

# CAVITE NEWS

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER THAT'S NATIONAL IN SCOPE

VOL. XXI NO. 36 DECEMBER 24-30, 2020 P10.00  
ISSN: 2651-7450

Entered as Second Class Mail at the Imus Post Office under  
Permit No. 2003-11 dated August 29, 2003

## PH Covid-19 recoveries climb to 429,207

MANILA—At least 82 more patients have recovered from the coronavirus disease, pushing the country's overall tally of recovered cases to 429,207 on Monday.

In its 4 p.m. case bulletin, the Department of Health

(DOH) said the figures represent 93 percent of those who tested positive for the virus that has so far beaten the illness.

The agency also reported 1,721 new confirmed cases and 10 new deaths.

These figures

brought the overall tally of active cases to 23,341 and the death toll to 8,957.

The DOH said about 82.2 percent of the active cases are mild, 8.5 percent are asymptomatic, 3 percent are severe, 0.34

(Turn to p. 2)

# PH suspends flights from UK Dec. 24-31

MANILA – The Philippines is temporarily banning flights from the United Kingdom from December 24 to 31 due to concerns over the spread of a new variant of SARS-COV-2, the virus that causes the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19), emerging in the UK.

President Rodrigo Duterte approved the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF-EID) Resolution 90 as part of efforts to prevent the entry of a new variant of SARS-COV-2 in the country.

“The implementation of proactive measures is necessary to ensure the utmost protection of the health of the Filipino people,” the resolution read.

Under the resolution, all passengers who have been to the UK within

14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, including those merely in transit, are also temporarily restricted from entering the country in the same period.

Passengers already in transit from the UK and all those who have been to the UK within 14 days immediately preceding arrival in the Philippines, who arrive before 12:01 a.m. of December 24, will not be subject to entry restriction but will be required to undergo stricter quarantine and testing protocols.

Such protocols include the observation of an absolute 14-day quarantine period at the Athlete's Village in the New Clark City, notwithstanding a negative reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) test result.

Outbound travel to the UK will likewise be subject to the exit

protocols of the Philippines and the UK.

Last December 22, the Department of Health (DOH) Technical Advisory Group, the Philippine Genome Center, the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, and the World Health Organization (WHO) Country Office convened to discuss the reported new variant of coronavirus and later

(Turn to p. 2)



Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 1 (File photo)

## No lotto draws, lottery games on Christmas, New Year

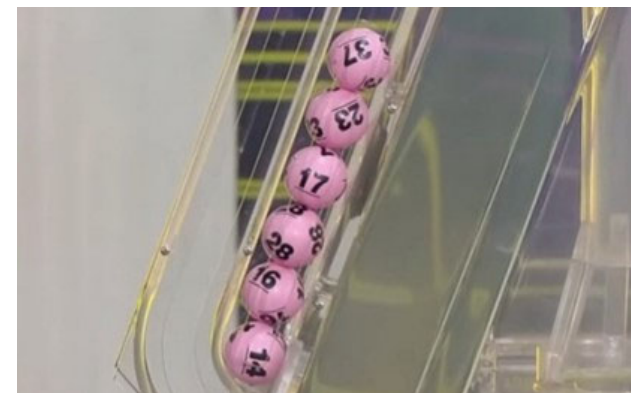
MANILA – There will be no selling of tickets and lotto draws for lotto games on Christmas day and New Year, the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) announced Wednesday.

“December 25, Friday Christmas day and January 1, 2021 Friday New Year's day no selling/ no draw,” a PCSO advisory read.

PCSO general manager Royina Garma

said the lotto draws for December 24 and 31 would be held earlier at 11 a.m. for the morning draw, including 3d and 2d lotto, 4 p.m., for afternoon draw for 3d and 2d lotto and 9 p.m. evening draw for 3d and 2d lotto respectively.

The selling period is from 7 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. for the morning draw; 11:35 a.m.-12:15 p.m.; for the afternoon draw and 7 a.m.-1:30



p.m. for the evening draw.

