



Aboitiz champions diversity and inclusion in the workplace

Gatchalian bats for reactivation of Pantawid Pasada program

Senator Sherwin Gatchalian on Thursday, Oct. 14 urged the government to reactivate the government's fuel subsidy program, Pantawid Pasada Program, to provide relief to the public transport sector that would be affected by the recent oil price increases.

Gatchalian said it is important to shield the transport sector and the riding, consuming public from the impact of high fuel prices especially at this time of a COVID-19 pandemic. "Ang panawagan ko sa ating pamahalaan ay protektahan natin ang

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Diversity and Inclusion in Insurance A regional perspective



The Aboitiz Group affirmed its commitment to continue championing diversity and inclusion and workplace gender equality within its business units as part of its adherence to addressing Goal 5 (Gender Equality) and Goal 10 (Reduced Inequality) of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Annacel Natividad, Chief Finance Officer and Risk Management Head for Pilmico Foods Corporation, represented the Aboitiz Group during the virtual Dive In Festival last September 21 to 23. Dive In

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Parts of NCR, Cavite to experience water interruption on Oct. 25-28

Some areas in five Metro Manila cities and Cavite province will experience water service interruptions next week, Maynilad announced Monday.

The service provider said it will conduct pipeline realignment activities between 11:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 25 to 28 that will affect parts of Las Piñas,

Makati, Manila, Parañaque, Pasay, and Cavite.

This in line with the flood control initiative of the Public Works and Highways Department. The project, which aims to mitigate flooding in the capital region, involves the installation of a drainage line along Cristob-

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CA employee loses retirement benefits for helping 'fix' drug case

The Supreme Court (SC) has ordered the forfeiture of retirement benefits and disqualification from all government positions of a retired records officer of the Court of Appeals (CA) who acted as

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Tagaytay opens vaccination to residents of other Cavite cities, towns



The city government of Tagaytay will start accepting residents of other cities and towns in Cavite who want to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

Mayor Agnes Tolentino made the announcement on Thursday, October 14, through a Facebook post, where she also provided the Google form that applicants need to accomplish to get slots. Tagaytay already met its vaccination target in early October. In August, some cities in Metro Manila start-

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Eleazar lauds successful anti-drugs op in Cavite

Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Gen. Guillermo Eleazar on Sunday lauded various anti-illegal drugs units for their successful buy-bust operation which resulted in the confiscation of PHP1.656 billion worth of shabu in Dasmariñas City, Cavite.

"The operation prevented the illegal drugs from being used especially by the youth," he said, citing the proper coordination between the police, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency (NICA), the Bureau of Customs (BOC), and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP). The buy-bust operation conducted on Saturday in a parking lot in Barangay Salitran 2 along Aguinaldo Highway also resulted in the arrest of Wilfredo Blanco and Megan Lemon Pedroro,



both residents of Montalban, Rizal. Seized were 240 kilos of shabu and the van reportedly being used by the suspects in the transportation of the illegal drugs. The operation in Dasmariñas City was

part of the series of anti-drug operations that started with the confiscation of some PHP3.4 billion worth of shabu in Zambales and over PHP1 billion worth of shabu in follow-up operations in

Bataan and Cavite. The three other operations conducted last month were based on coordination among the PNP, BOC, NICA, and the AFP with the PDEA as the lead agency. (PNA)

PPCRV: noon pa man ay mayroon ng kinikilingan



Kakampi mo ang BATAS
ni Atty. Batas Mauricio

INSPIRASYON SA BUHAY: "... walang kinikilingan ang Diyos..." (Roma 2:11, Ang Tanging Daan Bibliya).

PPCRV CHAIR DE VILLA, UMAANI NG BATIKOS SA PAHAYAG NIYANG "NON-PARTISAN, BUT NEVER NEUTRAL" ANG KANIYANG GRUPO: "Non-partisan, but never neutral." Walang kinakampihan, ngunit hindi kailanman pupuwedeng walang kinikilingan. Itong tila magkasalungat na pahayag na ito ay mula kay Founding Chairman Henrietta De Villa ng Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting, na kaniyang diniinan at ginawang tema ng kaniyang talumpati sa paggunita ng ika-tatlumpung taong anibersaryo ng PPCRV ngayong 2021 noong Martes, ika 19 ng Oktubre 2021.

