

# CAVITE NEWS

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## Cockfighting still banned in GCQ, MGCQ: DILG

MANILA – The prohibition on “sabong” (cockfighting) remains in effect despite the country's transition to a more relaxed general community quarantine (GCQ) and modified GCQ, an official of the Department of the Interior and Local

Government (DILG) said on Friday.

“Niliwanag po ng DILG na bawal po ang sabong hanggang ngayon. Wala pa pong IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases) resolution ang nilalabas upang i-

allow ang operasyon ng cockpit arena o sabong sa buong bansa (The DILG clarifies that cockfighting is prohibited until now. The IATF has yet to issue a resolution allowing the operations of cockpit arenas or cockfighting across the

(Turn to p. 2)

# PRRD wants new team to release health workers' compensation

MANILA – President Rodrigo Duterte has directed Health Secretary Francisco Duque III to form a new team that will oversee the distribution of compensation to health workers with coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

Duterte gave the fresh order during his meeting with his Cabinet in Davao City on Thursday night after being piqued by the delayed release of compensation benefits

for healthcare workers who fell severely ill or died of Covid-19.

“Now, I am asking Secretary Duque to form a new team that would focus on the immediate delivery of the assistance that should be given to those who were ‘yung namatay tapos ‘yung nagkasakit (died or fell ill due to Covid-19). And I expect it within 24 hours,” he said in a speech aired on-state-run PTV-4.

Under Republic Act (RA) 11469 or the

Bayanihan to Heal as One Act, health workers who contracted Covid-19 will be given PHP100,000, while the families of healthcare workers who died of Covid-19 duty will receive PHP1 million.

Senators, however, lamented on Tuesday that none of the health workers who acquired Covid-19 received compensation packages.

Duterte said it was “totally unacceptable” that the health workers

infected with Covid-19 have yet to be compensated.

He ordered Duque to make sure that the new team would fulfill its mandate to provide immediate assistance to the uncompensated health workers.

“Directly deliver the assistance immediately. Secretary Duque, you have the full authority to assemble the team. It may not really be from your office or the department itself. You can get persons of



President Rodrigo Duterte (Presidential photo)

known honesty diyan of the intended beneficiaries by this time,” he said. As of June 1, a total of 2,669 healthcare workers have acquired (Turn to p. 2)

## Ban on motorcycle back-riding matter of health, safety: Año

MANILA – Interior Secretary Eduardo Año reiterated that back-riding in motorcycles remains prohibited, saying the issue is a health and safety concern and not convenience.

In a televised

meeting with President Rodrigo Duterte and Cabinet officials on Friday, Año said this is in compliance with minimum health standards under the general community quarantine.

“Yes, naintindihan

po natin yung hirap pero base po sa panuntunan ng DOH (Department of Health), ‘yung minimum health standard na physical distancing, napakahirap i-practice sa motor kahit sabihin natin sila

ay mag-asawa o magkapatid pero ang virus walang pinipili. (We understand how difficult it is but based on the guidelines of the DOH, the minimum health standard that requires physical distancing is very hard to practice in motorcycles even if we say that they are a couple or they are



siblings. The virus Año told Senator (Turn to p. 2)

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Covid-19, according to the data from the Department of Health (DOH).

Around 1,438 of the infected health workers have already recovered, while 32 others have died due to the new coronavirus.

**'Sacrificing' erring officials**

Duque, who was also present during the meeting, admitted that he was not satisfied with the performance of those who are responsible for the distribution of the compensation to the affected healthcare workers.

"Yung mga tao ko, parang walang sense of urgency. 'Yun po ang talagang ang sama-sama ng loob ko (My subordinates seemed to have no sense of urgency. I am really dissatisfied)," he said.

Duterte said the financial aid should be given in "just a matter of days."

Duterte cautioned that he is willing to "sacrifice" government officials who are behind the delay in the release of cash assistance to the virus-hit health workers.

"We have to move fast. And if we have to move fast, I will sacrifice you even if you are not really a laggard," he said. "If you want it done in a hurry, the power to

appoint carries with it a power to dismiss. And since it's an absolute thing for total loss of confidence, I'm removing them because they are not functioning."

