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14 karagdagang FCAs, sumali sa Community-Based Swine Production thru DA Clustering Project

Labing-apat pang farmer's cooperative and associations (FCAs) mula Cavite, Laguna, Rizal, at Quezon ang pumirma ng Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) kasama ang National Livestock Program at Department of Agriculture Region IV - CALABARZON (DA-4A) bilang katibayan ng kanilang partisipasyon sa Community-based Swine Production through Clustering and Consolidation Project.

Ang nasabing proyekto ay naglalayongpalakasin ang industriya ng pagbababuyan sa bansa sa pamamagitan ng pamamahagi sa mga magbababoy ng modernong imprastraktura, kagamitan, puhunan, at iba pang suporta mula sa pag-aalaga hanggang sa pagbebenta ng baboy. Aabot sa Php 5.5 milyon ang tulong na makukuha ng mga benepisyaryo nito.

Hinimok ni Regional Technical Director for Operations and Extension Abelardo R. Bragas ang mga FCAs na maging maagap sa pag-aasikaso ng mga requirements at pakikipag-usap sa Kagawaran sa ikabibilis ng pagpapaabot ng tulong mula sa proyekto.

Samantala, galak at pasasalamat naman ang binigay ng mga benepisyaryong dumalo dahil sa pagkakataon na ibinigay sa kanilang makabangon muli matapos maapektuhan ng African Swine Fever (ASF).

Sa ngayon ay tinatarget pa ng DA-4A na mapaabot pa ang proyekto sa 21 pang FCAs sa rehiyon. Maaaring sumali ang mga samahang accredited bilang Civil Society Organization (CSO).

Dumalo din sa kaganapan ang mga opisyales ng DA-4A na sina Field Operations Division Chief Engr. Redelliza A. Gruezo, Agriculture Provincial Coordinator Fidel L. Libao, at Livestock Program Coordinator, Dr.

Medical and Dental Mission for residents of Noveleta

Thousands of residents from the municipality of Noveleta benefited from the Medical and Dental Mission conducted in coordination with the office of Vice Governor Jolo Revilla, Don@te Philippines and the local government unit on Saturday, held at the Noveleta Elementary School in Barangay San Rafael 2.

Hundreds of parents and individuals availed the free medical check up, X-Ray, and ECG including free medicines thru the assistance of Noveleta Municipal Health Officer Dr. Ma. Hilda Bucu.

Two hundred boys were circumcised while around a hundred residents availed the free tooth extraction.

Noveleta Mayor Dino Reyes-Chua visited the activity to personally see that the activity was safely and properly conducted.

Dr. Bucu announced the continuation of the free X-Ray services and free circumcision to all those that were not accommodated past the cut-off. Said services can be availed within the week at the Noveleta Vaccination Hub in Primark Mall, Brgy. Magdiwang. (Report/photos: Dennis Abrina)

Grand celebration of the National Women's Month in the municipality of Carmona

Isinagawa ng Pamahalaang Bayan ng Carmona ang Grand Celebration ng National Women's Month. Bunsod nito ay naghanda ang Lokal na Pamahalaan ng iba't-ibang aktibidad upang isulong ang kahalagahan ng karapatan ng mga kababaihan.

Ginanap dito ang Sigasig ni Juana 2022 kung saan ginawaran at kinilala sina MICHELLE INSORIO, CRISTINA MERCADO, LUNINGNING HAWAN, BABETH SORIANO MACASAET, at ANTIPAZ ALMONTE ARAGON, mga kababaihang solo parents na nagpamalas ng SIdhi, GAnda, at SIGla sa ating komunidad na patuloy na nagbibigay ng inspirasyon sa ating mga kababayan lalong-lalo na ngayong panahon ng pandemya.

Congratulations po sa inyong lahat at nawa'y patuloy po kayong maging inspirasyon sa lahat at maging modelo ng mga kababaihan sa ating Bayan.

Maraming salamat din sa ating panauhing pandangal na si Mrs. Monaliza Hernandez Salenga, ang Chief Financial Officer ng PBTS Corporation at Janstech Group of Companies at Founder ng Sweet Skin Care Center.

