorandum was signed by CICC, PLDT-Smart, the Philippine Chamber of Telecommunications Operators (PCTO), advocacy group CitizenWatch Philippines, public policy think-tank Infrawatch PH, Federation of International Cable TV Association of the Philippines (FICTAP) and Meralco.

“This endeavor is proof that the government cares for the industry. These efforts will ensure that our critical infrastructure for communications is given proper attention in terms of security and integrity,” Ibay said.

PROTECTA Pilipinas, he said, seeks to promote resilience, or to identify and advocate for measures that would enhance the resilience of the

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GSIS assures member data safety after security breach

MANILA – The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) on Friday assured its employees, members, and pensioners that their personal information remains secure following a confirmed security incident involving a compromised administrator account on a test computer.

“We assure our employees, members and pensioners that the protection of their information is of utmost priority. GSIS is

implementing needed measures to protect our systems and information,” the state workers’ pension fund said in a statement.

GSIS said the breach was reported on Thursday, and an investigation is ongoing to determine its extent.

“The affected computer is a test computer and contains dummy data used for the tests,” the statement read.

GSIS is now vali-



dating the intruder’s claims in compliance with the Data Privacy Act and implementing measures to safeguard its systems and information. (PNA)



Speaker cites PBBM's intervention as rice prices drop to P42/kg



MANILA – Speaker Martin Romualdez on Wednesday credited the administration of President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. for the significant decline in rice prices, with some varieties selling for as low as PHP42 per kilo, during his visit to three key markets in Metro Manila.

Romualdez attributed the reduction to the government’s efforts to sta-

bilize rice prices and ensure affordability for consumers, particularly the move to cut the duties on imported rice. Executive Order (EO) 62, which lowered the tariffs on imported rice from 35 percent to 15 percent, was implemented last July 5.

Romualdez visited Guadalupe Market in Makati City, as well as Nepa-Q Mart and Farm-

ers Market in Quezon City upon the invitation of the Philippine Rice Industry Stakeholders’ Movement (PRISM), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the Department of Agriculture (DA).

“Nakita natin may 45 pesos kada kilo, meron ding 42 pesos for broken rice, yung well-milled 45 pesos. At yun talaga ang gusto nating makita, na pababa nang pababa [ang presyo ng bigas] (We’ve seen rice selling prices at PHP45 per kilo, even PHP42 for broken rice and PHP45 for well-milled [rice]. And that’s what we want to see, the continuous decrease [in the price of rice]),” Romualdez said.

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DepEd, LBP ink pact to repair classrooms in 12 last-mile schools

MANILA – The Department of Education (DepEd) and the Landbank of the Philippines (LandBank) on Wednesday inked a partnership to repair disaster-affected classrooms in 12 last-mile schools.

In a statement, DepEd Secretary Sonny Angara lauded the LandBank for entering into a two-year partnership with the education sector.

“Nagpapasalamat po kami ng lubos sa inyong generosity at kagandahang loob. Ramdam na ramdam po namin ang inyong malasakit (We are immensely grateful for your generosity and goodwill. We truly feel your concern), and it is clear that you have chosen



communities that will really benefit from the donations,” he said.

Under the MOU, each of the 12 schools will receive a PHP500,000 fund for repairs from the LandBank, for a total of PHP6 million.

Meanwhile, LandBank President Lynette Ortiz said the LandBank

Leasing and Finance Corporation and the LandBank Resources and Development Corporation contributed another PHP1 million for funding and construction assistance for the construction of selected schools.

“We are introducing this volunteerism com-

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BAGONG PATIENT TRANSPORT para sa kapamilyang Mendezeño



Ngayong araw ay personal na nagsadya sa Quirino Grandstand ang ating Punong Bayan, Kgg. Francisco T. Mendoza, Jr. upang dumalo sa pamamahagi ni Pangulong Bongbong Marcos ng Patient Transport Vehicle (PTV) o ambulansya sa ilang mga Lokal na Pamahalaan sa bansa. Sa ilalim ng Medical Transport Vehicle Donation Program ng PCSO ay napagkalooban ang ating bayan ng isang bagong PTV na ating magagamit upang makapagdala ng mga pasyente sa mga pagmamamutan. Kaugnay nito, nagpasalamat ang Lokal na Pamahalaan kay Pangulong BBM at sa PCSO para sa patuloy na pagpapaabot ng tulong sa ating mga kapamilyang Mendezeño.

Cayetano: Kailangan ng matibay na pundasyon para sa FIVB 2025 sa Pilipinas

Habang naghahanda ang Pilipinas para sa solo hosting ng FIVB Volleyball Men’s World Championship Philippines 2025, binigyang diin ni Senador Alan Peter Cayetano ang kahalagahan ng pagtatayo ng matibay na pundasyon – hindi lamang para sa sports hosting kundi para rin sa pagbuo ng mga komunidad at pagbabago ng bansa. “We all know that to do all of those you need a good seed, a good soil, and a right environment,” wika ni Cayetano, Chairman Emeritus ng Philippine National Volleyball Federation (PNVF), sa kanyang mensahe nitong September 14, 2024 para sa Drawing of Lots (DOL) ng championship na ginanap sa Solaira

Resort. “We know that volleyball is a good seed. It’s an instrument to change the world, the individual, team, school, and the community,” dagdag niya. Pinuri ng senador ang kakayahang ng bansa sa pagho-host ng mga international sporting events tulad ng 2019 Southeast Asian (SEA) Games, 2023 FIBA Basketball World Cup, at AVC Women’s Challenge Cup nitong Mayo kung saan nanalo ng bronze medal ang Women’s National Volleyball Team, Alas Pilipinas. “You’ve seen the seed of women’s volleyball in the country and how it’s grown, you’ve seen the seed in the Philippines, you’ve seen the good soil,” sabi niya. Ibinida rin ni Cayetano ang lumalaking fanbase ng bansa para sa sports. Ayon sa senador, hindi lamang ang national team ang sinusupportahan ng mga Pilipino kundi pati na rin ang mga katunggali nito mula sa ibang bansa. “You want to know our secret? The legendary hospitality of the Philippines. One of the few countries where everyone cheers not only for their country,”



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2M farmers to benefit from new agri credit facility



MANILA – Over two million Filipinos will benefit from the new credit facility that the Marcos administration launched this week, allowing registered farmers to avail of up to PHP60,000 in subsidies during cropping season.