**'Conflicting claims'**

Duque told Duterte that his office had already identified the families of the 32 fallen health workers.

He, however, noted that there was a problem in the release of the compensation due to the "conflicting claims."

Duque, nevertheless, guaranteed that the DOH is now doing its best to compensate the sick health workers and the families of those who died.

He said the Joint Administrative Order has already been issued to implement the provision on healthcare workers' this week.

"Yung pinapatutukan ko po, 'yung 32 families na kailangan po yung ayuda nila na PHP1 million based on your directive, dapat iyan i-release (I have already told them to focus on the 32 families who should receive the PHP1 million assistance, based on your directive)," Duque said. (By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos/PNA)

**BAN.. FR. P.1**

Christopher "Bong" Go when he raised the possibility of allowing back-riding, not only among couples, but to those belonging to the same household.

Año asked for understanding from the public as the country is still under quarantine.

"Mahirap mag-gamble na komo mag-asawa, pwede na magkadikit sila lalo na sa publiko (It is difficult to gamble. It doesn't necessarily mean that if you are a couple, you can be close to each other especially in public)," he said.

**COCKFIGHTING. . FR. P. 1**

country)," DILG Undersecretary Jonathan Malaya said in a Laging Handa briefing.

This came following reports that some local government units (LGUs) have already allowed cockfighting in their areas of jurisdiction.

Malaya said these LGUs even have the temerity to issue an executive order to justify cockfighting operations in their areas

Interior Secretary Eduardo Año supported Malaya's statement.

"Bagamat mas maluwag po ang ating mga kautusan, bawal pa din ang sabong saan mang bahagi ng mga lugar na nasa ilalim ng (While we have less stringent rules, cockfighting remains prohibited in areas under) GCQ or MGCQ as we continue to stop the spread of Covid-19 (coronavirus disease 2019) in the country," Año said in a statement.

Año also reminded LGUs to keep an eye on cockpit arenas, as well as communities and villages to ensure that they abide by the policies of the IATF and the DILG.

"Bantayan po natin ang mga sabungan na ito

He said the prohibition on back-riding in motorcycles will remain amid the threat of the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19).

"The DOH's stand is that while we have yet to adjust to the new normal and many areas still have increasing Covid-19 cases, that is what we are going to implement," he added.

Año assured the public that this policy would change once the health authorities record "zero Covid-19 cases". (By Christopher Lloyd Caliwan/PNA)

at huwag natin silang payagaang magbukas dahil ito po ay labag sa batas (Let us closely watch these cockfighting arenas and do not let them open because this violates the law)," he added.

**Tricycles banned on national roads**

Meanwhile, Malaya reiterated that tricycles and pedicabs remain banned on national highways.

"Nililina po ng DILG na bawal pa rin ang tricycles at pedicabs sa national highways kahit pa nasa GCQ o MGCQ level na ang ilang lokalidad. Bago pa man magsimula ang pandemya ng ay ipinagbabawal na ito ng batas para na rin sa kaligtasan ng publiko (The DILG clarifies that tricycles and pedicabs are banned along national highways even if areas are under GCQ or MGCQ. This has been prohibited even before the pandemic for the safety of the public)," he said.

Malaya noted that what was suspended because of Covid-19 was the "second wave" of road-clearing operations but said this is only temporary. (PNA)

**Duterte hails cops over ceaseless drug war amid Covid-19**

MANILA – President Rodrigo R. Duterte on Thursday lauded police officers for their bravery and dedication to run after drug personalities in the country despite the threat posed by the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid19) outbreak.

Duterte acknowledged the cops' relentless efforts to wage a war on illegal drugs on the same day a total of PHP5.1 billion worth of shabu were seized in an anti-illegal drug operation in Marilao, Bulacan.

"Despite the pandemic, police are working. So kita mo ang mga pulis ko, nagtatrabaho (My policemen are doing their job), unmindful of the fact that they can get the Covid by their dedication. So officially, I would like to congratulate the PNP (Philippine National Police)," he said in a taped public address aired on state-run PTV-4 on Friday morning.

