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## Voters list for BSKE 2023 out by August-Comelec

MANILA – The Commission on Elections (Comelec) is looking to release the lists of registered voters in the October 2023 Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections (BSKE) by August 1.

The poll body has ordered the local

Election Registration Boards (ERBs) to complete the verifications of the Election Day Computerized Voters Lists (EDCVLs) and Posted Computerized Voters Lists (PCVLs) on or before July 27.

"Verification of the names of voters and

certification and sealing of the EDCVLs and PCVLs shall be conducted not later July 27, 2023," said Comelec Resolution No. 10903 promulgated on March 22 and released on Tuesday.

"Posting of the verified and certified  
(Turn to p.2)

# Recto: Update El Niño response strategy to protect agriculture

MANILA – House of Representatives Deputy Speaker Ralph Recto on Tuesday called on President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to consider upgrading the "Roadmap to Address the Impact of El Niño" (RAIN) as a measure to prevent the weather phenomenon from seriously harming the country's food, electricity, and water supply.

In a press

statement, Recto pointed out that RAIN was a comprehensive strategy paper drafted by the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), which guided the whole-of-nation's response during the 2015-2016 El Niño event.

"Meron nang blueprint sa ganitong emergency. Kailangan lang ay (There is

already a blueprint for this kind of emergency. All that's needed is) to dust it off and brush it up, so it will be attuned to the unique characteristics of the 2023 version of El Niño," said the lawmaker from the 6th District of Batangas.

He said President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s concurrent role as agriculture secretary should be one big motivating factor for



Photo courtesy of Agriculture Bicol

him to commission an El Niño response strategy.

effective, as no major incidents were reported during the Lent observance.

Now that the Holy Week is over, Rivera said the BJMP is preparing for the summer season by ensuring that all jail facilities are well-maintained, fully operational, and adequately equipped to

Recto emphasized that the agriculture sector, which is already

handle any challenges that may arise during the season.

Rivera said the BJMP is already conducting regular maintenance and repairs of facilities and equipment, as well as enhancing the training of personnel to ensure that they are equipped with the necessary skills to handle any

saddled with the high cost of fuel and  
(Turn to p. 2)

situation that may arise.

Additionally, the BJMP will continue implementing strict security measures, such as regular inspections of jail cells and searching for contrabands.

Increasing the number of personnel on duty is also considered, especially for facilities  
(Turn to p. 2)

## BJMP logs zero incidents in jails during Holy Week

MANILA – The Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) has recorded no incidents in jail facilities nationwide during the observance of the Holy Week.

In a statement on Tuesday, BJMP acting head, Chief Supt. Ruel

Rivera, said the bureau implemented strict security measures to ensure the safety of persons deprived of liberty (PDL) and personnel in all 478 jail facilities nationwide during the Holy Week.

He said regular jail inspections were conducted as well as

greyhound operations in jails to ensure that no contraband are in the cells.

He added the BJMP crisis management units were placed on alert and standby for any emergency situation during the holidays and these measures proved to be

**BJMP . . . FR. P. 1**

that are among the most congested.

Communication and coordination with other law enforcement agencies is also a priority in order to mitigate the anticipated unfavorable effects of the summer heat on PDL and in jail facilities.

Among the BJMP's top areas of concern this summer, are water and power supplies, the health of PDLs, and communicable diseases that are highly likely to worsen because of the heat and overcrowding.

Health personnel of the BJMP national headquarters, regional offices, and jail units are on alert and standby for possible emergency situations on the ground.

"The BJMP is committed to providing a safe and secure environment for PDL and personnel in all its facilities, and it will continue to work tirelessly to ensure that this goal is achieved," said Rivera.

Rivera assured the public that the BJMP is fully prepared to handle any situation that may arise during the summer season, and will continue to provide the best possible care and protection for PDLs under its custody.

**Holy Week observance generally peaceful in Mimaropa**

Meanwhile, Brig. Gen. Joel Doria, director of the Police Regional Office in Mimaropa, has noted the traditional observance of this year's Holy Week in the region as 'generally peaceful' as compared

to the same period last year.

Data from the Regional Investigation and Detective Management Division revealed that a total of 87 crime incidents were recorded from April 2 to 9 this year, a 10.31 percent decline as compared to the 97 reported crime incidents in the same period last year.