At the Saturday News Forum, Department of Agriculture (DA) Assistant Secretary and spokes-

person Arnel De Mesa said the Agri-Puhunan at Pantawid Program (APP) is provided on top of existing government subsidies to farmers, such as seeds, irrigation and machinery.

APP beneficiaries will receive a net amount of PHP58,000 for production costs and a subsistence allowance of PHP8,000 for four months.

“PHP60,000 kada cropping season. So, hindi na mamumroblema iyang ating mga magsasaka kung saan sila kukuha ng additional na panggastusin nila, additional na pera para pambili ng fertilizer or additional inputs doon sa kanilang sakahan (This will

be a total of PHP60,000 every cropping season. So, they won’t have to worry anymore where they will get their additional money to but fertilizers and additional inputs for their farms),” De Mesa said.

“This is good for farmers na hindi lalampas sa dalawang ektarya iyang sinasaka. Sa mga rice farmers, more than two million rice farmers ito na makikinabang sa buong Pilipinas (for farmers who tend to no more than two hectare of land. Nationwide, more than two million farmers will benefit from this),” he added.

De Mesa said the see page 7...

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF DEPED SCHOOL DIVISION OFFICE OF CAVITE CITY



Dumalo at nakiisa po tayo kasama ang mga kawani at guro mula sa Department of Education (DepEd) bilang bahagi ng kanilang pagdiriwang ng Golden Jubilee ng School Division of Cavite City ngayong taon.

Hindi po matawaran ang sipag at dedikasyon ng ating kaguruan

na maghatid ng dekalidad na edukasyon para sa ating mga kabataan. Naniniwala po akong ito ang isa sa pinakamahalagang pamana ng School Division ng Cavite City sa mga mag-aaral na Caviteño na naghahangad ng katuparan sa kanilang mga pangarap.

Hangad ko po ang patuloy na lakas at tagump-

ay ng ating Kagawaran ng Edukasyon at asahan ninyong pong kaisa ninyong palagi si Cong. Jolo sa hangaring pataasin pa ang antas ng pagkatuto at pamumuhay sa ating distrito tungo sa isang Bagong Pilipinas.

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Dandruff at nail fungal infection

Payo ni Doc Ong

ANG dandruff o balakubak ay isang kondisyon sa anit na may kasamang sobrang pangangati at pagkatuklap ng balat. Ito ay hindi naman nakahahawa at hindi seryosong sakit, ngunit ang pagkakaroon ng balakubak ay nakababahal sa iba.

Maraming posibleng dahilan ang balakubak gaya ng: dry skin, iritasyon, seborrheic dermatitis, psoriasis, eczema, yeast-like fungus o malassezia, hindi madalas na pagsa-shampoo at ensitibo ang anit sa mga ginagamit na hair products.

Paano ginagamot ang balakubak:

1. Mag-shampoo ng regular – Gumamit ng mild shampoo o non-medicated shampoo. Dahan-dahan itong imasahe sa anit para matanggal ang mga natuklap na balat. Banlawan itong mabuti.

2. Gumamit ng medicated shampoo kung malala ang kaso ng balakubak – Hanapin ang shampoo na naglalaman ng zinc pyrithione, salicylic acid, coal tar o selenium sulfide. Ang medicated shampoo na Nizoral 1% ay nakapupukso ng balakubak sanhi ng fungi na naninirahan sa anit. Ang shampoo na ito ay mabibili sa botika over-the-counter o minsan kailangan pa nito ng reseta.

3. Itigil ang paggamit ng mga styling products – Ang hair sprays, styling gels, mousses at hair waxes ay nagiging dahilan para maging malangis o oily ang buhok at anit.

4. Kumain ng masusustansiyang pagkain – Kumain ng mga pagkain na nagbibigay ng sapat na Zinc at B Vitamins na makatutulong maiwasan ang balakubak.

5. Subukang gumamit ng tea tree oil. Ang herbal na ito ay nakatutulong mabawasan ang balakubak. Ang langis ng tea tree oil ay nakukuha sa dahon at ito ay ginagamit na antiseptic, antibiotic, at antifungal.

Nail fungal infection

Ang nail fungal infection ay kadalasang nangayayari sa daliri sa paa dahil nakakulong ang mga ito sa madilim, mainit at mamasang paligid ng sapatos.

Ito ay nagsisimula sa maliliit na puti o dilaw na spot sa kuko ng paa. Depende sa uri ng fungus, ang kuko ay maaaring mag-iba ang kulay, kumapal, maging malutong. Ang ibabaw ng kuko ay nawawala ang kintab.

Ang fungal infection ay dumarami dahil sa matinding pagpapawis, pagtatrabaho sa basang paligid, pagsuot ng sapatos ng matagal at kung may diabetes.

Para maiwasan ang nail fungal infection:

1. Iwasan na sobra ang haba o ikli ng kuko. Gupitin ang kuko ng diretso.
2. Panatilihin ang paa na laging malinis at tuyo. Tuyuin ang paa at pagitan ng mga daliri, pagkatapos maligo.

3. Palitan ng madalas ang medyas, lalo na kung ang paa ay sobrang magpawis.
4. Hubarin paminsan-minsan ang sapatos tuwing umaga o pagtapos mag-ehersisyo.