A Chinese national and two cohorts were arrested during a buy-bust operation at a warehouse in Lias village in Marilao, Bulacan on Thursday.

The suspects were identified as Yuwein Cai, Angela Miole Tulio, and Ma. Lyn Miole Tulio.

About 63 boxes containing 756 kg. of shabu with an estimated street value of PHP5.14 billion and boodle money worth PHP1 million were recovered from the suspects.

Duterte lamented that the narcotics trade is still rampant in the country, despite his intensified crackdown on illegal drugs.

"Kita mo PHP5.1 billion, malaki ito. Hindi matapos ito. Sabi ko ganito, (See, this PHP5.1 billion is big. It does not end. I said), PHP5.1 billion, it will destroy my country," he said.

Duterte said the proliferation of illegal drugs irks him "to no end" because it would destroy the country.

He reiterated his warning to neutralize drug offenders.

"If you destroy my country distributing PHP5.1 billion of shabu all throughout the country, I will kill you. I will kill you," Duterte said. (PNA)

**CAVITE NEWS**

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

raquel.cavitenews@gmail.com  
09974094932/09329770888

RAQUEL M. MAGTIBAY  
Publisher

JOMAR MENES  
Editor-In-Chief

JOHN JEPREE MAGTIBAY  
Lay-out-Artist

LAURO M. MAGTIBAY  
Circulation Manager

ATTY. MARIO MONTEVIRGEN  
Legal Counsel

**Papi** Publishers Association  
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that makes one rich,  
And He adds no pain with it.  
Proverbs 10:22*

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**An Act of Integrity Amidst The Pandemic**



**SM CITY BACCOOR, CAVITE** – In these times when most of us are trying to provide all our families despite the crashing economy directly hitting the stability of our employment and security of our needs, it is indeed great to hear news about people helping others.

With one of the busiest jobs in the mall where shoppers need assistance to safely and quickly grab their essentials, one Security Personnel stood out. Recently, SAG Rizaldy Catriz of Defense Specialist Security Agency Inc., assigned as Safety Protocol Officer endorsed to CRS Office worth Php 5,050.00 cash which he recovered at Northwest Parking B area. Hours later, the owner of the missing cash verified by the CRS office claimed his lost money and commended SAG Catriz for showing its honesty and dedication on his job.

“Isinauli ko po (ang natagpuang pera) dahil mas higit itong kailangan ng may-ari dahil sa panahong ito,” said SAG Catriz who puts the interest of others and his fear in God above his own needs. “Masarap po ang pakiramdam na makatulong sa kapwa kahit sa ganitong paraan.”

This deed is reflective of SM's Corporate value of honesty and integrity and bespeaks well of the attribute of a good member of SM Security force, worthy of praise and emulation. SAG RIZALDY CATRIZ brought honor and pride not only to himself, his family and security agency but also to SM group of companies in general.



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## Thousands protest in London for Black Lives Matter

LONDON – Thousands of people took to the streets of London Wednesday to march in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement and protest the killing of George Floyd, an unarmed black man who died last week after being pinned down by a white police officer in the US state of Minnesota.

The protests were focused in Hyde Park, central London and started at 1 p.m. Demonstrators initially practiced social distancing. But as their numbers swelled, the space between protestors shrank. A considerable number of demonstrators wore face masks and gloves, however.

They chanted “Black lives matter,” “We will not be silent” and “No justice, no peace.”

One of the protest organizers told the Evening Standard, a London newspaper: “The injustice in the United States has refocused the similar problems we have here in the United Kingdom.”

“Since 1990, almost one person a week has died at the hands of the police or prison system in Britain, and we need accountability and reform here as well,” he said.

“This crisis has to stop if we don’t want to go in the same direction as the United States.”

At 5:25 p.m., Guardian journalist Mattha Busby uploaded a video of scuffles between protestors and police, and tweeted: “It’s kicking off now. Unclear exactly what started things. Police appeared to attempt to take a man from the crowd and pandemonium ensued.”

Shortly after, he tweeted: “I should add, things have calmed down significantly now after the video was taken. A couple of people were led away by officers. Tensions are growing and protesters here show no signs of heading to Trafalgar Square.”