The MIMAROPA top cop said the improvement in the average crime rate is largely attributed to the pro-active policing efforts in maintaining peace and order complemented by the regionwide coordinated police operations through the implementation of the "Oplan Ligtas Sumvac 2023".

"I commend the men and women of PRO MIMAROPA in this accomplishment. The public can expect that the PNP will further intensify its efforts in ensuring the stability of the peace and order in their respective areas, more so for the entire duration of the summer vacation this year," Doria said in a separate statement.

Doria likewise maintained that security measures and optimum deployment will be focused on securing vital installations, tourist destinations, bus terminals, seaports, and airports to ensure the safety of all activities and movement of the traveling public.

"We have established more than 150 police assistance

**RECTO . . . Fr. p 1**

fertilizer, should not be burdened further by the scarcity of water caused by the weather phenomenon.

"Scarcity in water leads to scarcity in food. This is not an alarmist statement. It is a fact because, without water, you cannot grow food," he said.

He also pointed out that the lack of water also shrinks planting areas, delays planting seasons, and cuts crop yields.

Recto warned that El Niño also harms livestock and poultry, as high temperatures can cause heat stress on animals.

Water is also needed to keep farms clean and prevent the spread of diseases, such as African swine fever, he said.

According to the Philippine Atmospheric and Geophysical and

desks in various parts of the region, particularly in roads and tourist destinations, to be manned by more than 1,500 PNP personnel to provide maximum visibility and efficient response," he said.

Doria reiterated his appeal to the general public, especially motorists, to take extra measures by adhering to traffic laws and speed restrictions to avoid vehicular accidents.

He also urged all parents or guardians to

Astronomical Services Administration, there have been seven severe El Niño events since 1980, with the last one lasting from 2015 to 2016 that inflicted an estimated USD327 million in agricultural losses.

To address the 2015-2016 El Niño episode, the administration of then president Benigno Aquino III crafted RAIN, which focused on ensuring food security, health, energy security, and safety in 67 impacted provinces, plus Metro Manila.

"The Marcos government should have a whole-of-nation response of its own, and I believe that the BBM version will be a superior one because it can draw from a wealth of previous experiences," Recto said. (PNA)

pay close attention to their children at all times and warned the general public not to drink any alcoholic beverages while swimming to prevent drowning incidents.

"While the PNP will be deployed to provide maximum visibility and efficient response, we humbly seek for the continuous cooperation and support of the public in our efforts towards ensuring their overall safety and security," said Doria. (PNA)

**VOTERS . . . Fr. p 1**

EDCVLs and PCVLs shall be made not later than August 1, 2023," it added.

Included in the list are voters due to court inclusion orders, erroneously delisted as death, or abated through AFIS due to wrongful encoding of type of application in the Voter Registration System (VRS).

On the other other, those excluded from the verification and certification of the EDCVLs and PCVLs, are registered voters that were previously approved transfer, double/multiple registration records due to Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) matching,

death as certified by the Local Civil Registrars and court exclusion orders.

ERBs are mandated to prepare and post certified list of voters 90 days before a regular election is to be held as stated under the Voter's Registration Act.

Based on latest Comelec data, there are a total of 68,557,452 registered voters for the village polls.

The registered youth voters are now at 23,474,978.

The voters lists are required to be posted in the Offices of the Election Officer (OEOs) and in the bulletin board of each city/municipal hall. (PNA)

**CAVITE NEWS PUBLISHING**

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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**DRAW CLOSE TO GOD  
AND HE WILL  
DRAW CLOSE TO YOU**  
*(James 4:8)*

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION  
BRANCH 4-FC  
CITY OF IMUS, CAVITE

EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF  
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER  
ACT 3135 AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118

FC Case No. 17643-22

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND  
(PAG-IBIG FUND),

Mortgagee,

-versus-

VICTORY L. SANCHEZ married to  
MARIANNE M. SANCHEZ,  
Mortgagors,

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118 filed by HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (PAG-IBIG FUND), mortgagee, with principal place of business at The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, against VICTORY L. SANCHEZ married to MARIANNE M. SANCHEZ, mortgagors, with residential and postal address at Lot 55 Blk. 1 Montefaro Village, Calsadang Bago, Imus, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of September 29, 2022 amounts to NINE HUNDRED ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED NINETY SEVEN PESOS AND 87/100 (Php901,597.87), Philippine Currency, including interest and penalties, but excluding attorney's fees, sheriff's fees and all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned will sell at public auction on April 25, 2023 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Office of the Clerk of Court, RTC-Imus Hall of Justice, Aguinaldo Highway, Imus city, Cavite to the highest bidder, for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all improvements therein, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE  
No. 057-2012023108