5. Gumamit ng mga anti-fungal spray o powder sa iyong sapatos.
6. Huwag gupitin ang balat sa paligid ng kuko.
7. Iwasang maglakad ng nakapaa sa maruming pampublikong lugar gaya ng swimming pool, shower at locker rooms.

8. Subukan ang pagbabad sa suka. Wala pang matibay na ebidensya pero ayon sa pag-aaral, makapigil ng pagdami ng mikrobyo ang suka.

Ibadang mga paa ng 15 minutos sa pinaghalong 1 bahagi ng suka at 2 bahagi ng maligamgam na tubig. Kung ang balat ay mairita subukan ibabad ng dalawa hanggang tatlong beses bawat linggo o dagdagan ang dami ng tubig na ihahalo.

9. Kapag hindi pa umigi ang kondisyon ng iyong kuko, kumunsulta sa doktor.



P31.93-B for gov't pay hike released; transparency dashboard launched

MANILA – The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has so far released about PHP31.93 billion to fund the salary increase of government workers in 257 state departments and agencies.

"We are doing everything we can so that we can release the budget to all agencies as soon as possible. Ito po 'yung pinakahihintay ng ating mga kasamahan sa gobyerno (This is what our fellow government workers are waiting). Of course, we also urge the heads of the departments and agencies to distribute immediately the salary differential since 'yung (the) increase po is retroactive starting January of this year," DBM Secretary Amenah Pangandaman said in a news release Wednesday.

Based on the DBM's latest data, the funds for the salary adjustment have been released to the Office of the President; Office of the Vice President; Congress; DBM; and departments of Agriculture, Education, Energy, Environment, Foreign Affairs, Health, Local Government, Justice, Labor, Migrant Workers, Defense, Public Works, Social Welfare and Trade.

The DBM has distributed the funds for salary increase to the Department of Information and Tech-

nology; Department of Science and Technology; state universities and colleges; the National Economic Development Authority; other executive offices; Civil Service Commission; Commission on Audit; Commission on Human Rights; and the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority.

The release of funds for 58 more agencies are already being processed, the DBM said. "This dashboard reflects our commitment to transparency and open government. What we want is for the people and our stakeholders to be informed as well as updated in real-time about our budget releases," Pangandaman said.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. signed Executive Order 64 on Aug. 2, approving the SSL VI, a four-tranche pay hike for civilian state workers starting this year until 2027. (PNA)

The salary increase dashboard can be

viewed through the DBM's official website <https://www.dbm.gov.ph/>.

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FamilyMart



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Speaker cites...

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"On behalf of the House of Representatives, we welcome this positive development. This is truly in line with the Marcos administration's commitment to ensuring that food, particularly rice, remains affordable and accessible for all Filipinos," he added.

He expressed hope the trend will continue to bring much-needed relief to Filipino families as Christmas season approaches.

Aside from the rice tariff reduction, Romualdez also cited the Marcos administration's commitment to implement long-term solutions, such as increasing domestic rice production, improving import regulations, and penalizing those involved in illegal trade practices.

"President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has made it clear that food security is a top priority for his administration. This is not just about lowering prices temporarily, but about ensuring a sustainable supply chain that benefits both consumers and farmers," Romualdez said.

On the part of the House, Romualdez highlighted the chamber's efforts to combat hoarding and price manipulation, through collaboration with rice traders and the conduct of fact-finding missions to inspect rice warehouses in Bulacan province.

"Together with PRISM and other stakeholders, we have been ac-

tively working to stop rice hoarding and price manipulation. I would like to commend the rice traders who have responded to our call to make rice affordable and available for everyone," the Speaker said.

Romualdez, meanwhile, called on local government units and private stakeholders to support ongoing initiatives aimed at bringing down the cost of essential goods, emphasizing that everyone has a role to play in stabilizing the market.

"As we continue to work towards this goal, we ask for the cooperation of all stakeholders. This is a whole-of-nation approach, and together, we will make sure that no Filipino family goes hungry," he said.

"This price reduction is just the beginning. We will not stop until rice is affordable to every Filipino family. We remain committed to improving the livelihoods of our farmers while ensuring that consumers are not overburdened by high prices," he added.

According to DA's price monitoring last week, the weekly average retail price of locally produced was PHP47.54 per kg, while local well-milled rice at PHP50.97 per kilo.

Imported regular milled rice was sold at an average retail price of PHP47.91 per kg, while imported well-milled rice was sold at an average price of PHP51.59 per kilo. (PNA)

CICC, PLDT to...

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country's telecommunications (telecom) networks.

This includes redundancy, disaster recovery plans, and cybersecurity protocols.

The alliance proposed a collaboration with government bodies responsible for telecom regulation

and infrastructure management to protect telecom assets.

It also encourages best practices, information sharing, and joint efforts to secure infrastructure among telecom operators, equipment manufacturers, and service providers.

Cayetano: Kailangan ng...

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wika niya. Kasama ang kanyang mga kapwa Local Organizing Committee (LOC) co-chairs na sina William Vincent "Vinny" Araneta Marcos, PNVF President Ramon "Tats" Suzara, Senador Pia Cayetano, at Tourism Secretary Christina Garcia Frasco, inilunsad ni Cayetano ang one-year countdown pantungo sa championship. Nagbigay ng katiyakan si Cayetano na ang FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship Philippines 2025, na nakatakdang maganap mula September 12 hanggang 28, ay magiging unique at memorable. "Allow us through actions to show you our gratitude. Please wait and see what

we can do with the good soil and seed of the Men's World (Volleyball) Championship 2025," sabi ng senador. Sa isang panayam pagkatapos ng event, ibinahagi ng senador kung ano ang mga magagandang maudulot ng pagho-host ng championship hindi lamang sa bansa kundi sa mga atleta at sports community. "We're hoping that this will give so much opportunities for the country. And y'ung hosting, grabe 'yan. Eight hundred million fans worldwide – kahit saan mo tingnan (it's a win-win for us)," sabi niya. "We need things like this. Sports is something we can really use for transformation," dagdag niya.###

beneficiaries will receive an Interventions Monitoring Card (IMC) that they can use to purchase seeds and fertilizers, which is also linked to DA's accredited suppliers.