“The crowd has been thinning out,” he later tweeted. “It would be a shame if earlier’s flash point at all overshadowed what has overwhelmingly been a peaceful and positive demo. Sky News are reporting a police officer was punched, triggering the incident and arrests.”

Commander Alex Murray from London’s Metropolitan Police uploaded a video to Twitter in the evening, where he said: “So we can see feelings are running really high today. It’s been a peaceful protest. We’re really grateful for everybody who has been peaceful, and we are committed to working with the people of London to make London a lot safer and to build trust with all communities.”

**John Boyega**

London-born British actor John Boyega, who rose to fame for his role in the most recent Star Wars films, attended the protest at Hyde Park and made an impassioned speech. The video of the speech and photos of him went viral on social media.

“We are a physical representation of our support for George Floyd. We are a physical representation of our support for Sandra Bland. We are a physical representation of our support for Trayvon Martin. We are a physical representation of our support for Stephen Lawrence,” he said.

The first three names are of killed African Americans; Stephen Lawrence was a black British teenager murdered in an unprovoked racist attack on April 22, 1993. Five suspects were arrested but none charged at the time. Police and prosecutors were criticized for institutional racism and the case has become a cause celebre, highlighting structural racism in the UK. In 2012, two of Lawrence’s killers were finally convicted of murder.

“Black lives have always mattered. We have always been important. We have always meant something. We have always succeeded regardless. And now is



*Protesters take part in a Black Lives Matter Demonstration in solidarity with US demonstrations for George Floyd in central London, United Kingdom on June 3, 2020. Thousands of people gathered in Hyde Park and marched to Trafalgar Square through Victoria, Parliament Square and Whitehall. (Ilyas Tayfun Salci - Anadolu Agency)*

the time. I ain’t waiting,” Boyega said.

**“I’m speaking to you from my heart.”**

“Today is about innocent people who were halfway through their process. We don’t know what George Floyd could have achieved. We don’t know what Sandra Bland could have achieved. But today, we’re going to make sure that won’t be an alien thought to our young ones,” he added.

**Take the knee**

Stand Up To Racism, an anti-racism campaign group, called on Brits to “take the knee” on their doorsteps at 6 p.m. as a show of solidarity.

The idea was inspired by American football quarterback Colin Kaepernick, who took the knee in protest in 2016. It has since become linked with the Black Lives Matter group.

The Daily Mail quoted one of Stand Up To Racism’s members as saying: “Racism is the underlying condition that continues to kill black and BAME communities,” referring to Black, Asian and minority ethnic people.

“Take the knee at 6 p.m. because there is a boot on the neck of millions of people in the BAME community.

“Part of the cure for the virus of racism is to embrace anti-racism and anti-fascism.”

**Police and politicians**

UK police leaders published a joint letter Wednesday, saying: “We stand alongside all those across the globe who are

appalled and horrified by the way George Floyd lost his life. Justice and accountability should follow.”

The police added they were “appalled” by the damage and violence in US cities and hoped that “peace and order will soon be restored.”

Turning to policing in the UK, the letter said: “In the UK, we have a long established tradition of policing by consent.”

“Officers are trained to use force proportionately, lawfully and only when absolutely necessary,” the letter said. “We will tackle bias, racism, or discrimination wherever we find it.”

With regards to the protests in London and around the UK, the police said: “We know people want to make their voices heard. The right to lawful protest is a key part of any democracy, which UK police uphold and facilitate.”

The letter added that the novel coronavirus remained “a deadly disease” and urged people to work with police officers and respect restrictions on gatherings.

Tobias Ellwood, a British MP and chair of the House of Commons Defence Committee uploaded a video of protestors from his office window and tweeted: “Moving to see this powerful and peaceful demonstration of solidarity supporting #BlackLivesMatter outside Westminster right now. Scenes like this are happening across the world. Politicians must

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listen.”

**Global movement**

On Sunday, thousands of protestors took to Trafalgar Square in central London and outside the US embassy, while hundreds of others marched through the south London districts of Peckham and Brixton on Monday.