"A parcel of land (Lot 55, Blk. 1 of the cons. subd. plan, Pcs-04-021857, being a portion of the cons. of Lots 1307 & 6037, (RS-04-004254), Imus Estate, L.R.C. Rec. No. 8843) situated in the Brgy. of Calsadang Bago, Mun. of Imus, Prov. of Cavite, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the SW., along line 1-2 by Lot 54, Blk. 1 of the cons. subd. plan; on the NE., & NW., along lines 2-3-4 by Lot 1306, Imus Estate; on the NE., along line 4-5 by Lot 56, Blk. 1 and on the SE., along line 5-1 by Road Lot 3, both of the cons. subd. plan. x x x containing an area of EIGHTY SQ. METERS & THIRTY S Q. DEC. (80.30). xxx."

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

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on May 2, 2023 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning without further notice.

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

City of Imus, Cavite, Philippines, December 22, 2022.

EMMANUELLE H. FRANCISCO  
Sheriff IV

APPROVED

ARMIE A. FRANCISCO  
Clerk of Court VI

COPY FURNISHED:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (PAG-IBIG FUND)  
The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

POMPEYO P. MAYNIGO  
Counsel for the Mortgagee  
Attorney-in-Fact, Vision Credit & Collection Services Incorporated  
JRDC Building 117, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Pasay City

VICTORY L. SANCHEZ married to MARIANNE M. SANCHEZ  
Lot 55 Blk. 1 Montefaro Village, Calsadang Bago, Imus, Cavite

Published at: Cavite News Publishing  
Dates: March 30-April 6, & 13, 2023

Republic of the Philippines  
Fourth Judicial Region  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT  
AND EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF  
Dasmariñas City, Cavite

File No. FC-DC-0577-23  
For: Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of  
Real Estate Mortgage under Act No.  
3135 as amended by Act No. 4118

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND  
(PAG-IBIG FUND),

Petitioner/Mortgagee,

-versus-

VIC RICHARD RAMOS LOPEZ, represented  
by his Attorney-in-fact, Lilibeth Ilagan Lopez,  
married to LILIBETH I. LOPEZ

Respondent/Mortgagor,

X-----X

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act No. 3135, as amended by Act No.4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (PAG-IBIG FUND), a government financial institution duly organized and existing under and by virtue of Republic Act No. 9679, with postal address at The Petron Mega Plaza Building No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City against the respondent/mortgagor, VIC RICHARD RAMOS LOPEZ, represented by his Attorney-in-fact, Lilibeth Ilagan Lopez, married to LILIBETH I. LOPEZ, with postal address at Lot 1 Blk. 10, Samuel St., San Marino Square, Paliparan I, Dasmariñas City, Cavite 4114 and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of 13 March 2023 amounts to ONE MILLION ONE THOUSAND THIRTY ONE PESOS & 82/100 (Php1,001,031.82), exclusive of legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on May 5, 2023 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, Buro I, 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 buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE  
No. 057-2016066966

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in the Barangay of Paliparan, Municipality of Dasmariñas, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon, bounded and described as follows:

A parcel of land (Lot 1 Blk 10 of the subd. plan, PSD-04-085043, being a portion of Lot 7232, FLS-2006, Imus Estate, L.R.C. REC. No. ) situated in the Brgy. of Paliparan, Municipality of Dasmariñas, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NW., and NE., along lines 1-2-3-4 by Road Lot 4; on the SE., along line 4-5 by Lot 2 and on the SW., along line 5-1 by Lot 3, both of Blk. 10, all of the subd. plan. Beginning at a point marked "1" on plan being S., 03 Deg. 16'E., 3079.18 m from MON. No. 163, Imus Estate. Thence N. 77 Deg. 49'E, 3.41 m. to point 2; thence S. 57 Deg. 11'E., 4.00 m. to point 3; Thence S.12 Deg. 11'E., 9.67 m. to point 4; Thence S. 77 Deg. 49'W., 6.24 m. to point 5; Thence N. 12 Deg. 11'W., 12.50 m. to the point of beginning; containing an area of SEVENTY FOUR (74) Sq. Meters.