FamilyMart

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Halaman Sa Loob Ng Bahay

Payo ni Doc Willie Ong

Problema ngayon ang polusyon sa hangin. Napakaraming sakit ang makukuha sa polusyon tulad ng hika, pulmonya, ubo, sakit sa puso at istrok.

Isang paraan para mabawasan ang polusyon ay ang pag-alaga ng mga halaman (house plants). May benepisyo pa ang mga halamang ito sa ating kalusugan:

1. Ang mga halaman ay nagbibigay ng oxygen at nagtatanggal ng carbon dioxide sa paligid. Kabaligtaran ito sa tao na nangangailangan ng oxygen at naglalabas ng carbon dioxide.

2. Ayon sa isang pagsusuri ng NASA, inaalis ng house plants ang toxins sa ating kapaligiran. Ito ay ang mga VOCs o volatile organic compounds na galing sa pintura, mga coating at refrigerator. Mababawasan din ang carbon monoxide mula sa kotse.

3. Makaiiwas tayo sa trangkaso at ubo. Ayon sa pag-aaral ng University of Agriculture sa Norway, ang pag-alaga ng house plants ay nakababawas sa pagod, ubo, sipon at sore throats ng 30%. Ito'y dahil sa pag-alis ng alikabok sa paligid.

4. Natural humidifier ang mga house plants. Pinapataas nito ang humidity (o tubig) sa hangin dahil hinihigop ng ugat ng halaman ang tubig at nag-e-evaporate mula sa dahon. Kapag mataas ang humidity, mas hindi tayo tatamaan ng mga impeksyon.

5. Kapag may alaga kang house plants, ika'y magiging mas masaya at mas positibo ang pananaw sa buhay.

6. Natuklasan sa pagsusuri na mas gumaganda ang trabaho ng mga empleyado sa opisina kapag may nakikitang halaman sa paligid.

7. Mas gaganda at hihimbing ang iyong tulog.

8. Ang halaman sa loob at labas ng bahay natin ang ating panlaban sa init ng panahon at global warming. Ang temperatura sa ilalim ng puno ay mas mababa ng 1 degree kumpara sa ibang lugar.

9. Para maging mas epektibo ang iyong mga house plants, piliin ang malalaking house plants na 6 to 8 inches ang lapad. Ang mga bamboo plants ay napakaganda dahil nagbibigay ito ng 10 doble na dami ng oxygen kumpara sa ibang mga halaman.

Tandaan lamang na dapat palitan ang tubig ng halaman bawat linggo. Ito'y para hindi pamugaran ng kiti-kiti na puwedeng magdulot ng dengue. Pero sa kabuuan, may benepisyo ang pag-aalaga ng halaman sa loob ng bahay. Subukan niyo ito.

Gov't 'working hard' to reduce poverty

MANILA – The national government is working harder to address poverty in the country despite the Social Weather Stations (SWS) survey showing a drop in the number of Filipino families that consider themselves poor, Malacañang said Tuesday.

"Alam namin na mataas pa rin po ito kaya naman ang aming priyoridad ay ang muling pagbangon ng ating ekonomiya para mas maraming Pilipino ang magkaroon ng trabaho at hindi magutom (We know that it is still high so our priority is to revitalize our economy so that more Filipinos can have jobs and not go hungry)," acting presidential spokesperson and Communications Secretary Martin Andanar said in a Palace press briefing.

Results of the SWS survey conducted in December 2021 showed that around 43 percent of Filipino families rated themselves as poor.

This translates to an estimated 10.7 million families, which is slightly lower than the 11.4 million (45 percent) recorded in September last year.

The pollster also found 39 percent of families considered themselves "borderline poor," while 19 percent felt they are not poor.

Andanar cited the government's Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) as among Duterte's legacies that contribute to decreasing the country's poverty rate.

In March 2019, Duterte signed Republic Act 11310, a law institutionalizing the government's 4Ps.

The 4Ps, a national poverty reduction strategy and a human capital investment program, provides conditional cash transfer (CCT) to poor households for a maximum of seven years to improve their health, nutrition, and access to education.

Meanwhile, Andanar welcomed a report which showed that the Philippines is the second happiest country in Southeast Asia.

