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## MIC to invest P19.7B for NGCP stake, hints at more deals ahead

MANILA – The Maharlika Investment Corporation (MIC), the manager of the country's first sovereign wealth fund, is set to invest PHP19.7 billion to acquire a 20-percent stake in the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP), marking a significant step toward increasing government influence over the country's power grid operations.

In a Palace press briefing Tuesday, MIC President and CEO Rafael Consing Jr. announced that the funds will be used to purchase preferred shares at PHP15 each from Synergy Grid and Development Philippines Inc. (SGP), a key stakeholder in NGCP. The preferred shares come with a guaranteed dividend yield of over 6.5 percent for the first three years of

the investment.

Consing explained that, after the initial three years, the investment could be converted into common shares, giving MIC greater flexibility and control over its stake in NGCP.

MIC said it is eyeing to finalize and sign transaction documents of its maiden investment within the next 90 days.

(Turn to p. 2)

## Laguna LGUs push for waste management with new sanitary landfills



CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) – Local government units across Laguna are ramping up efforts to address the growing challenge of waste management by constructing new sanitary

landfills, the Laguna Provincial Government Environment and Natural Resources Office (PGENRO) said.

These facilities aim to properly dispose of solid waste, prevent environmental degra-

dation, and ensure public health as these are equipped with features for waste compaction, leachate collection, and gas management.

"We have LGUs that operate sanitary landfills. Kalayaan is the number 1 with the best practice for this. In the 4th district, there are many towns with sanitary landfill like Famy, which has just been built, the town of Mabitac also already has one", PGENRO waste and management and pollution control divi-

sion head Ricarte Castillo stated.

Sanitary landfills serve as the backbone of waste management, providing an environmentally safe way to dispose solid waste. However, the capacity and design of each landfill often depend on the volume of waste generated by a municipality.

To properly know the exact value, LGUs conduct waste audits to determine their community's total

(Turn to p. 2)

## BFAR promotes ecosystem-based approach in protecting marine resources

LOS BAÑOS, Laguna (PIA) — The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) in Calabarzon has committed to employ sustainable fishery practice with an ecosystem-based approach under the Philippine Fisheries and Coastal Resiliency or



FishCore Project.

Launched in 2023,

the FishCore project (Turn to p. 2)



SIGNED DEAL. President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. witnesses the signing of the deal between the Maharlika Investment Corporation (MIC) and Synergy Grid and Development Philippines Inc. in Malacañang on Monday afternoon (Jan. 27, 2025). The deal will pave the way for MIC's acquisition of a 20-percent stake in the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines. (PCO photo)

## GSIS infra investments deliver \$272-M boost to pension fund

MANILA – The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) has received a significant USD272 million (approximately PHP15.8 billion) payout from the Macquarie Asia Infrastructure Fund 2 (MAIF2) as of Dec. 30, 2024, bolstering its pension fund's financial stability.

The payout follows the successful sale of MAIF2's stake in



AirTrunk, a prominent data center operator in the region.

With this latest cash inflow, the GSIS said it has fully recouped its initial investment in MAIF2, managed by Macquarie Asset Management (MAM).

(Turn to p. 2)

**MIC...FR. P. 1**

On Monday, Malacañang announced that SGP has accepted a binding offer from MIC to secure a foothold in NGCP. The deal will give MIC two board seats each in the SGP and NGCP, the country's lone power transmission network.

According to Consing, the NGCP investment will be "100% primary shares."

"Ang ibig sabihin po niyan is kapag primary shares po, lahat po ng capital na i-invest po natin, pupunta diretso sa kumpaniya para siya namang gamitin para pagsuporta sa rollout ng capex ng NGCP (Meaning, all capital invested will go directly to NGCP to support its capital expenditure rollouts)," he said.

**China firm shares**

Meanwhile, MIC said it is open to acquiring shares of the State Grid Corporation of China (SGCC) in the Philippines' power grid.

SGCC holds a commanding 40 percent

share in the NGCP.

"We have not spoken basically to the Chinese, we only saw this opportunity sa SGP level – we're not having any discussions with the State Grid of China at this point in time. So, no conversations are occurring with them," Consing said.

When pressed if the MIC is interested in acquiring the Chinese firm's shares in the NGCP, Consing said: "If it becomes available, I think so, yes."

More investments ahead

Consing also revealed that additional MIC investments are in the works.

While he did not provide specifics, he hinted that another significant deal could be announced in the next 30 days.