"Ang pangunahin (na layunin) dito is makakawala sila doon sa mga (Our main goal here is to help them free themselves from) loan sharks," he said. "Imagine mo, sa 5-6 that's 20 percent per month -- ito one percent sa isang cropping season o

sa kalahating taon ay two percent per annum. Halos hindi ramdam ito ng ating mga magsasaka (Imagine, if they are loaning via 5-6, that's 20 percent per month. With this, it's only one percent per cropping season or two percent biannual. It won't be a burden to them)," he said.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. led the launch of the Agri-Puhunan at Pantawid Program in Guimba, Nueva Ecija on Friday. (PNA)

will foster a culture of excellence, innovation, and compassion, preparing students to become skilled and dedicated practitioners.

The project is a testament to the commitment of De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute to advancing healthcare education and improving the health and well-being of the community. As construction progresses, the institute looks forward to welcoming the next generation of healthcare leaders to its campus and contributing to the advancement of healthcare in the Philippines.



GUHIT NG KAPALARAN

VIRGO: (Ago. 23-Set.23) – Ang practice ng oration meditation ang aakit ng opportunity sa pag-angat ng kabuhayan. Huwag mag-atubiling tulungan ang kamag-anak na nangangailangan. Piliin ang paggawa ng mabuti dahil ito rin ang aanihin. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 48, 32, 15, 23, 57 at jade

LIBRA: (Set. 24-Okt. 23) – Lalapit sa iyo ang investor, maaayos ang business presentation. Magpa-feng shui para maalis ang sumpa. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 15, 33, 45, 25, 56 at cinnamon brown.

SCORPIO: (Okt. 24-Nob. 22) – Mag-ikapu para magkaroon ng open door hanggang sa makamit ang profitable investment. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 42, 11, 26, 53, 33 at lava red.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nob. 23-Dis. 21) – Kasali ka sa mabibiyayaan sa hindi inaasahang paraan. Mas tatatag ang iyong financial status. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 15, 22, 48, 33, 56 at amethyst violet.

CAPRICORN: (Dis. 22-Ene. 19) – Ang feng shui ritual ang makakatulong para matamo ang hinahangad na peace of mind. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 42, 56, 22, 25, 12, at butter yellow.

AQUARIUS: (Ene. 20-Peb. 18) – Masaya ang buhay at malamang pipiliin na magbalik sa probinsya kung saan mas panatag ang kalooban mo. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 23, 36, 49, 15, 51 at carrot orange.

PISCES: (Peb. 19-Mar. 20) – Maging honest sa tungkulin. Kung nagkaroon ng masalimuot na karanasan, kaligayahan naman ang makakamtan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 43, 36, 59, 21, 12, at kidlat red.

ARIES: (Mar. 21-Abr. 19) – Ituloy ang mga plano kung may sapat na pag-aaral. Kung nalagab sa ipinagbabawal, manini-ngil ang kalusugan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 18, 22, 46, 52, 35 at dollar green.

TAURUS: (Abr. 20-May. 20) – Ang karanasan ay magiging matibay na tungtungan para magtagumpay. Huwag maniwala sa sabi-sabi. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 15, 29, 35, 48, 55 at satin white.

GEMINI: (May. 21-Hun. 21) – Sundin mo ang kalooban sa desisyon kaugnay sa personal life. Naglalandas ang oportunidad sa abroad. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 35, 46, 15, 55, 26, at cyan blue.

CANCER: (Hun. 22-Hul. 22) – Pag-aralan ang ugali ng mayaman na manliligaw. Huwag basta sumang-ayon sa bagay na hindi naiintindihan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 55, 32, 43, 12, 23 at mango orange.

LEO: (Hul. 23-Ago. 22) – Ang regular na pag-iikapu ang mag-i-estabilish ng daily income mo. Huwag magmura para di lumayo ang grasya. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 16, 36, 47, 56, 23 at carrot orange.



PBBM hday gift: P3.19-B aid, free services at Level 3 public hospitals

MANILA – Patients currently in Level 3 public hospitals nationwide no longer need to pay for their bills, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. announced Friday, saying the government will shoulder their expenses as a present to them on his birthday.

Marcos, who is celebrating his 67th birthday, announced the free health and medical service during the launch of Agri-Puhunan at Pantawid Program in Guimba, Nueva Ecija.

“Layunin din po naming matulungan ang ating mga kababayan na may pangangailangang medikal. Kaya po sa araw na ito, sasagutin po natin ang lahat ng bayarin ng mga pasyente sa lahat ng pamublikong Level 3 hospital sa bansa (We also aim to help our countrymen who have medical needs. So today, we will cover all the fees of patients in all public level 3 hospitals in the country),” he said.

Marcos said there would also be mini trade fairs, business counselings and entrepreneurial trainings for those who want to become entrepreneurs.

Marcos said he wants Filipinos to feel the “real” change under his administration.

“Sa dinami-daming puwedeng ipagdiriwang sa araw na ito, ang pinaka-espesyal ay ang pagkakataon na maglilingkod sa bawat Pilipino sa mailapit ang gobyerno sa taumbayan (Of the many things that can be celebrated on this day, the most special is the opportunity to serve every Filipino and bring the government closer to the people),” Marcos said.

“Ang araw na ito ay hindi lamang tungkol sa pagdiriwang kundi sa pagbibigay ng bagong simula at tunay na pagbabago sa huhay ng bawat Pilipino (This day is not only about celebrating but about giving a new beginning and real change in the life of every Filipino),” he added.