The 2022 World Happiness Report (WHR) released by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) showed that the Philippines ranked 60th out of 146 countries in the world, an improvement from its 61st ranking in the 2021 report.

Singapore topped the list of happiest Southeast Asian countries and ranked 27th worldwide.

For the fifth straight year, Finland remains as the happiest country in the world. (PNA)

EDITORIAL

Patuloy ang pagpasok na walang pahintulot

Grabe na ang ginagawa ng China na pagpasok sa teritoryo ng Pilipinas na maituturing nang pagyapak at paglabag sa soberanya ng bansa. Pa-libhasa marahil ay nagsasawalang-kibo ang Pilipinas sa mga ginagawang ito kaya patuloy sila walang pakundangang pagpasok na walang pahintulot o wala nang sabi-sabi. Kapag ginusto nilang pumasok at manatili sa pag-aari ng Pilipinas, puwedeng-puwede at walang makapagpapaalis sa kanila.

Nooong nakaraang Enero 29 ng kasalukuyang taon, isang Chinese vessel ang pumasok sa Sulu Sea at nanatili roon ng tatlong araw sa kabila na sinabihan sila ng Philippine Navy ship BRP Antonio Luna na lisanin ang lugar. Hindi natinag ang Chinese vessel na tila walang narinig sa sinabi ng BRP Antonio Luna.

Nagprotesta ang Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) sa Beijing sa ginawa ng kanilang barko at ang sagot ng China, wala namang masama sa pagpasok ng kanilang barko sa Philippine waters. At ang maang-hang pang sinabi, ini-exercise lamang umano nila ang "the right of innocent passage" na nakasaad sa United Nations Conventions on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).

Ipinangangalandakan na nila ang UNCLOS sa ganitong pagkakataon gayung hindi nila ito kinilala nang manalo ang Pilipinas sa arbitrary ruling nito noong 2016 at patuloy na binabalewala hanggang ngayon. Nakakatawa ang China sapagkat kinikilala pala nila ang UNCLOS pero patuloy na inuukopa ang mga teritoryo ng Pilipinas gaya ng Mischief Reef at nagtayo pa sila ng military installation doon.

Noong Abril 2021, 300 barko ng China ang humim-pil sa Julian Felipe Reef na nasa exclusive economic zone (EEZ) ng Pilipinas. Noong nakaraang Disyembre 2021, binomba ng tubig ng Chinese Coast Guard ang dalawang bangkang Pinoy na maghahatid ng supply sa mga sundalong nasa Ayungin Shoal. Galit na galit si DFA Sec. Teodoro Locsin Jr. sa ginawa ng China. Pinagmumura niya ito sa kanyang Twitter account. Anong klaseng kaibigan daw ang China.

Maski si Defense Sec. Delfin Lorenzana ay gigil na gigil na rin sa China dahil sa ginagawang pambu-bully at pananatili ng mga barko nito sa WPS. Nagalit si Lorenzana nang sabihin ng China na dapat alisin ang BRP Sierra Madre sa Ayungin Shoal.

Ang pagpasok at pambu-bully ng China sa Pili-pinas ay malaking hamon sa susunod na presidente ng bansa. Kailangan ang presidenteng may paninindigan sa isyung ito. Kung wala, habang panahon ang kanilang panghihimasok.

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9K troops to join 2022 PH-US 'Balikatan' exercises

MANILA – A total of 8,900 personnel from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and its United States military counterparts will join this year's "Balikatan" joint military exercises in various parts of Luzon from March 28 to April 8.

The figure is composed of 3,800 AFP members and 5,100 US military personnel who will train on maritime security, amphibious operations, live-fire training, urban operations, aviation operations, counterterrorism, and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

This is so far the largest number of combined personnel of the two militaries in the annual exercise hosted by Manila, since the start of the coronavirus pandemic in 2020.

"Exercise Balikatan is a testament to the strength of the Philippines and United States' security relationship," AFP exercise director for Balikatan 2022 Maj. Gen. Charlton Sean Gaerlan said in a statement Tuesday.

He added that the experience gained from these exercises complements security cooperation endeavors between Manila and Washington DC and will help to enhance existing mutual security efforts.