All points 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 27, 1905 to June 11, 1908 and that of the subd survey. Aug. 23-Sept. 8, 1995 and was a pproved on Oct. 11, 1995.

Prospective buyers and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said real property and the encumbrance 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 May 12, 2023 at the same time and place without further notice.

Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite, March 29, 2023.

GERALD A. FARGAS  
Sheriff IV

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

PH. . . FR. P.5

no diplomatic ties with Taipei, it maintains a "robust unofficial relationship" with the island and makes available "defense articles and services necessary to enable Taiwan to maintain a sufficient self-defense capability."

Washington, DC, according to the State Department, also maintains its "capacity to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardize the security,

or the social or economic system, of Taiwan."

At the CSIS forum, Manalo deferred when asked about restrictions and if US weaponry could be stored in the newly identified Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement sites.

He said all activities within any of the sites have to be discussed and permitted by US and Philippine sides. (PNA)

ERRATUM

This is to correct the error made in the publication Notice of Sheriff's Sale filed by RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION, (in its capacity as successor-in interest of RCBC Savings Bank, Inc.) rep. by Atty. Maria Cielito R. Santos, against RAIZA CLARITO AGUILOS as represented by Attorney-in-fact FELY CLARITO AGUILOS the File No. FC-DC-0566-22 should be FC-DC-0566-23

Published at Cavite News Publishing  
Date: April 13, 2023

*The wealth of the rich is his  
fortified city;  
It is like a protective wall  
in his imagination  
(Proverbs 18:11)*

Copy furnished:

Home Development Mutual Fund (PAG-IBIG Fund)  
The Petron Mega Plaza Building  
No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

Atty. Caesar S. Europa  
Attorney-In-Fact, 24K Accounts Consultant, Inc.  
3F Fass Inteli College Bldg.,  
No. 11 Pittsburgh, Brgy. Silangan, Cubao,  
Quezon City

Vic Richard Ramos Lopez/Lilibeth I. Lopez  
Lot 1 Blk. 10, Samuel S., San Marino Square,  
Paliparan I, Dasmariñas City, Cavite 4114

Notice Posted at

1. The Bulletin Board of Regional Trial Court Dasmariñas City, Cavite
2. The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Hall
3. The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Post Office
4. The Bulletin Board of Dasmariñas City Public Market

Published at: Cavite News Publishing  
Dates: March 30-April 6, & 13, 2023



The medical mission program of the Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC) was held at Barangay Poblacion II, General Mariano Alvarez, Cavite on March 31, 2023 serving a total of 226 patients who attended the event for medical attention and advice.

Ms. Sharlene Ann Samala headed the medical mission which was organized to provide free medical consultations and services to the residents of Barangay Poblacion II. Medical experts who took part in the trip provided advice and diagnoses for a range of ailments and health issues. Aside from the free health checkup, free medicines were also distributed.

The community was grateful for the initiative and expressed their appreciation for the medical mission. Barangay Captain Salvador R. Munar extended his gratitude to the PGC team for the efforts in organizing the event and providing much-needed medical services to the community.

The medical mission program is evidence of the value of community healthcare and the strength of partnership. It demonstrated the dedication of medical professionals in carrying out their responsibility to serve the community by successfully providing healthcare services to people who are in need.---PICAD

Cavite provincial government’s Medical Mission Program was conducted at Barangay Cabangaan in Silang on April 4, 2022 as requested by Silang Alliance of Youth Advocates (SAYA) thru its the President, Mr. John Michael Zabala.

A total of 128 patients received free consultation and medicine during the Medical Mission Program. The medical services were rendered by a team of healthcare professionals from the Provincial Health Office, including doctors and healthcare workers who volunteered their time and expertise to help the community.

The Medical Mission Program is one of the many projects undertaken by the provincial government to improve the health and well-being of the residents of Cavite, with focus on reaching out to marginalized communities and providing them with quality healthcare services.

In attendance at the event were City Councilors Ivey Reyes, Carlo Madlansacay and Junjang Luis Batingal. They spoke in favor of the Medical Mission Program and praised the Provincial Government of Cavite for its efforts in bringing vital healthcare to Barangay Cabangaan. They emphasized the importance of these initiatives in advancing the health and welfare of the neighborhood and praised the commitment and passion of the medical staff members who offered their services.---PICAD



Free health care services in Brgy. Daang Amaya II, Tanza, Cavite. Provincial Government of Cavite’s medical mission program visited Brgy. Daang Amaya II in Tanza to provide basic health services which include medical consultation and provision of free medicines and vitamins to a total of 260 patients comprised of adults and children on April 5, 2023.