The Presidential Communications Office said the Department of Health would release PHP328 million to 22 ter-



tiary hospitals nationwide to cover the free medical expenses of patients who are confined and undergoing treatment.

All inpatient, outpatient and emergency medical services at level three public hospitals are covered.

In Metro Manila, the participating hospitals include the Philippine General Hospital, Philippine Orthopedic Center, Philippine Heart Center, Philippine Children's Medical Center, National Kidney and Transplant Institute, Lung Center of the Philippines, Jose R. Reyes Memorial Hospital, and East Avenue Medical Center.

Patients in Luzon can avail free medical services at the Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center, Cagayan Valley Medical Center, Bicol Medical Center, Batangas Medical Center, Batanes General Hospital, and the Dr. Paulino J. Garcia Memorial Medical Center.

Patients in Visayas may visit the Vicente Sotto Memorial Hospital, Gov. Celestino Gallares Memorial Hospital, Eastern or the Visayas Regional Medical Center for free medical services.

In Mindanao, patients may go to the Amai Pakpak Medical Center, Davao Regional Medical Center, Cotabato Regional Medical Center, Mayor Hilario Ramiro Sr. Medical Center, or the Zamboanga City Medical Center.

Medical services that will be free to patients in participating hospitals include hospital bills; drugs and medicines; laboratory and diagnostic procedures; dental services; implants; therapy and rehabilitative services; chemotherapy; and dialysis.

Financial aid

Also on Friday, Marco gave PHP3.19 bil-

lion in financial assistance and government services nationwide through the “Handog ng Pangulo: Serbisyong Sapat Para sa Lahat” Program.

The Handog ng Pangulo: Serbisyong Sapat Para sa Lahat Program was launched simultaneously in 82 provinces, still as part of the celebration of his 67th birthday.

The PCO said the program aims to bring government services closer to the Filipino people, introduce key government programs, and provide assistance to help them start their livelihoods and support their daily needs, especially in calamity-stricken areas.

Participating government agencies include the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Health (DOH), and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) would also provide government services to the public.

The DTI, on the other hand, would participate in the Kadiwa ng Pangulo activities, as well as conduct business name registrations, business counseling, entrepreneurial training and services, and a mini trade fair.

DOLE earmarked PHP1.38 billion worth of assistance, with PHP1.120 billion to be used for the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged Workers (TUPAD) Program and PHP191.83 million for the Integrated Livelihood Program.

It also allocated PHP53.48 million for the Government Internship

Program and PHP14.69 million for its Special Program for Employment of Students.

It would provide 66 job fair sites across 58 provinces and 16 regions in the country.

Kadiwa stores will be set up nationwide to provide affordable agricultural products.

Seedlings, fertilizers, and other assistance will also be provided under the Sustainable Livelihood Program and the TUPAD Program.

TESDA would organize 100 skills demonstrations at various sites, offer 7,416 available slots for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) enrollment facilitation in 122 sites, and distribute training support funds to 12,038 beneficiaries, amounting to PHP46.17 million.

It would also provide toolkits worth PHP5.77 million to 1,390 beneficiaries and PHP48.12 million in scholarship grants to 2,224 beneficiaries.

TESDA would also offer free services like haircuts, body massages, and manicures or pedicures, along with products such as brewed coffee and pastry items.

During the launch of the “Agri-Puhunan at Pantawid Program” in Guimba, Nueva Ecija, Marcos said he wanted to celebrate his birthday by giving better government services as a present to his fellow Filipinos.

“Tunay nga na ang araw na ito ay hindi lamang tungkol sa pagdiriwang, kundi sa pagbibigay ng bagong simula at tunay na pagbabago sa buhay ng bawat Pilipino (It is true that this day is not only about celebration, but about giving a new beginning and true change in the life of every Filipino),” Marcos said.

“Ang lahat ng ito ay naglalayong bigyan ang bawat Pilipino ng bagong pagkakataon upang magtagumpay (All of this aims to give every Filipino a new chance to succeed),” he added. (With Ma. Teresa Montemayor/PNA)

OWWA to repatriates: Invest wisely cash aid from gov't

MANILA – Repatriated overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) must invest wisely the financial assistance they receive from the government, Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) chief Arnell Ignacio advised on Tuesday.

Ignacio and the OWWA Repatriations and Assistance Division (RAD) team, together with the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) and other concerned agencies, welcomed 35 OFWs from war-torn Lebanon at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 3 in Pasay City.

“Plano hining mabuti ang paglalagakan ng pinansyal na tulong na ibinahagi ng pamahalaan upang hindi ito maaksayang walang saysay (Carefully plan where to invest the financial assistance distributed by the government so that it won't go to waste),” Ignacio told the OFWs who availed of the voluntary repatriation program.

Help desks are also open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the DMW office in Mandaluyong City. (PNA)

He said there are livelihood trainings and seminars that they may avail from the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority.

Meanwhile, the OWWA-RAD brought to the hospital one of the repatriates who has a kidney disease

Each of the OFW repatriates will receive PHP75,000 financial assistance from OWWA and another PHP75,000 from DMW. They will also get medical and transportation assistance and hotel accommodations, if needed, while waiting for their flights to their provinces.

Ignacio called on other Filipinos in Lebanon who wish to go home to contact the DMW-OWWA One Repatriation Command Center through the 1348 hotline or send an email to repat@dmw.gov.ph.

Help desks are also open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the DMW office in Mandaluyong City. (PNA)

DepEd, LBP ink... from page 8

ponent that will mobilize employees to participate in repair and renovation efforts as well as support activities for both communities and learners involved,” she said.

Concerned Schools Division Offices (SDOs), meanwhile, will oversee adherence to government standards while ensuring learning continui-

ty during repairs.