The protests in Trafalgar Square led to 23 arrests, according to Sky News, at least three of which were for breaching Covid-19 measures.

BLM protestors have called for further demonstrations in London at Parliament Square on June 6 and the US Embassy on June 7.

The US has seen protests since last week

when a video went viral showing Floyd being pinned down by Derek Chauvin, a white police officer in Minneapolis, Minnesota, as he was being arrested.

Chauvin knelt on his neck for nearly nine minutes.

Shortly after, Floyd appeared to lose consciousness, but Chauvin maintained his position on the victim.

He died shortly after being taken to a hospital.

His last words were “I can’t breathe,” which became the slogan of the nationwide protests.

Floyd was killed by “asphyxiation from sustained pressure,” an independent autopsy found Monday. (Anadolu)

## GSIS adopts contactless filing of social insurance claims, benefits

PASAY CITY, -- In a bid to help curb the spread of COVID-19, state pension fund Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) is now adopting contactless methods of accepting application for claims and benefits after successfully shifting to online loan application in March this year.

“We are moving to new methods of transaction to provide our members and pensioners the same quality service, without needlessly exposing them to health risks and viral infection,” GSIS President and General Manager Rolando Ledesma Macasaet said.

The pension fund chief approved three new ways by which government employees, retirees and beneficiaries may submit their application forms and requirements to GSIS, which may be through any one of the following: 1) postal mail or delivery courier, 2) drop boxes located in the lobbies of all GSIS branch offices nationwide, and 3) electronically through email.

The contactless transactions will apply to the filing of the following claims and benefits: retirement; life insurance (maturity or cash surrender regular or optional policies); survivorship; death; funeral; employees compensation; pre-need; and request for pension accrual.

“Claimants must download the pertinent application forms, which may be accessed in the GSIS website (via [https://](https://www.gsis.gov.ph/downloadable-forms/)

[www.gsis.gov.ph/downloadable-forms/](https://www.gsis.gov.ph/downloadable-forms/)). Then, they may either choose to print the form and send it manually to GSIS either by drop box or by snail mail, or they may opt to send their application electronically via email through an email address designated by GSIS for a particular area,” Macasaet said.

Members who opt to file their application through email may do so in two ways: 1) file it through their agency authorized officer or liaison officer; or 2) submit it using their personal email, preferably the email address that was originally recorded in their GSIS files.

They must also attach the required documents for the particular claim that they are applying for. In addition to the requirements, they must submit a clear photo of the claimant holding the duly accomplished application form and Unified Multi-purpose ID (UMID) card (or two valid IDs in the absence of a UMID card).

Claims filed through email will be processed upon: 1) verification that documents submitted are complete and with no deficiency; and 2) submission of the original copies of the documents through drop box, within 10 work days, from sending the email application.

“Once received, the proceeds of their claim will be released and/or credited to their respective bank accounts,” Macasaet added. (GSIS)

## Transformative change, sustainable use of biodiversity for a ‘better normal’

Among the lessons to be gleaned from the current global pandemic is the crucial importance of biodiversity in public health, livelihood, and food security. This World Environment Day, the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), together with the entire globe, pays homage to the environment and recognise the tireless efforts of our unsung frontliners and stewards of nature and biodiversity, the farmers.

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the pandemic is particularly disruptive to smallholder producers who rely on agricultural biodiversity as a source of food and income. Community lockdowns reduced most farming activities, while travel restrictions cut off the food supply chain and deprived producers of their income. Tackling hunger and lack of food has even become more challenging amid the health crisis, which reminds us that we are highly dependent on nature and biodiversity for two of the most important things for survival -- health and food.

With the theme Time for Nature, the World Environment Day highlights the urgency of conserving biodiversity and building community resilience as part of a new and better normal.

Prioritising agricultural biodiversity or agrobiodiversity – a sub-component of biodiversity for agriculture and food production – becomes even more important, especially in the ASEAN region, where the agriculture sector is among the most productive in the world. Seven ASEAN Member States (AMS) are among the top 20 global rice producers, with rice and agricultural production largely contributing to



*Millions of people rely on the rich agrobiodiversity of the ASEAN Region for food, health and livelihood. Photo by ACB.*

their respective GDPs.