Medical team from General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital composed of Dra. Gem Cyrell M. Peñalba, Dr. Lealyn L. Reyes, and some technical staff rendered their services during the event.

Patients underwent antigen swab testing and screening prior to the

consultation proper for the safety of everyone. Minimum safety health protocols were followed throughout the duration of the health mission.

Barangay Chairwoman Cindy Arguson expressed her heartfelt gratitude to Governor Jonvic Remulla for the health services given to her constituents. The event was made possible with the assistance of Barangay Kagawad Andy Velasco, Barangay Secretary Jody Pearl Pitong and barangay health workers.---PICAD

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION  
BRANCH 21  
CITY OF IMUS, CAVITE

EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF  
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER  
ACT 3135 AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118

FC Case No. 17705-22

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND  
(otherwise known as PAG-IBIG Fund),  
Mortgagee,

-versus-

TEOFISTA S. DE GUZMAN married  
to ROMEO O. DE GUZMAN,  
Mortgagors,

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118 filed by HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (othersie known as PAG-IBIG FUND), mortgagee, with principal place of business at The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City 1200, against TEOFISTA S. DE GUZMAN married to ROMEO O. DE GUZMAN, mortgagors, with residential and postal address at Lot 20 Block 7 Greenplace Homes 2, Brgy. Malagasang II-A, Imus, Cavite and Susano Road, Deparo, Caloocan City, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of October 28, 2022 amounts to ONE HUNDRED SIXTY NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY ONE PESOS & 48/100 (P169,721.48) Philippine Currency, including interest and penalties, but excluding attorney’s fees, sheriff’s fees and all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale the undersigned will sell at public auction on **May 9, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.** or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Office of the Clerk of Court, RTC-Imus Hall of Justice, Aguinaldo Highway, Imus, Cavite, to the highest bidder, for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all improvements therein, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE  
No. 057-2015048254

“A parcel of land (Lot 20 Blk. 7 of the cons. and subd. plan, Pcs-04-024955, being a portion of the cons. of Lots 184-A, Psd-28429 & 1845A-2, (LRC) Psd-223425, L.R.C. Record No. 8843), situated in Brgy. of Malagasang-2, Mun. of Imus, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the NE., along line 1-2 by Lot 18, Blk. 7; on the SE., along line 2-3 by Road Lot 7; on the SW., along line 3-4 by Lot 22, Blk.7 and on the NW., along line 4-1 by Lot 19, Blk. 7 all of the cons. and subd. plan.xxx containing an area of THIRTY SIX (36) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS.x x x”

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

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on **May 16, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.** without further notice.

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

Imus, Cavite, March 31, 2023.

WILMAR M. DE VILLA  
Sheriff IV

APPROVED  
ARMIE A. FRANCISCO  
Clerk of Court VI

COPY FURNISHED:  
HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (otherwise known as PAG-IBIG FUND)  
The Petron Mega Plaza Building, No. 358 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City 1200

PAULINO E. CASES, JR.  
clo Cases Chun & Associates Law Offices  
Unit 408 Cityland Condominium 10 Tower II  
154 H.V. dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City 1227

SPS. TEOFISTA S. DE GUZMAN  
AND ROMEO O. DE GUZMAN  
Lot 20 Block 7 Greenplace Hopmes 2, Brgy. Malagasang II-A, Imus, Cavite and Susano Road, Deparo, Caloocan City 1400

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## DA to help farmers lower production cost as rice prices rise

MANILA – The Department of Agriculture (DA) on Tuesday assured intervention to help farmers lower production costs, which is considered a major factor in the rising market prices of rice.

In a teleradio interview, DA Assistant Secretary Kristine Evangelista said the department is closely coordinating with the group of rice farmers as prices increased to as much as PHP5 per kilogram.

“Tinitingnan ng ating kagawaran kung paano ba natin sila matutulungan kung paano pababain ‘yung kanilang cost of production. ‘Yung ating distribution po ng ating machinery not only for production po, but also for post-harvest facilities din po (The department is looking into how to aid farmers in lowering production cost. [That includes] our distribution of machinery not only for production but also for post-harvest facilities),” she said.