Keno has a selling period from 7 a.m.-1:55 p.m.

Garma said this is

to allow PCSO personnel and patrons to spend the holidays with their families.

Meanwhile, the (Turn to p. 2)

## Gov't eyes to sign deal for 20M vaccines by end-Dec

MANILA – The government is eyeing to sign a deal for the procurement of another 20 million doses of AstraZeneca's coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) vaccine by the end of December, National Policy Against Covid-19 chief implementer and vaccine czar, Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr. said on Monday night.

"Baka (maybe) this coming next week, either December 28 or 29, inaantay lang po namin 'yung — 'yung (we are just waiting for) Ministry of Health Regulatory Authorization ng U.K. at puwede na po naming pirmahan 'yung ano po, 'yung kontrata (of United Kingdom and we could sign the contract)," Galvez said during the public briefing of President Rodrigo Duterte.

Galvez said out of the 20 million doses of vaccine, around 10 million will be allocated for local government units (LGUs) and the private sector.

Galvez also reported a positive outcome of the government's negotiation with pharmaceutical companies to secure Covid-19 vaccines.

"Ang naging positive result po nito 'yung mga may-ari po ng kumpanya at saka po 'yung mga (The results are positive with those

company owners and country [representatives], they agree on strong support on non-profit-no loss concept," he said.

They also agreed to negotiate the Covid-19 vaccine at a lower price, he added.

"Katulad po nung ginawa ng AstraZeneca (As what the AstraZeneca did,) that they pegged their price to only five dollars a shot or more or less, siguro po mga aabot lang po ng 500 pesos na sa dalawang shot na po iyon (I think it will only cost PHP500 per two shots of vaccine)," Galvez said.

With his talks with the country representative of the Serum Institute of India, a manufacturer of immunobiological drugs, Galvez said the company committed to comply with the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 9184 also known as Government Procurement Reform Act.

Galvez said the government expects to get 30 million doses of the Novavax Covid-19 vaccine.

The government targets to vaccinate about 60 million Filipinos by the second and third quarter of 2021, Galvez said. (PNA)

### PH SUSPENDS ... Fr. p 1

submitted recommendations to the DOH.

More than 40 countries have shut their borders to the UK due to fears over the new coronavirus strain spreading 70 percent faster than others.

UK researchers discovered the variant after collecting samples from infected people in southeastern England.

Large parts of southeast England, including London, are under a new, stricter level of restrictions to prevent the spread of the virus.

Australia, Denmark, and the Netherlands have identified cases of the variant in their countries.

On Monday,

### NO LOTTO ... Fr. p 1

regular selling and draw will remain on December 26 to 30 and January 2, 2021 onwards.

Garma urged the public to patronize PCSO games to generate more funds to be used to assist Filipinos.

The PCSO serves as the principal government agency for raising and providing funds for health programs, medical assistance and services,

BioNTech Chief Executive Ugur Sahin said he was confident a Covid-19 vaccine co-developed by his company would be effective against a variant of the coronavirus that has emerged in the UK.

According to the WHO, laboratory studies are ongoing to determine whether these variant viruses have different biological properties or alter vaccine efficacy.

It said there is not enough information at present to determine if this variant is associated with any change in the severity of the clinical disease, antibody response, or vaccine efficacy. (PNA)

and charities of national character.

One of its key programs is the medical access program, which is designed to augment the medical needs of Filipinos nationwide, particularly hospital confinement, chemotherapy, dialysis, and post-transplant medicines.

The program is funded by revenues from PCSO games nationwide. (PNA)

### PH COVID-19. .. Fr. p 1

percent are moderate, and 5.9 percent are in critical condition.

"There were five duplicates removed from the total case count as these were recovered cases. Moreover, four cases previously tagged as recovered were reclassified as deaths after final validation," it added.

Davao City topped the list of places that logged the most number of new cases with 151 infections.

It was followed by Quezon City with 142; Rizal with 85; Laguna with 81; and the City of Manila with 77.