Agad itong umani ng matitinding puna at batikos mula sa maraming mga grupo na ngayon ay nagtataguyod ng pagiging sagrado ng boto ng bawat botanteng Pilipino, lalo na sa paparating na Halalan 2022. Ayon sa mga grupong pumupuna sa pahayag ni De Villa, tila hindi nauunawaan ni De Villa ang kaniyang pahayag na ang PPCRV ay "non-partisan but never neutral."

Kung sasabihing "non-partisan" ang isang tao o grupo, maliwanag na wala itong kinikilingan o kinakampihan sa anumang isyu, ayon sa mga netizens na naging bahagi ng palatuntunang "Sagrado ang boto ko" sa One Vote Our Hope Office online TV kaninang umaga, Oktubre 20, 2021.

PPCRV, NOON PA MAN AY HINDI "NON-PARTISAN" DAHIL ITO AY LAGING MAY KINAKAMPIHAN AT KINIKILINGAN: Dapat, kung non-partisan ang isang tao o grupo, wala din itong papaboran sa anumang paraan, pero kung sasabihin nitong ito ay "never neutral", ibig sabihin mayroon itong kinakampihan, kaya naman maliwanag na magkaka-kontra ang kaniyang mga layunin at pagkilos, dagdag pa ng mga netizens. Hindi dapat pinaniniwalaan ang ganitong mga grupo, diin ng iba pang netizens.

Ayon kay Ms. Aileen Papin, isa sa mga hosts ng "Sagrado ang boto ko" program ng grupong One Vote Our Hope Movement, mukhang lito hindi na lamang si De Villa kundi pati na ang buong PPCRV sa papel nito sa mga halalan. Sabi ni Ms. Papin, "kung sinabi mong ikaw ay non-partisan, wala kang kinakampihan. Ngayon, kung sinasabi mong never neutral ka, may kinakampihan ka..." Sa salitang ordinaryo para sa mga ordinaryong Pilipino, kung ang isang tao ay nagsasabing siya ay non-partisan, ang sinasabi niya ay wala siyang party, pero kung sasabihin naman niyang siya ay never neutral, mayroon siya talagang kakampihan sabi pa ni Ms. Papin. Ipinaliwanag naman ni Atty. Melchor Magdamo, isang dating opisyal ng Commission on Elections na ng lumaon ay naging whistle-blower dahil ibinunyag nito ang anomalya sa poll body

tungkol sa mga overpriced voters' folders, talaga namang never naging neutral ang PPCRV dahil ito ay itinayo noong mga 1990s upang pigilan sana ang panalo ng namayapa ng si dating Senador Juan M. Flavier, ang naging kalihim sa Kagawaran ng Kalusugan sa panahon ng dating Pangulong Ramos.

MGA PILIPINO, DAPAT MAGSURING MABUTI SA MGA NAGPAPAPILI SA HALALAN 2022: Wala sa pagiging neutral ang PPCRV, dagdag pa ni Atty. Magdamo, dahil ito ay isang grupo na kumakampi sa mga naging kalaban ni Sen. Flavier sa pulitika. Niliwanag sa "Sagrado ang boto ko" program sa One Vote TV kanina na ayaw ng PPCRV na maging senador si Flavier dahil hindi ito isang Katoliko. Siya ay protestante mula sa United Methodist Church, paliwanag naman ni program host Pastor Jojo Gonzales.

Agad namang inihayag ng mga netizens na hindi dapat

pinagkakalooban ng suporta kung ganoon din lamang ang layunin ng PPCRV sa mga halalan. Ang kailangan ngayon, dagdag ng mga ito, ay mga organisasyon o samahan, o maging mga indibiduwal, na ang layunin ay isulong sa mga botante ang paghahalal hindi ng kung sinong kandidato lamang.

Ang kailangan ay yun lamang mga kandidatong may maliwanag na plataporma kung papaano i-a-angat ang bayan mula sa kahirapan, kaguluhan, at kabiguang kanilang nararanasan sa ngayon.