School heads shall also secure documentation and updates while SDO engineers will work closely with LandBank's technical team.

Besides the repair of disaster-affected schools, the LandBank also committed to help link DepEd with other banks for the Adopt-a-School Program. (PNA)

PhilHealth hikes hemodialysis package rate to P6,350 per session

MANILA – The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) has increased the package rate for hemodialysis from from PHP4,000 to PHP6,350 per session.

In a statement on Wednesday, the Department of Health (DOH) said the PhilHealth Board en banc approved the new rate of PHP6,350 per session in both public and private dialysis units.

It also allowed private dialysis units to charge out of pocket if there are services provided beyond the listed minimum standards of care, the DOH said.

“Nephrologists in these private dialysis units are also allowed to bill an



additional professional fee of up to PHP450 for services rendered. The next step will be a detailed PhilHealth Circular and operationalization by PhilHealth Management to ensure that the higher rate can already be claimed,” the DOH added.

Earlier, DOH Secretary Teodoro Herbosa convened the Benefits

Committee (Becom) to hear the feedback from hospitals, dialysis centers, and the Philippine Society of Nephrology.

The Becom noted the operations feedback on the recently implemented PHP4,000 rate, particularly the persistent challenges of dialysis providers. (PNA)

DSWD-issued guarantee letters accepted in select pharmacies

MANILA – The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) on Wednesday said the guarantee letters it issued can now be used by its clients in need of assistance in buying medicines in select pharmacies in the country.

“Under the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program, the DSWD has been engaging with select pharmacies to help poor clients to purchase their medicine needs through the DSWD-issued GLs,” DSWD spokesperson Irene Dumlaog said.

A guarantee letter is a document issued by the DSWD in favor of

the beneficiary addressed to service providers that guarantees the payment of the service on behalf of the client, including medicine.

Among the pharmacies in Metro Manila that accept DSWD-issued GLs include Globo Asiatico Enterprises, Inc.; Onco Care Pharma Corporation; Urology Med Care Inc.; Complete Solution Pharmacy and General Merchandise; Haran Pharmaceutical Product Distribution

Ltd. Co.; Kemifinity Inc.; Medifinity Inc.; JCS Pharmaceuticals Inc.; Interpharma Solutions Philippines Inc.; and pharmacies under the Drugstore Association of the Philippines (DSAP).

Individuals in cri-



sis from other regions may contact or visit any DSWD Field Office in their area of residence for the complete list of pharmacies accepting agency-issued GLs.

The AICS is one of the social protection services of the DSWD that provides medical, burial, transportation, education, food, or financial assistance to individuals who are in crisis as assessed by social workers. (PNA)



Focus on ‘foundational skills’ to improve PISA performance – WB

MANILA – World Bank (WB) education specialists have outlined a range of support measures needed to improve the Philippines’ performance in International Large-Scale Assessments (ILSAs) beginning with foundational skills.

During the ILSAs Online Symposium on Sept. 9, the WB experts said that to improve education systems, there is a need to focus on literacy and numeracy especially in the early grades, where building a strong learning foundation is crucial.

Diego Luna Bazaldua, one of World Bank's senior education specialists, recommended that reforms should focus on integrating literacy and numeracy into all subjects and moving from a content-based to a competency-based curriculum.

He said this has been a successful strategy in countries like Ireland and Vietnam, where students' learning outcomes improved over the past decade.

However, redesigning the curriculum alone is not enough. Bazaldua said to ensure the success of such changes, learning materials must be aligned with the new curriculum, and teachers must be trained.

An additional recommendation was to adopt long-term commitments rather than short-term initiatives.

“Achieving substantial improvements in international assessments like PISA requires years of focused and sustained efforts,” Bazaldua said, as quoted in a news release of the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM 2).

He also pointed to the need to address inequities in education, ensuring



that students from all socio-economic backgrounds have access to quality foundational skills early in their education.

The ILSAs Online Symposium was organized by the EDCOM 2, along with the WB Philippine Country office and the Philippine Institute for Development Studies to discuss how ILSAs can be used in driving education reforms that would respond to the needs of Filipino learners.

Along with WB technical experts, EDCOM 2 co-chairperson Rep. Roman Romulo, Advisory Council Member Fred Ayala, Standing Committee Members Diosdado San Antonio and Teacher Therese Bustos and representatives from other EDCOM 2 Commissioners' offices were also present in the symposium. DepEd officials were also in attendance, led by Undersecretary Gina Gonong.

A key focus of the symposium was the Philippines' Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2022 results, which showed that over 75 percent of Filipino students are low performers in mathematics, science, reading and creative thinking.

EDCOM 2's analysis also found that, in comparison to the results of neighboring countries, the highest-achieving Filipino students are only comparable to the average students in countries like Malaysia, Thailand, Brunei and Vietnam, and to the weakest

students in Singapore.

The symposium also touched on the issue of language of instruction.

Ayala raised the question of whether conducting PISA in Filipino, rather than English, would have led to better outcomes for Filipino students.

Koji Miyamoto, another WB expert, responded that while there might be some differences, language alone would not guarantee better results.

“Other factors, such as socio-economic contexts and learning environments, play a significant role in learning outcomes,” he said.

Romulo echoed this concern, noting that the DepEd is legally mandated to use the mother tongue as the language of instruction in basic education. This requirement, however, poses challenges in a country with 19 major languages.