DOH data on Dec. 19 showed that 1,163 or 5.5 percent of 21,281 who were tested turned out positive for Covid-19.

Currently, there is a 21,300-bed capacity dedicated to patients with Covid-19.

Available are 60 percent of 1,900 intensive care unit beds, 65 percent of 13,500 isolation beds, and 76 percent of 5,900 ward beds.

About 79 percent of 2,000 ventilators are available for Covid-19 patients' use.

The agency advised the public to serve healthy dishes for the senior citizens this holiday season to boost their immune system against Covid-19.

It also reminded the public to continue observing the minimum health standards, especially when going outdoors - the proper wearing of face masks and face shields, avoiding cramped places where physical distancing is impossible, and avoiding staying outside for a long period. (PNA)



**TURNOVER OF EGG INCUBATORS:** The Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office IV-A thru the Agricultural Program Coordinating Office (APCO) Cavite turned over 79 units of Egg Incubators with hatcher to Dr. May Magno, Cavite Provincial Veterinarian at the DA APCO, Tanza, Cavite on December 10, 2020. The said incubators is part of DA's support to backyard farmers affected by African Swine Fever (ASF) and other natural calamities that hit the province to ensure food security and source of livelihood.— PICAD

## CAVITE NEWS

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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THIS NEWSPAPER IS EDITED, PUBLISHED AND CIRCULATED IN THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE AT BLK. 3 LOT 75 ISTANA MALAGASANG 1F IMUS CAVITE

Commercial Advertising Rate: P200.00/col.cm  
Legal Rate P160.00/col.cm.

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

Foreclosure Case No. F-021-20

**BDO UNIBANK, INC.,**  
*Mortgagee,*

-versus-

**JOJITA BARCIAL ACQUIAT,**  
*Debtor/Mortgagor,*  
**REMEDIOS VILLEGAS MIGANO**  
*(Co-Debtor),*

x-----x

**NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE**

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK, INC.**, with business address at BDO Corporate Center, 7899 Makati Avenue, Makati City against the Mortgagors, **REMEDIOS VILLEGAS MIGANO (“CO-DEBTOR”)**, for herself and as Attorney-In-Fact of **JOJITA BARCIAL ACQUIAT (“DEBTOR-MORTGAGOR”)**, with postal address at: 1)#38 Governor’s Drive, Trece Martires City, Cavite and 2). Blk. 12 Lot 22, Camella Trece, Brgy. Quintana, Trece Martires City, Cavite to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness as of 13 January 2020 amounts to **NINE HUNDRED NINETY ONE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR PESOS & 59/100 (P991,854.59)**, Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties, and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all the other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **February 25, 2021** at 10:00 o’clock in the morning at the main entrance of the Government Center Bldg., located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder of CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

**TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No.**  
**077-2018001977**

**Lot No.22 Block: 12 Plan No. PCS-04-029126**

**PORTION OF:** THE CONSOLIDATION OF LOT NOS. 1-16, BLK. 2; 1-28, BLK. 3, BLK. 4, 1-8, BLK. 5; 1-13, BLK. 6; 3-32, BLK. 7; 1-28, BLK. 8; 1-8, BLK. 9, 1-25, BLK. 10; 1-5, 7 & 9, BLK. 34; 1-3, 5-11, BLK. 35, 18-22, BLK. 36; 27-31, BLK. 37; ROAD LOT 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 23, & 34; (LRC) PSD-45360; BLOCK 34, PCS-04-011061

**LOCATION:** BARANGAY OF QUINTANA, CITY OF TRECE MARTIRES, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON.

**BOUNDARIES:**

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2	NE	ROAD LOT 3, PCS-4-029126
2-3	SE	LOT 23, BLK. 12, PCS-04-029126
3-4	SW	LOT 12, BLK. 12, PCS-04-029126
4-5		LOT 13, BLK. 12, PCS-04-029126
5-1	NW	LOT 21, BLK. 12, PCS-04-029126

**AREA: THIRTY SIX SQUARE METERS (36), MORE OR LESS**

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

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **MARCH 4, 2021** without further notice.