Ayon kay Pastor Jojo Gonzales, kailangan ng matuto ng mga Pilipino na suriing mabuti ang mga kandidato upang tiyakin na yun lamang may integridad, sapat na unawa ng mga utos ng Diyos, may kakayahang sa pagganap ng mga tungkulin sa mga posisyong kanilang tinatakbuhan, at walang pagnanais na magkamal ng ilegal na yaman.

Tagaytay City regulates observance of 'Undas' 2021



TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite (PIA) – The city government of Tagaytay approved Executive Order No. 393 S. 2021 that sets guidelines for the observance of this year's 'Undas' in the cemeteries within the city.

The order calls for the temporary closing of all public and private cemeteries in the City from October 30 – November 3, 2021.

It also urges city residents to visit their family and relatives' grave sites on dates prior or after indicated dates.

Only up to 200 persons would be allowed inside the cemeteries at any given time with only up to an hour's visit to offer flowers, candles and prayers.

It also strictly prohibits selling of food and beverages inside the cemetery.

The strict implementation of this order is assigned to the Tagaytay Office of Public Safety (TOPS), local PNP, and barangay officials with the directive to conduct inspection at the cemetery entrance, as well as number cueing to properly monitor the number of persons going inside the cemetery.

Designated roving personnel will ensure that the minimum public health standards are followed inside the cemeteries.

This is the second year that the annual tradition of remembering our dearly departed loved ones is observed under quarantine restrictions due to the ongoing CoViD-19 pandemic. – Ruel Francisco, PIA Cavite

Gatchalian bats for reactivation << P1

ating mga tsuper at pasahero (I call on our government to protect our drivers and commuters)," Gatchalian said.

"Dito papasok 'yung programa na Pantawid Pasada kung saan pinopondohan muna ng gobyerno para ma-absorb 'yung pagtaas ng presyo ng petrolyo (This is where the Pantawid Pasada program comes in, where the government can subsidize to cushion the oil price increases)," the reelectionist senator said.

Likewise, Gatchalian called on the Department of Energy (DOE) to monitor

the compliance of oil companies on their inventory requirements to ensure adequate supply and help mitigate further price increases in the coming months.

The senator noted key players, particularly Chevron Philippines Inc., PTT Philippines, Seoil Philippines, PetroGazz, Unioil Petroleum Philippines, and Cleanfuel have imposed as much as P1.50- per liter for diesel, P1.45 per liter for kerosene, and P1.30 per liter for gasoline effective Tuesday, Oct.12. The Senate Energy Committee chair pointed out

there is a potential average increase of P1,422.50 in the monthly expense of jeepneys for gasoline and a potential average increase of P598.36 for diesel.

The senator said that to cover for the 3-month subsidy of the estimated 178,244 valid franchise holders of public utility jeepneys (PUJs) nationwide, the government would have to shell out at least P914.160-million.

"Itong sitwasyon natin ay maaari pang lumala dahil bukod sa winter season na, maraming ekonomiya na sa buong mundo ang unti-un-

ting nagbubukas at dumadami na rin ang gumagamit ng petrolyo (The situation could worsen, because aside from winter season, more and more economies in other countries are slowly reopening and many are now using petroleum)," the lawmaker noted.

"Inaasahan nating tuloy-tuloy pa ang pagtaas ng presyo ng langis sa pandaigdigang merkado hanggang sa katapusan ng taon (So we expect the price of oil to continually increase in the world market until the end of the year)," Gatchalian said.

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Tagaytay opens vaccination << P1

ed accepting non-residents seeking COVID-19 jabs after they completed vaccinating the target population.

The Tagaytay City Health Office has also opened the registration for the vaccina-

tion of 12-to-17-year-olds with comorbidities. The pilot of the vaccination of minors will be start in Metro Manila on Friday, October 15.

The number of active COVID-19 cases in Tagay-

tay has dropped to 188, as of October 14, from 610 on September 7. It has recorded 3,489 total cases since the pandemic began, with 67 deaths.