“Under our current laws, we are required, as a medium of instruction, to teach in the language that is dominant in that particular region or particular place or that particular school. In fact, that was the reason given to me by DepEd before, that is why they chose the English language -- because we have too many languages. And because we have too many languages, it becomes impossible to choose just one,” Romulo said. (PNA)

ARMY NAVY BURGER + BURRITO

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
CITY OF BACOR

Official Contact Number: (0917) 182-4546
Email address: rtc1bcr116@judiciary.gov.ph

IN THE MATTER OF THE ISSUANCE OF
OWNER'S DUPLICATE COPY OF
CONDOMINIUM CERTIFICATE OF
TITLE NO. 167-2021000338 OF THE REGISTRY
OF DEEDS OF CAVITE, BACOR BRANCH

MARISSA PAJUELAS ESTABAYA,
as represented by her Attorney-in-fact
ATTY. WENDELL LIM GO
Petitioner,

LRC Case No. 8843-2024-101

ORDER

Raffled before this Court is a Petition, dated February
7, 2024, by the petitioner Marissa Pajuelas Estabaya represented
by her Attorney-in-fact, Atty. Wendell Lim Go assisted by her
counsel Go and Lim Law Offices and Atty. Mark Anthony P. Lim,

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance
and compliant with A.M. No. 19-10-20-SC, let the same be set for
initial hearing on October 3, 2024 at 1:30 in the afternoon.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to any person claiming
an interest to file an opposition stating why this petition should
not be granted on or before the above scheduled hearing. Fur-

Let this Order be published once a week for three con-
secutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the Prov-
ince of Cavite.

The Process Server of this Court is ordered to post
copies of this Order in three conspicuous places in the City of
Bacoor where the subject property is situated.

Let copy of this Order be furnished to the Office of
the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Cavite, Office of the
Registry of Deeds for the City of Bacoor, The Land Management
Bureau and all the adjacent owner/s and person/s named in the
petition who appear to have an interest in the petition.

The petitioner and counsel are directed to furnish copy
of the petition to the Office of the Registry of Deeds for the Prov-
ince of Cavite, Office of the Registry of Deeds for the City of Ba-
coor, the Land Management Bureau and all the adjacent owner/s
and person/s named in the petition who appear to have an inter-
est in the petition and to submit compliance within ten (10) days
from receipt of this order.

Furnish copy of this Order/Notice to the Office of the Clerk of
Courts, Regional Trial Courts, City of Bacoor, Cavite for raffle.

SO ORDERED

GIVEN IN CHAMBERS, this 15th day of August 2024
in the City of Bacoor.

PERSEPHONE MEIR B. BELENA
Assisting Judge

Copy furnished:

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Buhay na Tubig, Imus City, Cavite

REGISTRY OF DEEDS
Bacoor City, Cavite

REGISTRY OF DEEDS
Trece Martires City, Cavite

Land Management Bureau
880 F.R. Estuar Building Quezon Ave.,
Brgy. Paligsahan, Quezon City.

PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 & 16, 2024

DENR: Urbanization caused
massive flooding

MANILA – Urbaniza-
tion remains the main culprit in the
recent flooding in Metro Manila amid
the continued rains caused by Severe
Tropical Storm Enteng and the southwest
monsoon or "habagat," according to an
official of the Department of Environ-
ment and Natural Resources.

In a press briefing in
Quezon City on Thursday, DENR
Undersecretary Carlos Primo David
attributed the massive flooding in
Metro Manila to the vast urbanized
areas.

He added that quarry-
ing operations in Rizal, which many
people have been blaming for the
flooding, only have a minimal effect.

David said that ce-
mented urban areas have the same
effect as a quarry in terms of flood-
ing.

"When the area is
paved, no rainwater will enter on the
ground. If we compare how much
area is covered by quarries versus
how much area is covered by cities
and urbanized areas, walang (there
is no) comparison at all. We're talk-
ing about 350 hectares of quarry
versus more than 20,000 hectares
of urbanized area," he said, adding
that the effect of quarrying on the
massive flooding that Metro Manila
has experienced these past days was
"very minimal at about 1 percent
only."

Despite this, he said,
the department would still investi-
gate these quarrying operations to
determine how much they have
contributed to the flooding.

David said the DENR
would hold a dialogue with quarry
operators next week to discuss en-
vironmental issues.

"We will investigate
and see and make sure that the quarry
operations do not contribute to the
intensified flooding in the local area,"
he said.

David noted that about
seven quarrying operators in Rizal
cover an estimated 350 hectares of
land, and none of them is in the
protected 69,000-hectare Upper
Marikina watershed.

"But definitely, cate-

"To me, during the
rainy season, you impound as much
as you can, and during the dry season,
you release them. So, (it's) multipur-
pose," he added.

TANONG
Anong tanim mong
pagkain sa bahay o
bakuran nyo ka-Agri?
DA-Calabarzon
raffis@calabarzon.da.gov.ph

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

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS)
Mortgagee,
-versus-
RICARDO L. RIVERA for himself and as
Atty.-in-Fact of his wife CAROLINA C. RIVERA,
Mortgagors,
F.C CASE NO. 18680-23
EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER
ACT 3135 AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135
as amended by Act 4118 filed by SOCIAL SECURITY SYS-
TEM (SSS), mortgagee, with principal place of business at Cor.
M. Paulino St., & Balagtas Blvd., San Pablo City against RI-
CARDO L. RIVERA for himself and as Atty.-in-Fact of his
wife CAROLINA C. RIVERA, mortgagors, with residential and
postal address at #28 Hizon St., Lot 2 Blk. 5 Ph. 7, Bahayang
Pag-Asa Subd., Brgy. Bagong Silang (Formerly Buhay Na
Tubig), Imus, Cavite and/or 1447 Makata St., Sta. Cruz, Manila,
to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of September
1, 2023 amounts to FIVE MILLION NINE HUNDRED FOUR-
TEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED TWELVE PESOS &
78/100 (P5,914,412.78), Philippine Currency, including interest
and penalties, but excluding attorney's fees, sheriff's fees and
all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the un-
dersigned will sell at public auction on OCTOBER 29, 2024 at
10:00 A.M. or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Office
of the Clerk of Court, RTC-Imus Hall of Justice, Aguinaldo High-
way, Imus, Cavite, to the highest bidder, for CASH and in Phil-
ippine Currency, the following property with all improvements
therein, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-220214-
"A parcel of land (Lot 2, Blk. 5 of the subd. plan, Psd-
04-007972, being a portion of Lot 5501, Imus Estate, LRC Rec.
No.), situated in the Bo. of Buhay Na Tubig, Mun. of Imus, Prov.
of Cavite. Bounded on the NE., along line 1-2 by Lot 4; on the
SE., along line 2-3-4 by Road Lot 5; on the SW., along line
4-5 by Road Lot 1; on the NW., along line 5-1 by Lot 1; all of
the subd. plan. x x x containing an area of ONE HUNDRED
EIGHTY SEVEN (187) SQUARE METERS. xxx"