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

**Fitch Solutions revises '20, '21 average PH peso forecasts**

MANILA – Fitch Solutions revised its average 2020-2021 Philippine peso forecasts as the unit continues to outperform in the region but a possible weakening is projected in the long-term partly on current account improvement reversal.

In a report dated Dec. 23, the unit of Fitch Group’s new 2020 peso forecast is PHP49.60 while it is PHP47.50 for 2021.

For 2022, the projection is an average of 50.00 to a greenback.

Previously, the 2020 forecast was PHP49.75 while the 2021 forecast was PHP50.1.

“We believe the tailwinds that have driven the unit through 2020 will continue into 2021 and rising foreign interest would bolster further the unit,” the report said.

It said the local currency has improved by around 5.3 percent to a US dollar to date, higher than the 3.6 percent for the Asian dollar index.

It traced this performance to the weak domestic import demand, the strong external

fundamentals upside from inflows from overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas’ (BSP) policies to address volatility of the currency.

“We believe these factors will broadly continue over the near term and will be aided by further dollar depreciation,” the report said.

Another plus for the local unit is the “higher risk appetite amongst investors focusing on low external financing and fiscal risks,” it added.

The peso’s low volatility, along with strong external financing fundamentals, are also seen as advantages for the local unit compared to other emerging market currencies.

These are deemed among the results of the central bank’s foreign exchange interventions, rising issuances, and projected easier policy stance, with the key policy rates expected to remain at its current level until late next year.

“Indeed, part of expectation for the BSP to keep its key policy rate

on hold until late 2021 is that it will seek to maintain a negative real rate to dissuade appreciatory pressures on the peso,” it added.

However, Fitch Solutions forecasts a 25 basis points hike in the central bank’s key rates in the last quarter of next year in line with projections that inflation rate will average at 3 percent next year.

“As such, the real policy rate will weaken

the attractiveness of the unit,” it said.

Similarly, continued accumulation of the US dollar is expected to limit the peso’s appreciation but the report said the country’s strong external financing fundamentals “mean that a sharp depreciation of the unit remains unlikely.”

“As such, we forecast the unit to depreciate to an average of PHP50/USD through 2022,” it added. (PNA)

**PNP 'red teams' to check compliance with health protocols**

MANILA – The Philippine National Police (PNP) announced that it will be deploying so-called "red teams" in malls and other business establishments to ensure compliance with the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) health protocols.

“The purpose of (Red Teams are) to validate ‘yung situations in their respective area of operations. Vina-validate nila 'yung deployment ng mga tao, at tinitignan din nila kung saan sila pwede tumulong at i-advise 'yung ating mga (They validate the deployment of police officers, they check on where they can provide assistance and give advice to our) chiefs of police at different unit commanders as to where they should deploy their respective resources,” said PNP Directorate for Operations chief, Major Gen. Alfred Corpuz, in a briefing Monday.

He added that "red teams" should check the availability of foot baths, hand sanitizers, and body temperature scanners in all entry points; entrance and exits should be separated, and signages to remind the public of mandatory wearing of face mask and face shield should be posted in conspicuous areas.

Corpus said there should also be no free Wi-Fi and aircon temperature should be at 26 degrees Celsius in malls to discourage people from loitering.

He added that they will also utilize local

government units in augmenting their efforts.

This came as the government appealed to people to observe safety and health protocols to curb a spike in Covid-19 cases during the holiday season.

Meanwhile, PNP deputy chief for administration, Lt. Gen. Guillermo Eleazar, on Tuesday said they are eyeing to conduct coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) testing for all police personnel assigned in Metro Manila.

He added that Metro Manila will be prioritized as it is the epicenter of the pandemic and most of the molecular laboratories are located here.

At present, around 65 percent of all police officers in PNP headquarters were tested for Covid-19.

The PNP is now conducting aggressive testing, said Eleazar, who is also the concurrent commander of the Administrative Support for Covid-19 Task Force (ASCOTF).