Mendez-Nuñez, Das-

mariñas about to reach targets

The municipality of Mendez-Nuñez has vaccinated 25,153 individuals or 97.36% of the target population set by the Department of

Health (DOH), as of October 5 – with 22,695 fully vaccinated, and 2,458 administered with the first dose.

There are 2,408 Mendezños who got vaccinated outside the locality.

The municipal government called on adult residents who remain unvaccinated to contact the members of their barangay councils to enlist.

Dasmariñas City has vaccinated 432,513 residents,

or around 90% of the target population. With a population of 703,141 population, based on the 2020 census, the city targets 492,198 individuals or 70% to achieve herd immunity.

As of October 14, Dasmariñas has fully inoculated 193,571 residents, and administered the first dose to 238,942 persons.

All the vaccines came from the national government. – Rappler.com

CA employee loses << P1

a conduit in the sale of a fake court decision for PHP10 million. The SC found retired CA Records Officer II Imelda Posadas guilty of multiple counts of conduct prejudicial to the best interest of the service and of violating graft laws, according to a decision published online on Thursday.

The case started in 2013 when lawyer Ramel Aguinaldo sought the assistance of Dr. Virgilio Rodil for a “contact” in the SC who could help in the pending drugs case of his client, Marco Alejandro.

Rodil, a physician at St. Michael Medical Hospital in Bacoor, Cavite, sought the aid of Posadas who was his patient.

Posadas’ 45 years of service “cannot mitigate the effects of her reprehensible conduct”, the SC said.

“On the contrary, her long years of service should be considered as an aggravating circumstance since it facilitated the commission of the offense, i.e., use of her connections in the Supreme Court due to her familiarity with the system and other

employees in the judiciary,” the court said in its resolution.

Posadas’ dealing began when she contacted her fellow records officer, Samuel Ancheta, who informed them that the case has been raffled off to then-Associate Justice Martin Villarama Jr. and that Andrew Corro, one of the court lawyers, agreed to review the case.

Ancheta and Posadas acted as conduits for Rodil and Corro, with the PHP10 million handed in four tranches starting on April 22, 2013.

The first two payments of PHP800,000 for the initial reading and PHP700,000 for review of the case were handed by Rodil to Posadas and Ancheta in April and August 2013.

Corro received the final two payments, also from Rodil -- PHP5 million on Dec. 13, 2013 for the advanced copy of the draft decision of the acquittal and PHP3.5 million on Feb. 21, 2014 for a copy of the acquittal decision bearing the SC logo.

After some time, Rodil

called Posadas to notify her that the advanced copy of the decision, which Corro released, was fake and they could no longer locate the lawyer. Rodil then initiated administrative cases against Corro, Posadas, and Ancheta. Corro has been disbarred, Ancheta was dismissed from service in February 2020, and Posadas was forced to retire in 2019.

The court dismissed Posadas’ claim that she was merely motivated by a sincere desire to help Rodil and that she did not receive any

amount or consideration during the transactions.

“The circumstances clearly showed that she had an indispensable involvement in the dealings. If only Posadas did not entertain Dr. Rodil’s request to look for a contact in the first place, the transactions could not have materialized,” the SC said. “Without her participation, Dr. Rodil could not have easily formed a linkage with Ancheta and Atty. Corro, which in turn could have prevented the case-fixing from happening.” (PNA)

Parts of NCR, Cavite << P1

al St. in Sampaloc, Manila. Maynilad said realignment activities for the seven-foot water pipeline are expected to take about 85 hours or nearly four days to finish.

“[We] will also take the opportunity to conduct other smaller, parallel activities, including leak repairs in other areas and maintenance works in several pumping stations, which would otherwise require the implementation of separate service dis-

ruptions,” it added. Affected households are advised to store water for the duration of the interruption, although Maynilad assured it is ready to deliver supply to those affected.

It also said it will install 14 stationary water tanks and deploy 60 mobile water tankers to serve customers.