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

In the event the public auction should not take place
on the said date, it shall be held on NOVEMBER 5, 2024 at
10:00 A.M. without further notice.

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

Imus, Cavite, August 27, 2024.

WILMAR M DE VILLA
Sheriff IV
APPROVED:
ARMIE A. FRANCISCO
Clerk of Court VI

COPY FURNISHED:
SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM (SSS)
Cor. M. Paulino St., & Balagtas Blvd., San Pablo City, Laguna
SPS. RICARDO L. RIVERA AND CAROLINA C. RIVERA
#28 Hizon St., Lot 2 Blk. 5 Ph. 7, Bahayang Pag-Asa
Subd., Brgy. Bagong Silang (Formerly Buhay Na Tubig),
Imus, Cavite and/or 1447 Makata St., Sta. Cruz, Manila

PAHAYAGAN NG KABITENYO
SEPTEMBER 2, 9 & 16, 2024

DENR hastens processing,
issuance of public land patents



MANILA – The
Department of Environ-
ment and Natural Re-
sources (DENR) vowed
to further speed up the
processing and issuance
of public land patents to
eligible beneficiaries na-
tionwide, in celebration
of the "Handog Titulo" Month
this September.

In a Facebook
post on Tuesday, the DENR
said this complies with
the agency's Memorandum
Circular No. 2019-04,
pursuant to its mandate to
administer, manage, and
dispose of public lands in
favor of qualified benefi-
ciaries.

"Pagkakaroon ng
sariling lupa ay mahalaga-
ang hakbang sa pagpapabu-
ti ng buhay at kabuhayan
ng ating mga kababayan
(Having one's own land is
an important step in im-
proving the lives and liveli-
hoods of our countrymen),"
the post read.

The agency said
the program champions
social justice and bolsters
economic development.

The program, in
collaboration with the Reg-
istry of Deeds and the local
government units (LGUs),
aims to streamline the land
titling process and provide
security of tenure to occu-
pants of alienable and dis-
posable lands through ad-
ministrative titling.

On Sept. 5, the
DENR-Mimaropa (Mind-



CHED offers short-
course for halal food
standard in Indonesia



MANILA – The
Commission on High-
er Education (CHED) on
Tuesday offered regular
faculty members or techni-
cal personnel of higher ed-
ucation institutions (HEIs)
an in-person short course
about halal food standards
alongside field visits in In-
donesia.

"The Commis-
sion, in collaboration with
Universitas Bakrie, is ex-
cited to offer a 10-day
short-term course on "Hal-
al Food Standard Compli-
ance" to be conducted in
Indonesia," the CHED said
in a Facebook post.

The short course
shall span from October 30
to November 8 based on its
tentative schedule.

The short course is
open for a maximum of two
undergraduate and graduate
faculties or technical staff
in all HEIs, it added.

"This course is
tailored for faculty and

staff engaged in curriculum
development and institu-
tional quality assurance,
particularly those with a
teaching background in
food technology, agricul-
ture, hospitality, tourism,
hotel, and restaurant man-
agement at both undergrad-
uate and graduate levels,"
the CHED said.

Under the Con-
tinuing Professional De-
velopment Studies Grant
(CPDSG), the CHED
scholarship will shoulder
program and training fees
including travel, accommo-
dations, and meal expens-
es; training kits; stipend
or allowance; certificate of
completion; and immersion
or field visits to facilities in
Indonesia.

Interested appli-
cants, meanwhile, must be
nominated by their sending
HEIs with all the require-
ments on or before Septem-
ber 30. (PNA)

DOTr working on roadmap to transition public transport into e-vehicles



MANILA – The
Department of Transportation
(DOTr) is working on a road-
map to transition public trans-
port into electric vehicles.

DOTr Undersec-
retary Jesus Ortega said Monday
the department is advancing
zero carbon emission and mo-
bility, as well as alternative
fuel vehicles as part of the
government's commitment to
climate response and the grad-

The DOTr has been
pushing for key projects,
including the Public Trans-
port Modernization Program
(PTMP), Active Transport
Program, and partnerships
with local government units
to promote low-carbon urban
transport systems, to adhere to
the Paris Agreement.

"This harmonization
of transport projects is crucial
for shaping a more sustainable
future and creating greener
cities that are safe, commuter/
pedestrian-friendly, and acces-
sible for all," he said.

Other climate resil-

ency and climate mitigation
efforts are electric trains, sus-
tainable aviation fuel (SAF),
crew training on the use of
methanol for sea vessels, solar
panels for airport terminals,
and hybrid ferry boats along
the Pasig River.

The agency is also
studying the possibility of pro-
viding incentives to transport
cooperatives to encourage the
use of electric vehicles in pub-
lic transportation.

The incentives for
EVs, Ortega said, would be
part of the PTMP. (PNA)



Sustamina Fresh
Fresh na, Mura pa!
MEATSHOP
BEEF • PORK • CHICKEN • EGG • VEGETABLES
MASAGANANG
AGRIKULTURA
MAUNLAD NA
EKONOMIYA
HACCP CERTIFIED
NMISS APPROVED