The AFP and the US military will also conduct multiple humanitarian and civic assistance projects during this year's "Balikatan", including the renovation of four elementary schools, multiple community health engagements, and the exchange of advanced emergency rescue and lifesaving techniques.

These construction projects, health engagements, and community relations events improve local infrastructure, share lifesaving medical skills, and strengthen ties between Philippine communities and Philippine and American military forces.

"During Balikatan, the US military and AFP will train together to expand and advance shared tactics, techniques, and procedures that strengthen our response capabilities and readiness for real-world challenges. The friendship and trust between our forces will enable us to accomplish any mission across the spectrum of military operations," said Maj. Gen. Jay Bargeron, commander of the US Marine Corps' 3rd Marine Division.

The exercise also includes a command post exercise which will test the AFP and US forces' ability to plan, command, and communicate with each other in a simulated environment. This training will bolster the collective security and defensive capabilities of the alliance.

As coronavirus mitigation remains a priority for both nations, US troops will comply with all Covid-19 travel regulations set by the Philippine government and will maintain safe physical distancing and wear face masks during exercises as operationally feasible.

"Balikatan" is a Tagalog term that means "shoulder-to-shoulder" or "sharing the load together," which characterizes the spirit of the exercise and represents the alliance between the Philippines and the US.

"Balikatan 22 coincides with the 75th anniversary of US-Philippine security cooperation and a shared commitment to promoting peace. Our alliance remains a key source of strength and stability in the Indo-Pacific region," Bargeron added.

Exercises like "Balikatan" strengthen international partnerships and the participating militaries' abilities to rapidly respond to crises throughout the Indo-Pacific region.

The United States is proud to participate in this Philippine-led exercise to improve both nations' capabilities across a wide range of military operations.

Duterte to tackle drug problem with successor

MANILA – President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on Monday said he would hold a meeting with his successor to discuss the drug menace that continues to "haunt" the country.

In his taped Talk to the Peopled aired Tuesday morning on state-run PTV-4, Duterte said he would ask the country's next president to continue his anti-narcotics drive because many drug offenders are still on the loose.

"I hope to… 'Pag makausap ko pagkatapos ng elections and a new presidential shall have been elected, I said there is a time for us, me to bring, invite him dito. Ito siguro ang sasabihin ko sa kanya, patayin mo talaga itong mga (After elections and once a new president is elected, I said there is a time for us to meet. I will invite him to bring [up the drug problem]. This is perhaps what I will tell him, 'Kill those [drug offenders])," Duterte said.

Duterte's statement came after Interior Secretary Eduardo Año reported that a total of 1,775 kilos of shabu and 421.5 kilos of marijuana worth PHP13.2 billion have been seized during the anti-drug operations from March 6 to 19.

Around 2,471 individuals have been arrested, while two others have died during the operations, Año said in a meeting with Duterte and select Cabinet officials at Malacañan Palace in Manila on Monday night.

"Ito po ang pinakamalaking nahuli sa entire Philippine history in one time na pagkakasakote sa illegal drugs. At patuloy pa rin po nating paiigtingin ang ating kampanya laban sa illegal drugs Mr. President sapagkat gusto po nating tuluy-tuloy ito upang siguruhing ligtas ang ating mga kababayan sa masamang dulot ng illegal na droga (The seized illegal drugs are the biggest haul in the entire Philippine history in one time. And we will continue to intensify our campaign against illegal drugs, Mr. President, because we want to keep our countrymen safe from the scourge of illegal drugs)," Año said.

Duterte agreed with Año, and ordered the continuation of the war against the proliferation of illegal drugs.

"Let us go and look for them. Hunt them down," Duterte said. "This [drug problem] will continue. Drugs will haunt us today, tomorrow and malayo pa ang (and it is far [from over])."

Duterte reiterated that the drug problem remains a threat to public safety, stressing that it will continue to create "multiple problems" since illegal drugs make users "insane."

"Ang problema nito, it induces insanity sa mga tao. Ito, papatay na naman. Kapag walang pera, mag-hold up, lahat na. Multiple ang problema dito (The problem here is it induces insanity among users. They might kill and hold up people. There will be multiple problems here)," he said.