Evangelista cited various challenges that contributed to the rising farm-gate and market prices, including higher cost of agricultural inputs and climate change.

According to Samahang Industriya ng Agrikultura (SINAG), the Philippines is not the lone country affected by the mounting production cost, but also other rice-producing nations.

“So kung makita natin doon sa merkado, ‘yung presyo ng local natin, tumaas na rin ‘yung presyo, pero mas mataas pa rin ‘yung imported. Nakita natin ‘yung Thailand, Vietnam and itong India, and Pakistan, tumaas din ang presyo.



Maski imported man o local, tumaas (So if we check the market, the local price [of rice] increased, but the price of imported rice is still higher. We saw Thailand, Vietnam, India and Pakistan, and their prices also increased. Whether imported or local, the [price] increased),” SINAG chairperson Rosendo So said in a teleradio interview.

So said the market price of local well-milled rice increased by PHP5, now ranging from PHP42 to PHP43 per kilo, higher than the previous PHP37 to PHP38 per kilo.

“Ang farmgate price sa palay, tumaas na, mga PHP3.50. Kung nagiling na na bigas, mga PHP5 ‘yan (The farm-gate price of palay already increased, around PHP3.50. For milled rice, around PHP5),”

he said.

However, another price increase may be felt for the imported rice from the earlier PHP2 to PHP3 adjustment, he added.

Meanwhile, So said the group is expecting a lower market price of rice for the next harvest considering the decline in input cost.

“Yung next season, we hope na itong October to December, pababa na ‘yung presyo kasi ‘yung pataba e bumaba na rin ([For] the next season, we hope that by October to December, the price will drop because the fertilizer prices already declined),” he said.

To date, around 60 percent of the production cost comes from farm input expenditures, resulting in the movement of farmgate and market prices. (PNA)

## PH keeps tight watch over growing Taiwan Strait tensions

MANILA – The Philippines continues to monitor developments over growing tensions in the Taiwan Strait as China caps its three-day war games around Taiwan, the country’s top diplomat said Tuesday.

In a Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) forum on Tuesday, Foreign

Affairs Secretary Enrique Manalo said a conflict would spell disaster, specifically to the Philippines given its close proximity to the island.

The top diplomat reiterated that any kind of escalation of tensions, more so a military conflict, puts at risk the over 100,000 Filipinos working in Taiwan.

## SSS to put solar panels in offices, promote renewable energy

MANILA – The Social Security System (SSS) is planning to install solar panels in its offices to save on electricity expenses and to promote the use of renewable energy.

In a news release on Tuesday, SSS president and chief executive officer Rolando Ledesma Macasaet said the agency aims to install 445 solar panels with combined 200 kilowatts peak at its main office in Quezon City.

“Upon the completion of this project, we estimate to generate an average of around 18,872 kilowatt-hours per month, equating to a monthly savings of PHP200,798.08 and to reduce our carbon footprint by 9.57 tons, equivalent to planting 57.4 trees,” he said.

This project is the agency’s response to Executive Order No. 14 issued by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Jan. 27, which approves and adopts the Philippine Development Plan (PDP) for 2023-2028.

The plan incorporates the 8-point



Socioeconomic Agenda of the Marcos administration in the lowering of energy costs and promoting renewable energy sources.

Apart from its main office, the agency is also planning to install solar panels in SSS-owned branches nationwide, especially in areas that experience frequent power outages and charge higher cost of electric power.

“As we continue to pursue the provision of meaningful social security protection to the current and future generations of SSS members and their families and the improvement of our services, we will also adopt and implement measures to strengthen the SSS fund through prudent spending and operational efficiency, while advocating for the protection of the

Taiwan for military drills following Taiwan President Tsai Ing-wen’s transit to the United States.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said the war games is meant to serve as a “stern warning to the provocative activities of Taiwan independence secessionist forces and their collusion with external forces.”

China, which considers Taiwan a breakaway province, firmly opposes any

environment,” Macasaet said.

He added the SSS is committed to managing and minimizing the environmental impact of its operations.

It has initiated several eco-friendly and cost-effective efforts in the past such as digitalizing its processes through its online portals, My.SSS and SSS mobile app, which provide members with simpler, faster and more convenient modes of fulfilling their transactions while reducing carbon footprint through paperless processing and strict compliance to green procurement.