Those with existing overhead tanks, on the other hand, are encouraged to clean these first before using

them as storage. Here is the complete list of areas that will have water service interruptions:

Las Piñas City: Almanza Uno (Gonzales Cmpd. 1 & 2); CAA; Daniel Fajardo; Elias Aldana; Ilaya; Manuyo Uno; Manuyo Dos (BF Martinville, Tionquiao, Woodrow 3, Canaynay Rd., Bangias St., Gatchalian Subd., Cananay Court, Doña Matilde, Green Valley, Veraville Regency); Pamplona Uno to Tres; Pulang Lupa Uno and Dos; Talon Uno; Talon Dos; Talon Tres (Carmencita, Southland, Admiral Park Subd., Camella Town Homes Admiral, Carmencita, Casimiro Altea, Paramount, Pelayo Cmpd., St. Louie Subd.); Talon Kwatro; Talon Singko (Hansuy In); Zapote

Makati City: Bangkal
Manila City: Brgy. 383 to 428; 430; 431; 433 to 435; 457 to 461; 521 to 642; 587-A; 642 to 648; 659 to 661; 659-A; 660-A; 662; 663-A; 664-A; 677 to 685; 709; 719; 726 to 733; 734; 745 to 762; 769; 803; 807; 821 to 853; 855 to 865; 867; 868; 870 to 872

Parañaque City: Baclaran; BF Homes; Don Bosco; Don Galo; La Huerta; Marcelo Green Village; Merville; Moonwalk; San Antonio; San Dionisio; San Isidro; San Martin De Porres; Santo Niño; Sun Valley; Tambo; Vitalez

Pasay City: Brgy. 1; 3; 7; 9; 10; 13; 14; 15; 18; 20; 23; 26; 28; 30; 31; 33; 37; 38 to 40; 41 to 49; 51 to 53; 56 to 59; 63 to 68; 71 to 75; 76; 80; 81; 84 to 86; 89; 91; 93 to 99; 101; 104; 106 to 110; 112 to 115; 118; 120; 122; 123; 125; 126; 128; 130; 131; 133; 135 to 138; 140; 142; 181 to 185; 191 to 195; 197 to 200; 201

Bacoor, Cavite: Alima; Aniban I to V; Banaolo; Bayanan; Campo Santo; Daang Bukid; Digman;

Dulong Bayan; Habay I and II; Kaingin; Ligas I to III; Mabolo I to III; Maliksi I to III; Mambog I to V; Molino I to III and VI; Niog I to III; Panapaan I to VIII; Poblacion (Tabing Dagat); Real I and II, Salinas I; San Nicolas I to III; Singuelasan; Talaba I to VII; Zapote I to V

Cavite City: Brgy. 1 to 10; 10-A; 10-B; 11 to 22; 22-A; 23 to 28; 30 to 36; 36-A; 37; 37-A; 38; 38-A; 39 to 41; 42-A; 42-B; 42-C; 43 to 45; 45-A; 46; 47; 47-A; 48; 48-A; 49; 49-A; 50 to 54; 54-A; 55 to 58; 58-A; 59 to 61; 61-A; 62; 62-A; Fort San Felipe (Phil. Navy); Sangley Point

Imus, Cavite: Alapan I-A to I-C; Anabu I-A to I-F; Anabu II-A to II-F; Bayan Luma I to IX; Bucandala I to V; Buhay na Tubig; Carsadang Bago I and II; Malagasang I-A to I-G; Malagasang II-A to II-G; Medicion I-A to I-D; Medicion II-A to II-F; Pag-Asa I to III; Palico I to IV; Poblacion I-A to I-C; Poblacion II-A and II-B; Poblacion III-A and III-B; Poblacion IV-A to IV-D; Tanzang Luma I to VI; Toclong I-A to I-C; Toclong II-A and II-B

Kawit, Cavite: Bal-sahan-Bisita; Batong Dalig; Binakayan-Aplaya; Binakayan-Kanluran; Congbalay-Legaspi; Gahak; Kaingin; Magdalo; Manggahan-Lawin; Marulas; Panamitan; Poblacion; Pulvorista; Samala-Marquez; San Sebastian; Santa Isabel; Tabon I and II; Toclong; Tramo-Bantayan; Wakas I and II

Noveleta, Cavite: Magdiwang; Poblacion; Salcedo I and II; San Antonio I and II; San Jose I and II; San Juan I and II; San Rafael I to IV; Santa Rosa I and II