Around 38,000 tests have been conducted for cops in the region, he added.

The molecular laboratory in Camp Crame has also increased its daily testing capacity to 300, from only 100.

Meanwhile, Covid-19 tests conducted for personnel in National Support Units (NSUs) are at 66 percent and while tests in Police Regional Offices (PROs) are at 27.9 percent. (PNA)

Trece Martires City December 15, 2020.

**ANDRES B. ESPINA**  
*Sheriff IV*

**Copy Furnished:**

**BDO UNIBANK, INC.,**  
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**REMEDIOS VILLEGAS MIGANO (“CO-DEBTOR)**  
**JOJITA BARCIAL ACQUIAT (“DEBTOR-MORTGAGOR)**  
 #38 Governor’s Drive, Trece Martires City, Cavite  
 Blk. 12 Lot 22, Camella Trece, Brgy. Quintana, Trece Martires City

Published at: Cavite News  
 Dates: December 17, 24, & 31, 2020

**WARNING: IT IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED TO REMOVE DEFACE, OR DESTROY THIS NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF SALE.**

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

File No. FC-DC-0078-20  
EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE  
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE  
UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED  
BY ACT 4118

ARNELENE L. TUMBAGA,  
*Petitioner/Assignee*  
-versus-

SPS. NAZARIO S. GRANADA and  
NYDIA M. GRANADA  
*Respondents/Mortgagors*

#### NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the petitioner/assignee, **ARNELENE L. TUMBAGA**, with postal address at Blk. 71 Lot 2 Phase 3 CHR, Brgy. Langkaan II, City of Dasmariñas, Cavite by virtue of Loan and Mortgage Agreement with Bahay Financial Services, Inc. (BFS) against the respondents/mortgagors **NAZARIO S. GRANADA and NYDIA M. GRANADA** with postal address at 27 C Sulok, Panapaan, Bacoor, Cavite and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of 27 April 2017 amounts to **TWO HUNDRED THIRTY SIX THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED FIFTY PESOS & 00/100 (Php236,250.00)**, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned sheriff will sell at public auction on **January 14, 2021** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in the Court Room of Branch 90, Regional Trial Court, Ground Floor, Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Borol II, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite to the highest bidder and for CASH or CERTIFIED CHECK, in Philippine Currency, the following described real property together with all the building and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

Transfer Certificate of Title  
No. T-446633

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in the MUN. of DASMARIÑAS PROV. OF CAVITE, bounded and described as follows:

A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 46 BLK. 43 of the subd. Plan, Psd-042106-064738, being a portion of Lot 3824-B, P-4-77337, L.R.C. Rec. No. ), situated in the Bo. Of Lancaan, Mun. of Dasmariñas, Prov. Of Cavite, Is. Of Luzon. Bounded on the SW, along line 1-2 by Lot 45; on the NW., along line 2-3 by Lot 44, both of Blk. 43; on the NE., along line 3-4 by Alley 21 (4.50 m. wide); on the SE., along line 4-1, by Lot 48, Blk. 43 and all of the subd. Plan. Beginning at a pt. marked "1" on plan, being S. 75 deg. 37'W., 265.27 m. from Mon. No. 143, Imus Estate; thence N.36 deg. 46'W., 5.00 m. to pt. 2; thence N. 53 deg. 14'E., 9.50 m. to pt. 3; thence s. 36 deg. 46'E., 5.00 m. to pt. 4; thence S. 53 deg. 24'W., 9.50 m. to the pt. of beginning, containing an area of FORTY SEVEN METER & FIFTY SQ. DECIMETER (47.50). All pts. Referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground by P.s. cyl. Conc. Mons. 15x60 cm.; bearings true; date of original survey, July, 1905-June 1, 1906 and that of the subd. Survey, March 15-July 15, 1993 and was approved on August 13, 1993.

Prospective buyers and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said real property and the cumbrance thereon, if there be any.