"We have, in fact, working on multiple transactions. In the next 30 days we could have another one," he told reporters. (PNA)

**GSIS...FR. P. 1**

"This is good news for GSIS members as the funds are invested to earn solid returns, helping to boost the financial strength of the GSIS and its capacity to cover pension payments of retired civil servants in the future," GSIS President and General Manager Arnulfo "Wick" Veloso said in a news release on Tuesday.

"Our infrastructure investments through MAM's funds have delivered exceptional results, enhancing retirement security while supporting critical infrastructure," he

added.

The GSIS has partnered with MAM since 2012, beginning with investments in the Philippine Investment Alliance for Infrastructure (PINAI) to boost local infrastructure development.

It later expanded its portfolio by investing in MAM's regional infrastructure funds in 2017 and 2021, diversifying its holdings and driving long-term returns.

The GSIS maintains a balanced investment strategy, with 70 percent of its portfolio allocated to low-risk

**BFAR...FR. P. 1**

is a seven-year foreign-assisted initiative funded by the World Bank.

It is being implemented in 11 provinces across the country, including the Calabarzon region, to address issues posed by overfishing through livelihood programs, capacity-building workshops, and the establishment of community-based fisheries management systems.

BFAR Calabarzon director Sammy Malvas emphasized the project's role in maintaining the resiliency of coastal communities using an ecosystem-based approach.

"One of our goals is to promote or expand the ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management. But if we talk about the preservation of the ocean, we should not only talk about the sea or river because everything that surrounds it has an effect on the quality of our lake, sea or river," the director said during an interview with the Philippine Information Agency Calabarzon.

The program emphasized the interconnectedness of marine habitats and the need for collaborative conservation efforts.

Malvas explained that the methodology involves the rehabilitation of coral reefs,

assets for stability and a portion strategically placed in higher-yielding infrastructure investments.

Veloso emphasized that these investments align with GSIS' duty to prudently manage funds for the benefit of hardworking government employees.

MAM, a global as-

mangroves, and seagrass beds that serve as critical breeding grounds for fish species.

FishCore likewise focuses on empowering coastal communities to address issues posed by overfishing through livelihood programs, capacity-building workshops, and the establishment of community-based fisheries management systems.

"Livelihood interventions (seek to) develop our beneficiaries into association, to cooperatives into enterprise... this is also one of the project's goals," Malvas explained.

The BFAR believes that the initiative is critical in equipping coastal areas with the tools and strategies to adapt to climate change impacts to ensure that their livelihoods remain sustainable while protecting ecosystems.

The bureau is in close coordination with local government units in Cavite and Batangas, where the project is primarily assigned to further strengthen the implementation of sustainable fisheries programs and ensure alignment with local development plans.

**LAGUNA...FR. P. 1**

waste output, thus allowing them to tailor solutions that avoid over- or under-utilization of resources.

"The space for each fill has been studied because there are categories based from and how much they produce waste we call it Category 1 to Category 4. Usually, our municipalities [in Laguna] are only category 1, only a small amount of waste, maximum of 15 tonnes per day where they throw it on their sanitary landfill," Castillo explained.

Other municipalities and cities in the province have partnered with waste haulers and private landfill operators to address waste management more efficiently and aim to ensure that waste is properly collected, transported, and disposed of in compliance with environmental standards.

Though landfills in each municipality are

not mandated and are simply an initiative of the LGUs, Castillo has called on the public to at least actively participate in waste segregation and disposal efforts to ensure proper waste management.

"Waste management is not just a responsibility of municipalities or LGUs because the success of waste management is also up to us. I hope we always do waste segregation because if there is waste segregation, waste recovery will be easier and we will be able to help our informal waste sectors and in the same way, there will be less waste that is just dumped in sanitary landfills," he said.

The official added that if Lagunenses want to see real progress in waste management, everyone should do their part as discipline is also crucial in waste management. (AM, CH/PIA-4A)

**CAVITE NEWS****PUBLISHING****WEEKLY NEWSPAPER**

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

File No. FC-DC-1590-24  
EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE  
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE  
UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED  
BY ACT 4118

NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE  
CORPORATION (NHMFC),  
*Petitioner/Mortgagee,*  
-versus-  
JOSE DELIO C. TALAÑA, married to  
ELIZABETH L. TALAÑA,  
*Respondent/Mortgagor,*  
X-----X