Rosario, Cavite: Bagbag I and II; Kanluran, Muzon I and II; Poblacion; Sapa I to IV; Silangan I and II; Tejeros Convention; Wawa I to III



Aboitiz champions diversity << P1

is a global event originally launched by a group of firms in the Lloyd’s Market, as an initiative to support the development of inclusive workplace cultures. For this year’s festival, Natividad joined a panel discussion with other senior management of Asian companies, where she discussed the challenges of diversity and inclusion in the Philippines and the steps the Aboitiz Group has been taking to actively embed practices that support diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

Natividad highlighted the progress of the Philippines in terms of workplace gender equality, citing the Philippine Business Coalition for Women Empowerment (PBCWE)’s notes on the country being consistently ranked as among the top 10 countries in the world for gender equality and inclusivity. However, Natividad cautions against complacency brought about by rankings without adequate practical application. “While there is a notion that since the Philippines is already regarded as a gender-equal country, many companies and business leaders think or express that gender equality, diversity,

and inclusion is a good statement or disclosure to have. But the reality is, more companies need to be encouraged to really embed workplace gender equality and diversity and inclusion into their corporate sustainability and business strategies, as this will yield quantifiable and positive results in terms of attracting and sustaining the best talent in the market,” Natividad explained.

To support its employees as an ally in diversity and inclusion, the Aboitiz Group has rolled out changes and improvements in employee engagement programs, working schedules, compensation and benefits; shifting to virtual means for, and investing heavily in learning and development programs; and understanding multi-generational diversity and workplace gender equality through the Group’s REMIX program.

REMIX is the Aboitiz Group’s approach to ensuring the company adapts and thrives in the new multi-generational workforce. Through employee-led initiatives, open discussions, and the enthusiastic leadership of the Group’s President and Chief Executive Officer Sabin

Aboitiz, the REMIX program has produced changes like flexible working schedules, tailored-to-the-employee benefits (“flexible benefits”), the inclusion of LGBTQ+ or common-law partners for medical benefits, a reverse mentoring program (where junior team members share their skills and expertise with senior management), among others.

“In this information age, employees are challenged—employers want a digital-savvy 22 to 26-year-old who has 30 years’ worth of working experience. REMIX offers proven strategies on how companies can adapt and win when they serve multi-generational needs. It is important that this early, we help prepare our Group for the organization of the future, and we start by understanding our greatest asset—our people—and help influence each other to drive workplace REMIXing,” said Natividad.

Since economic crises typically put a company’s diversity and inclusivity in jeopardy, Natividad emphasized the many benefits of continuing to promote it in the workplace despite the external challenges: increased

profitability and creativity, stronger governance, better problem-solving activities, and increased resiliency and effectivity—all of which are a result of bringing employees with diverse backgrounds, ideas, and perspectives into an organization’s folds.

“Both Filipino workers and companies have experienced firsthand the exclusionary impacts of the pandemic.

By developing best practices around diversity and inclusion during these unstable and uncertain economic times, businesses can be better placed to reap the rewards when the upswing arrives,” Natividad explained.

She also urged business leaders to see diversity and inclusion as an investment in the company’s and its employees’ futures. “Leaders should be willing to engage with diversity and inclusion to better prepare for the opportunities that will come in time.

Not only is diversity and inclusion important for supporting workers during this time of uncertainty, but it will be key to leveraging opportunities when the risk and business landscape finally brightens.”



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DOST's Gulayan sa Pamayanan project to benefit 10K malnourished children in Metro Manila, Cavite

The Department of Science and Technology's (DOST) Gulayan sa Pamayanan project is expected to benefit around 10,000 underprivileged and malnourished children in Metro Manila and Cavite.

The project entitled, "Employing Hydroponics and Vegetable Gardening Technologies to Alleviate COVID-19 Threats to Food Security in Selected Municipalities in Region IV-A" is funded and monitored by the DOST-Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (PCAARRD).

DOST Secretary Fortunato "Boy" T. de la Peña said

the underprivileged children at Bukid Kabataan Center in General Trias, Cavite and selected areas in Metro Manila will benefit from the project of the DOST-Calabarzon and DOST-PCAARRD.