On Monday, Duterte expressed hope that his successor would continue his anti-narcotics campaign, saying he was "very worried of the resurgence of the drug problem." (PNA)

GUHIT NG KAPALARAN

PISCES: (Peb. 19 - Mar. 20) Madarama ngayon ang tamis ng tagumpay. Unti-unting makikilala ka sa sosyalan. Sa pag-ibig, ipadama sa minamahal ang tunay na nararamdaman. Maging malambing at maalalahanin ka. It's time to shine! Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 4, 13, 30, 41 at tangerine.

ARIES: (Mar. 21- Abr. 19) Magiging padalos-dalos ka ngayon. Huwag kaagad gumawa ng desisyon kung hindi tiyak ang sarili. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 10, 26, 33, 40 at violet.

TAURUS: (Abr. 20 - May. 20) Kailangan ang mamili at magpasya kung sino ba ang gusto. Maaaring yayain ka ng magpa-kasal. Tiyakin ang pasiya. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 2, 16, 30, 42 at almond yellow.

GEMINI: (May 21- Hun. 21) Magbibigay ka ng sakit ng ulo sa kapwa na dapat iwasan. Kung walang self-control, may mga taong maiinis at magagalit. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 9, 16, 25, 40 at gray.

CANCER: (Hun. 2 - Hul. 22) Lalabas ang ugaling pagkamayabang na dapat iwasan. Dahil kaiinisan ka ng nakikinig. Magpakumbaba para irespeto. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 6, 18, 26, 37 at green.

LEO: (Hul. 23 - Ago. 22) Ang kakaibang nararamdaman sa katawan ay dahil sa pagbabago ng panahon. Ingatan ang health. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 4, 7, 24, 36 at orange.

VIRGO: (Ago. 23 - Set. 23) Kakambal ng pag-ibig ang tiwala. Kung nagseselos, insecure ka. Dapat ipakita ang pagmamahal sa gawa. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 3, 15, 19, 38 at red.

LIBRA: (Set. 24 - Okt. 23) Hindi maganda ang balitang matatanggap. Maaaring sa trabaho, pinansiyal o pag-ibig. Don't worry, malalampasan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 4, 18, 24, 35 at maroon.

SCORPIO: (Okt. 24 - Nob. 22) May mga bagay na pinagdududahan sa minamahal. Kausapin siya ng masinsinan. Maging tapat. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 9, 16, 24, 39 at peach.

SAGITTARIUS: (Nob. 23 - Dis. 21) Kung gustong makausap ang nahihiya, dapat unahan ng pagbati. Iwasan ang ma-ging masungit. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 4, 16, 27, 31 at brown.

CAPRICORN: (Dis. 22 - Ene. 19) Huwag magyabang dahil ang balik ay kahihiyan. Kumilos ng tahimik at may makikitang magandang resulta. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 11, 23, 39, 42 at pink.

AQUARIUS: (Ene. 20 - Peb. 18) May mapapasukan na kasunduan. Mahihikayat sa pakikipagsapalaran, subalit lubos na pag-iingat ang kaila-ngan. Lucky numbers at color for the day ang 17, 24, 39, 42 at sky blue.

DOLE EXPEDITES DELIBERATIONS ON WAGE HIKE PETITIONS

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) assured the public on Monday, that its regional wage boards are already expediting the deliberation of wage hike petitions for workers affected by the increasing costs of basic commodities due to continuous oil price hikes.

According to National Wages and Productivity Commission (NWPC) Executive Director Criselda Sy, there were already 10 wage hike petitions filed in six regional wage boards from National Capital Region (NCR), Region 3, 4a, 6, 7, and 8.

"We have already convened our DOLE Regional Directors and invited resource persons from critical agencies that can provide the wage boards a perspective on what is happening in the social, economic environment. These inputs given from the national level will then be disseminated on their respective regions," Sy said in a statement, referring to the meeting held by wage boards last week.