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

In the event the publication auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **January 21**, at the same time and place without further notice.

November 19, 2020, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite.

RODRIGO C. ESTOGERO JR.  
*Sheriff IV*

ATTY. MARCELA L. BAYBAY  
*Clerk of Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff*

Published at: Cavite News  
Dates: December 10, 17, & 24, 2020

Date of Raffle of Judicial Notices: November 5, 2020

Copy furnished:

ARNELENE L. TUMBAGA  
Blk. 71 Lot 2 Phase 3 CHR, Brgy. Langkaan II,  
City of Dasmariñas, Cavite

NAZARIO S. GRANADA and NYDIA M. GRANADA  
27 C. Sulok, Panapaan, Bacoor, Cavite

## Oil prices down over pandemic-driven demand fears

ANKARA – Oil prices fell on Wednesday with the new strain of coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) virus in the United Kingdom (UK) casting doubts over prompt oil demand recovery, while an estimated rise in US crude stocks also fuels these doubts.

International benchmark Brent crude was trading at USD49.34 per barrel at 0620 GMT with a 1.48-percent decrease after closing Tuesday at USD50.08 a barrel.

American benchmark West Texas Intermediate (WTI) was at USD46.33 per barrel at the same time for a 1.47-percent decrease after ending the previous session at USD47.02 a barrel.

Oil prices continued their downward trend despite the optimism over the approval of the long-awaited US stimulus package on Monday, which had hoped to relieve the strained economy and restore oil demand.

However, President Donald Trump asked for revisions to be made to the USD892 billion coronavirus relief bill before he is prepared to sign it, describing parts of it as "wasteful spending".

The uncertainty caused by the emergence of the new strain of coronavirus in England, which is said to spread faster than the original virus, was the main reason for the decline in oil prices.

While many

countries decided to stop flights with the UK due to the mutant virus, three airlines in the US have agreed to require a negative coronavirus test result from passengers boarding flights from the UK to New York.

Late Tuesday, the American Petroleum Institute (API) announced its estimate of a rise of 2.7 million

barrels in US crude oil inventories relative to the market expectation of a 3.2 million-barrel fall.

If crude stocks increase in line with the API's expectations, it signals that crude demand is falling in the US, the world's largest oil consumer, to negatively affect oil prices. (Anadolu)

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Promo Period is from December 5 - 31, 2020  
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Notice posted at:

- The Bulletin Board of Regional Trial Court, Dasmariñas City, Cavite
- The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Hall
- The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Post Office
- The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Public Market

## SSS on contribution hike: We need to implement the law

MANILA – Social Security System (SSS) officials said on Wednesday they have listened to the clamor of employers and some business groups to defer the contribution hike in the state-run pension fund, but the scheduled increase in contribution rate is mandated by law.

“As much that the SSS would like to support the clamor of the public that the intended increase to be deferred, actually we are not going to do that because the basis for such increase is a legislative act,” SSS senior vice president and chief legal counsel Voltaire Agas said in a virtual press conference Wednesday.

Under the Social Service Act of 2018, the SSS shall implement contribution rate hike in 2019, 2021, and 2025.

SSS president and chief executive officer Aurora Ignacio announced in the same virtual event that the state-run pension fund will push through with the contribution rate increase from 12 percent to 13 percent starting January 2021.

Ignacio said the minimum monthly salary credit (MSC) will also increase from the current PHP2,000 to PHP3,000 starting next year, while also hiking maximum MSC from the current PHP20,000 to PHP25,000.

SSS chief actuary Edgar Cruz explained how the rate increase will impact on the members' contribution

to the SSS.

For members with MSC of PHP3,000, the monthly contribution will increase from PHP370 to PHP400 starting January 2021. For those with MSC of PHP10,000, it will increase from PHP1,210 to PHP1,310. For those with MSC of PHP20,000, contribution will hike from PHP2,430 to PHP2,630.