Under its National Energy Efficiency Program and Conservation Program in Government Buildings, the Department of Energy recognized the SSS as one of the highest energy efficient government offices with a rating of 94 percent from 2007 to 2009. (PNA)

form of official contact between the US and Taiwan.

The Philippines, like the US, adheres to the one-China principle and recognizes the People’s Republic of China as the government of China.

While the US has

(Back to p. 3)

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PERFUME DESSERT LONDON, NOW OPEN AT SM CITY BACCOOR!



**SM CITY BACCOOR, CAAVITE** – Heads up connoisseur, Perfume Dessert London is now open at the Lower Ground Level, Service Lane of SM City Bacoor! Check out the best fragrances Parfum Dessert has to offer. Visit their store today and take home the scents you love for you and your loved ones.

## Gov't to hold aid drives, Kadiwa caravans, job fairs on Labor Day

**MANILA** – Government agencies led by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) will be holding three major activities to honor the Filipino workers in connection with the celebration of the 121st Labor Day on May 1.

In a statement Tuesday, the DOLE will be showcasing the Kadiwa ng Pangulo Para sa Manggagawa, the awarding of government assistance to workers, and the conduct of nationwide simultaneous job fairs during the celebration early next month.

The activities will be held in 16 regional sites, with the National Capital Region (NCR) as the main event site.

The labor department will host the Kadiwa ng Pangulo Para sa Manggagawa to help workers access commodities at lower prices, in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the Department of Agriculture (DA).

Kadiwa, which is spearheaded by DA, enables the farming community to sell goods directly to consumers without the trader-intermediaries, allowing them to reap higher profits while still offering quality products at an affordable price to consumers.

Also, the DOLE will lead the payout of assistance/salaries to beneficiaries of the Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) program, Special Program for Employment of Students (SPES), and Government Internship Program (GIP) across the

This year's Labor Day theme is, "Pabahay, Bihing Abot-Presyo, Benepisyo ng Matatag na Trabaho Para sa Manggagawang Pilipino."

On the other hand, the simultaneous job fairs will be conducted in various SM and Robinsons malls nationwide, with the main job fair site in NCR.

The venues and number of jobs available to be announced later.

The DOLE is encouraging jobseekers to be ready with their application requirements, such as resume or curriculum vitae, certificate of employment for those formerly employed, diploma, and transcript of records.

Other government agencies including the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA),

Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Social Security System (SSS), Pag-IBIG, Philhealth, and Philippine Postal Corporation will provide services during the event. (PNA)

## CRACK YOUR EASTER EGGS!

HERE'S 5 DISHES YOU CAN SERVE YOUR FAMILY WITH YOUR SM SUNDAY MARKET FRESH EGGS AND VEGGIES

Bored of the same old dishes? Make your family meal more eggciting with these fresh ingredients you can find at the SM Sunday Market at SM City Bacoor, SM City Dasmariñas, SM City Rosario, SM City Tanza, and SM City Trece Martires. Brought to you directly by farmers from their farm to your table.



What could go wrong with Tortang Talong? Get the freshest, organic eggplants you can roast and made into eggplant omelette. You can also level up the dish with some fresh tomatoes, white or red onion, and bell peppers for a healthier and more flavorful viand.



Who's bitter? Serve 'em some Sautéed Bitter Melon with egg from the fresh produce you can find at the SM Sunday Market

Who wants some soup to pair up with your fried fish or chicken? Get some fresh Upo or Bottle Gourd from the Sunday Market and saute them with egg, tomatoes, onion, and misua or vermicelli.



Craving for Sisig? Who knows you can make these SM Sunday Market fresh mushrooms into guiltless sizzling sisig? Cook these with fresh eggs, onion, garlic, and lots of chili for a more appetizing dish

Fresh veggie soup for a healthier diet? Sautéed Sayote with egg and tomatoes can never go wrong! Get these freshly picked veggies every Sunday at SM Sunday Market.

If you're a mom who's running out of ideas for your next dish, try these five easy recipe with the freshest, and more affordable ingredients you can find at SM Sunday Market. You can also support your local farmers and give your family nutritious farm to table dishes. Stay tuned for more updates about the SM Sunday Market by visiting [www.smsupermalls.com](http://www.smsupermalls.com) or following @smsupermalls on social media.

Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of Migrant Workers (DMW),

Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Social

Security System (SSS), Pag-IBIG, Philhealth, and Philippine Postal Corporation will provide services during the event. (PNA)