The project is implemented by DOST IV-A led by Provincial and Science Technology Center (PST-C)-Rizal Director Fernando E. Ablaza.

He said the project sites are located in General Trias, Cavite and in Angono, Rizal.

It is part of the GALING-PCAARRD Kontra CoViD-19 Program under Component 6: Gulayan sa Pamayanan, he noted.

"Aside from the children beneficiaries at General

Trias, Cavite, around 10,000 malnourished and hungry children in Metro Manila will also benefit from the project," de la Peña said.

He said before the end of the project, they expect the completion of two more greenhouses with hydroponics and aquaponics technologies where different kinds of vegetables will be grown.

"The improved greenhouse design, local materials, hydroponics technology, and vegetable seeds are through the help of the PCAARRD-funded projects implemented through the leadership of Dr. Chito F. Sace, Professor from the Central Luzon State University (CLSU)."



DOC WILLIE ONG, HINIKAYAT ANG GOBYERNO NA BUMILI NA NG ANTI-COVID DRUG NA MOLNUPIRAVIR

Hinimok ni Aksyon Demokratiko vice presidential candidate Dr. Willie Ong ang pamahalaan na kumuha na ng advance orders para sa bagong gamot na aniya'y malaki ang potensyal na maging 'game-changer' sa laban ng bansa kontra COVID-19.

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Hinimok ni Aksyon Demokratiko vice presidential candidate Dr. Willie Ong ang pamahalaan na kumuha na ng advance orders para sa bagong gamot na aniya'y malaki ang potensyal na maging 'game-changer' sa laban ng bansa kontra COVID-19.

"May bagong gamot po sa Covid, baka makakuha na kayo - Molnupiravir, life-saving. Um-order na kayo, maganda po ito," sabi ni Ong sa One Batangas-IM Pilipinas convention sa Lipa, Batangas. Ang antiviral pill na Molnupiravir na ginawa ng pharmaceutical giant na Merck ang tinutukoy ni Ong. Batay sa interim analysis ng kumpanya, pinababa ng Molnupiravir ang risk ng hospitalization at pagkamatay sa ilang pasyente nang 50%.

Nag-hain na ng Emergency Use Authorization sa United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) ang kumpanya. Dagdag pa ni Ong na isa ring cardiologist at internist, bahagi ang pagkuha ng pinakamagandang klase ng bakuna para maka-bangon ang ekonomiya ng bansa. "Papaano tayo magta-trabaho, kulang ang bakuna natin. Papaano papasok sa school ang mga anak natin, hindi pa bakunado, 12-17 years old. Hindi po aandar ang economy pag hindi po natin pipiliin yang pinakamagandang bakuna, pinakamagandang gamot," giit nya.

PCOO regularizes long time casual employees



In line with the celebration of the 11th Anniversary of the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO), the agency hired additional 32 regular employees and regularized 15 personnel, who have been working as casual and contractual workers in the PCOO for over 10 years.

Since the start of the leadership of PCOO Secretary Jose Ruperto Martin Andanar in 2016, the PCOO has started regularizing employees who had been with the PCOO for five years or longer, and have been in short-term renewable contracts that denied them the security, opportunities and benefits of full-time regular employees. PCOO Secretary Andanar led the oath taking ceremony and signing of the appointment papers of the newly regularized personnel on Monday, 18 October 2021, at the Times Plaza Building, Manila, the new office of the PCOO.

Among the 15 employees regularized were drivers who have been hired as contractuels for years. Aside from the security of tenure, the said personnel will receive benefits, a year-end bonus, a performance-based bonus, incentives, and allowances.

As part of PCOO's ongoing efforts in regularizing its contract of service (COS) personnel, the agency has requested additional plantilla positions from the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for its employees. The COS employees have also undergone Civil Service Examination (CSE) last July to qualify for the plantilla positions.

The PCOO urged the regularization of its deserving and hardworking employees, in order to ensure job security especially now that the country is being challenged by the global health crisis, as well as to motivate its employees to become more productive civil servants. This year, the DBM has granted the PCOO around 27 plantilla positions but the agency is working on increasing this number in order to regularize more of its employees.