“The purpose of this mandated contribution rate increase was made by the legislature. Because as we all know in 2017, we had a PHP1,000 across the board pension benefit increase for our pensioners, and that increase was not funded. So it will put at risk the sustainability of the fund, such that this legislated increase. We're just supposed to allow the SSS fund to be restored to where it was prior to grant of the 2017 increase,” Agas said.

He added that the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) pandemic has “taken heavy toll” on SSS cash flows due to decline in contribution collection and higher claims on unemployment insurance coupled with the expanded paternity benefits.

“Because of these, any delay of implementation -- which is mandated by the law -- will seriously endanger not only the fund, but equally important, in peril the

SSS' ability to provide prompt and much needed financial assistance for members during this pandemic,” the SSS executive said.

Cruz said per last valuation, the SSS fund life is projected to be 2054.

“The fund is expected to be depleted and we have to think ways to extend to perpetuity,” he said. “The SSS is there to provide for retirement security of all members, not just the current pensioners, but the current workers who are contributing and who will become future pensioners as well as even the generation yet unborn.”

The SSS also launched the Workers' Investments and Savings Program (WISP), which will be rolled out by January 2021.

Those members with MSC exceeding PHP20,000 are automatically enrolled in WISP.

For instance, those with MSC of PHP25,000 are mandated to be included in the WISP. Their monthly contribution will also increase from the current PHP2,430 to PHP3,280 come next month.

Cruz said those with MSC exceeding PHP20,000 make up 20 percent of total SSS members.

Under the WISP, members are entitled to retirement, total disability, and death benefits in addition to the Regular SSS

## Biden receives first dose of coronavirus vaccine

WASHINGTON – US President-elect Joe Biden on Monday received the first dose of the coronavirus vaccine during a televised event in his home state of Delaware.

The 78-year-old former vice president was administered the Pfizer BioNTech coronavirus vaccine, which requires a second dose weeks apart to reach 98 percent efficacy. Biden's vaccination followed that of his wife Jill Biden earlier on the same day.

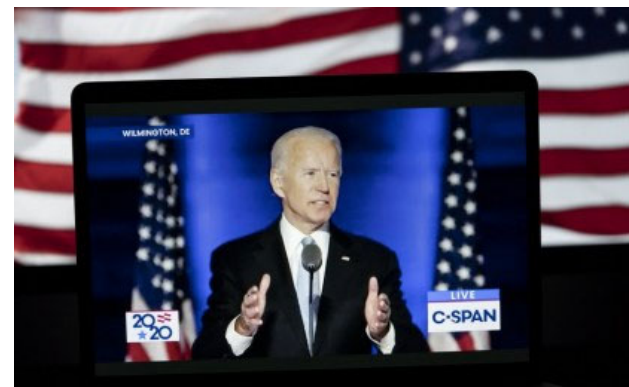
“What I want to say is we owe these folks an awful lot,” Biden, donning a black mask, said after getting the shot at Christiana Care Hospital in Newark, Delaware. “The scientists and the

Program.

SSS will invest a significant contribution under WISP in risk-free government securities and a modest portion will be invested in equities in blue-chip corporate investments.

Earnings realized from investments will also be distributed proportionately based on members' contributions. This means that the bigger the contribution, the higher the earnings that the member stands to receive.

To date, SSS projects that base return of investments of 4.5 percent and investment income under WISP is tax-free. (PNA)



*Photo taken in Arlington, Virginia, the United States, on Nov. 7, 2020, shows the live stream of US Democratic nominee Joe Biden delivering a speech in Wilmington, Delaware. (Xinhua photo)*

people who put this together, the front line workers, the people who were the ones who actually did the clinical work, it's just amazing. I wish we had time to take you through the whole hospital to see how busy and incredible you all are. And we owe you big. We really do.”

Biden, who is considered in the high-risk age category for Covid-19, got inoculated after top US infectious disease expert Anthony Fauci strongly recommended that he do so. Fauci has been named Biden's chief medical adviser when the president-elect takes office in January.

It's not clear when the Bidens will receive their second doses.

“I'm looking forward to the second shot. So is Jill,” Biden said.