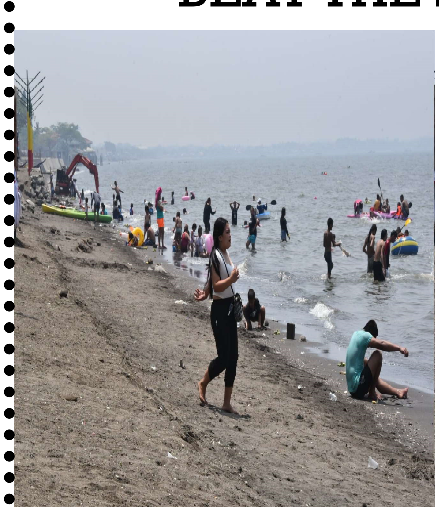
She explained that the wage board secretariat needs to study the petitions for five days upon receiving the petitions before submitting them to the board. The board will then deliberate whether or not it will hear the proposed adjustments.

If the board decided to hear the petitions, Sy said that the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Boards (RTWPBs) need to publish a notice of public hearing within 15 days to give stakeholders the chance to participate in deliberations.

She added that the boards would consider the effect of wage order on unemployment, Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth, prices of basic commodities, and inflation when determining the adjustments.

"We hope the public can understand that we do not want to derail the economic development during this pandemic period. The process for wage adjustment is not easy, and we want to get all of the sentiments of the members of the tripartite group. Although we are aware of the competing nature of this urgency, our focus is really to manage the unintended outcome of the decision of the boards," Sy said.

BEAT THE SUMMER HEAT!!



On Sunday, the Long Beach resort in San Rafael IV in Noveleta town accommodated hundreds of local tourists and residents to cool off the summer heat.

With the formal declaration of the Dry Season by PAGASA, scorching summer heat of 37 degrees Celsius up to 40+ degrees has been experienced in the past week thus, local residents and tourists troop to Cavite's resorts and beaches with quarantine protocol under Alert Level 1 allowing these activities with continued reminder for the observance of the minimum health and safety protocols. (Report/photos: Dennis Abrina)

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BSP backs use of satellite technology to boost financial inclusion, disaster resilience

MANILA - The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas on Tuesday said the use of satellite technology to expand broadband services would boost financial inclusion, as well as help banks in remote areas improve disaster resiliency.

In a statement, the BSP said it supports the issuance of Executive Order No. 127 and its implementing rules which would liberalize access to satellite technology for broadband services.

"With enhanced access to satellite broadband services, financial institutions can improve their disaster recovery plans as part of their resilience strategy," BSP Governor Benjamin E. Diokno said.

"They will also be able to set up more access points, such as branch lite operations, ATMs, and cash agents in underserved areas," he added.

Cantilan Bank (CANBNK) in Mindanao, for example, turned to satellite technology to provide financial services after it was hit by typhoon Odette in December last year, the central bank said in a statement.

The BSP said the bank installed aperture terminals (VSATs) to restore online connectivity and ATM operations at their Del Carmen and Dapa branches in Siargao City.

Siargao is among the hardest hit by Odette, the strongest typhoon in the Philippines in 2021. Odette downed power lines, telecommunication lines and major infrastructure in the Visayas and Mindanao.

"By supplementing our network redundancy measures with VSAT connectivity, the bank effectively provided a contingency measure for branches operating in disaster-stricken areas," said CANBNK Executive Vice

President Tanya Hotchkiss.

BSP says working with Odette-hit banks in Visayas for full restoration of services

Bangko Sentral assures public of 'adequate' currency supply in Odette-hit areas

The central bank said other reforms seeking to enhance satellite technology for broadband services could boost its digitalization goals which includes turning 50 percent of payments into digital by 2023.

President Rodrigo Duterte signed EO No. 127 in March 2021 to expand the access of internet service providers and value-added service providers to satellite systems.

Duterte signs order expanding satellite access for ISPs, app and service operators

After the measure was signed, several government officials in Washington met with Elon Musk's SpaceX officials for the potential use of its Starlink low-orbit satellite system in the Philippines, the Trade Department has said.

Pure fiber broadband provider co-founder and CEO Dennis Uy earlier disclosed that the company was also "in talks" with SpaceX for access to Starlink to complement its service.

By using satellite technology, providers can bring internet connectivity to remote areas that are not accessible by traditional