However, agrobiodiversity is fast declining, mainly driven by changes in land and water use, the degradation and loss of forest and aquatic ecosystems, and the transition to intensive production of less varieties of species (Sajise, 2019). This is an imminent risk in the region, where population growth is predicted to reach more than 700 million in the next 50 years, posing a greater challenge to balancing food security and dwindling natural resources.

The recent Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystems Services (IPBES) report that underscored the need for support for environmental considerations for more sustainable and nature-positive activities is in harmony with the general consensus that smallholder farmers' agrobiodiversity practices can slow down and even reverse biodiversity decline.

Among these nature-positive activities are effective agrobiodiversity practices such as diversification of the farms -- using multi-species and multi-breed of crops and animals -- a practice that increases

ecological and genetic diversity. Farming methods such as crop rotations, intercropping and growing diverse crop varieties can help improve crop productivity and performance and manage pest and crop diseases. Integrating farm components and planting various food crops and animals provide additional income for the farmers, and helps in the mitigation and adaptation against climate change.

In rural areas, household backyard gardens are safe sources of nutritious and diversified diet, as well as medicinal herbs for common illnesses. Communal gardens can also serve as community seedbanks that safeguard local and traditional crop varieties. Agroecological methods that many local communities practice require support through enabling policies and programs in crop conservation and improvement.

Moreover, indigenous farming systems are rich repositories of sustainable agricultural knowledge and practices. The AMS, with the support of the ACB, are spearheading the establishment of the ASEAN Regionally Important Agro-Ecological Heritage

Systems (ARIAHS). ARIAHS recognises and supports agricultural heritage systems that have successfully combined traditional farming practices and modern approaches to address the need for sustainable food production.

Integrating biodiversity in cities and peri-urban areas is also crucial. At the onset of the pandemic, city dwellers have realised the value of urban gardening to ensure a reliable, affordable and convenient source of fresh and healthy food. Meanwhile, urban green spaces such as botanic gardens and wildlife parks, improve air quality, offer havens in concrete jungles, and serve as natural barriers in the face of disasters.

Nature offers the best solutions to the challenges that we grapple with during these most uncertain of times. Let this year's World Environment Day spur us to make time for nature through transformative action and mainstreaming biodiversity in agriculture and in other development sectors. Let us make every day a time for nature. (Dr. Theresa Mundita S. Lim, Executive Director, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity)

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**Classic SAVORY**

## Classic Favorites

Enjoy the goodness of **Classic Savory Chicken** and **Savory Classic Lomi Soup** - two classic favorites perfectly paired for a delightful meal!

**Celebrate Sarap!**



## Fasting beneficial in time of Covid-19: expert

SAMSUN, Turkey – Time-restricted eating, such as fasting, strengthens the body's immune system, which provides the first line of defense against the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19), a medical expert said Monday.

Dr. Yusuf Uzun, an internal medicine and gastroenterologist specialist, told Anadolu Agency that having a strong immune system is the most important protective factor against Covid-19, apart from measures such as wearing a mask, washing one's hands, and practicing social distancing.

Uzun underlined that hunger triggers autophagy or "protective cell care" in healthy people who do not have any additional diseases that preclude fasting.

Autophagy is the body's way of cleaning out damaged cells in



order to regenerate newer, healthier ones.

Japanese scientist Yoshinori Ohsumi was awarded the 2016 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for uncovering the key mechanisms of autophagy.

Ohsumi has "shown that time-restricted eating has an effect on cell renewal and slowing aging in the body. Therefore, at the end of a 10-15 hour period of hunger because of fasting, the immune system cells regain a stronger, vital physiological balance

and rejuvenate by refreshing and show a more resistant and protective effect against cancer and infections," Uzun said.

"Although further studies are needed on this subject, it has been understood that the cells in the body are rejuvenated by renewing and strengthened in intraday hunger because of fasting."

He also underscored the importance of regular sleep and a balanced diet in order to strengthen the immune system. (Anadolu)