Jen Psaki, the spokeswoman for the Biden transition team, told reporters Friday that Vice President-elect Kamala Harris and her husband, Doug Emhoff, would receive

their vaccinations next week.

Vice President Mike Pence and second lady Karen Pence, together with Surgeon General Jerome Adams, were administered the vaccine Friday at an on-camera event.

The first dose of the Pfizer BioNTech vaccine, the result of U S - G e r m a n collaboration, began to be injected to health care workers across the United States last week after getting emergency use authorization from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and have been delivered to 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The FDA also gave green light to the Moderna Covid-19 vaccine on Friday.

Covid-19 cases and deaths spiked during the ongoing holiday season in the United States, with total infections nearing 18 million and cumulative deaths around 318,600 as of Monday afternoon. (Xinhua)

# CAVITE NEWS

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER THAT'S NATIONAL IN SCOPE

VOL. XXI NO. 36 DECEMBER 24-30, 2020 P 10.00

## Watsons Card Celebrates 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary

Watsons, the flagship health and beauty brand of the global A.S. Watson Group, one of the leading health, beauty and wellness retailers in the Philippines recently celebrated the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of their loyalty program now with more than 3 million members nationwide.

We will remember that last 2018, the Watsons Card was launched to give its frequent shoppers exclusive perks, discounts, exciting deals and more value for money.

To kick-off the 2<sup>nd</sup> anniversary celebration and Grand Member Sale, Watsons went live on their Facebook page hosted by Hershey Neri together with Watsons Pharmacist, Luis Maximo de Guzman and Watsons Brand Ambassador Marissa Cabas.

As a gesture of thanks to its millions of members, there were also a lot of exciting deals and up to 50% OFF on more than a thousand great selections of health and beauty products through the **Watsons Card Grand Members Sale**.

Benefits of having a **Watsons Card** include lifetime membership, earning and redeeming of points, getting exclusive discounts, 2x bonus points on Watsons Brand products, access to

member events, enjoying privileges in select partner establishments, and access to more perks and rewards such as an annual sale to all Watsons Card members.

Meanwhile, Watsons Card members who accumulated at least P 35,000 annual spend is entitled for **Watsons Elite** membership. On top of the Watsons Card benefits, Elite members get to enjoy priority service, free delivery at Watsons online or Call & Delivery service, access to Elite concierge by having a personal shopper and an assigned store officer at the store, exclusive Elite discounts, a birthday treat (earn 10x points on your first transaction during your birth month, 5x bonus on Watsons Brand products and access to Elite member events.

Never miss out on superb perks and discounts with your Watsons Card and Watsons Elite. Head on to your nearest Watsons branch, shop online at [www.watsons.com.ph](http://www.watsons.com.ph) or try Watsons' Call & Delivery to get your orders within 24 hours. You can download the Watsons App through the following: Google Playstore: <https://bit.ly/2yX2Elj>; App Store: <https://apple.co/2WjJH49>; and the Huawei App Gallery:



*Watsons Pharmacist Luis Maximo de Guzman and Hershey Neri during the Watsons Grand Member Sale Shop Live through Watsons' Facebook page.*

*Look good and feel good by shopping at Watsons today and enjoy great discounts on your health and beauty must-haves.*

*Always use your Watsons Card or Watsons Elite to avail exclusive perks.*

**CHOPS TO GO IS NOW OPEN AT SM CITY DASMARIÑAS**

*Taiwan's Bite Sized Chops for you and your family is now open at SM City Dasmariñas. Chicken chops, All-natural Potato Chips, Milk Tea and more are waiting for you. What are you waiting for? Visit its newly opened store at SM City Dasmariñas Foodcourt, located at the lower ground floor.*

*Watsons Card members are always in for a treat! Discover more than 1,000 products and earn lots of points on every purchase.*

*Be entitled to a Watsons Elite Card with P 35,000 accumulated purchases within a calendar year and discover a world of exclusive Watsons privileges and rewards.*