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, **NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION (NHMFC)**, a government owned and controlled corporation created under P.D. No. 1267, with postal address at 104 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City against respondent/mortgagor **JOSE DELIO C. TALAÑA, married to ELIZABETH L. TALAÑA** with postal addresses at Lot 10 Blk. 26, CityHomes Dasmariñas, Ph II, Brgy. Burol, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and 61 Tolentino St., Pasay City and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of October 31, 2024 amounts to **SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FORTY TWO PESOS & 39/100 (Php616,542.39)**, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **February 13, 2025** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in the Ground Floor Lobby of Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Burol 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 buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

**Transfer Certificate of Title**  
No. T-376870

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

A parcel of land (Lot 10, Blk. 26 of the subd. plan Psd-04-053094, being a portion Lot 6191, Imus Estate, L.R.C. Rec. No. ) situated in the Bo. of Burol Mun. of Dasmariñas. Prov. of Cavite, Is. of Luzon. Bounded on the SE., along line 1-2 by Lot 12, Blk. 26; on the SW., along line 2-3 by Rd. Lot 16; on the NW., along line 3-4 by lot 8 on the NE., along line 4-1 by lot 9, both of Blk. 26, all of the subd. plan. Beginning at a pt. marked "1" on plan, being N. xx deg. 20'S., 2602.55 m from Mon. 153, Imus Estate; thence S. 15 deg. 17'W., x.50 m. to pt. 2; thence N. 74 deg. 43'W., 4.00 m. to pt. 3 thence N. 13 deg. is registered in accordance with the provisions of the Property Registration Decree in the name of **JOSE DELIO C. TALAÑA, married to ELIZABETH L. TALAÑA** both of legal ages Filipinos. 17'E., 9.50 m. to pt. 4, thence S. 74 deg. 43'E., 4.00 m. to the pt. of; beginning, containing an area of **THIRTY EIGHT (38) SQUARE METERS**. All pts. referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground by P.S. cyl. cons. mons. 15x60 on; bearings true date of original survey, July 27, 1905-June 11, 1908 and that of the subd. survey, Sept. 10, 1991-Jan. 10, 1993 and the approved on February 10., 1993.

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 public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **February 27, 2025** at the same time and place without further notice.

08 January 2025, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite.

RODRIGO C. ESTOGERO JR.  
*Sheriff IV*

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

Publication: Cavite News Publishing  
Dates: January 16, 23, & 30, 2025

**Copy furnished:**  
NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE  
FINANCE CORPORATION (NHMFC)  
104 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City



**Medical Mission in Brgy. Sungay East Benefits 317 Residents**

On January 15, 2025, the Provincial Government of Cavite, thru the Office of the Provincial Governor in partnership with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, and the Tagaytay Team, held a successful medical mission in Brgy. Sungay East, Tagaytay City. The event benefitted a total of 317 residents with vital health services such as medical consultations, dental care, and free haircuts.

Governor Athena Bryana D. Tolentino showcased her unwavering commitment to public service by actively participating in the mission. She personally rendered haircut services and assisted in denture preparation, demonstrating her dedication to the welfare of the community.

Joining the initiative was Tagaytay City Vice Mayor, Dr. Agnes D. Tolentino, who performed dental extractions, supported by Councilor Michael



**PGC Brings Essential Healthcare to Residents of San Rafael I, Noveleta, Cavite**

On January 20, 2025, the Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Governor and the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, in coordination with Noveleta Rural Health Unit (RHU), held a successful medical mission in Barangay San Rafael I, Noveleta, Cavite. The event benefited 346 local residents by offering a wide range of healthcare services including free medical consultations, health check-ups, prescribed medications, and multivitamins aimed at addressing the community's health needs.

JOSE DELIO C. TALAÑA, married to ELIZABETH L. TALAÑA  
Lot 10 Blk. 26, CityHomes Dasmariñas, Ph II, Brgy. Burol, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and 61 Tolentino St., Pasay City.

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

Francis C. Tolentino. Their contributions ensured that residents received high-quality and compassionate care throughout the event.

The program also received strong support from Brgy. Chairman Genaro M. Cabrera, who graced the event and facilitated coordination with local residents.

The collaborative effort underscores the Provincial Government's mission to bring essential health services directly to the people, especially in underserved areas. It reflects the shared dedication of Cavite's leaders to uplift the well-being of their constituents.--- OPIO

**Better is  
a handful  
of rest  
than two  
handfuls  
of hard  
work and  
chasing  
after the  
wind.**

*Ecclesiastes 4:6*

The initiative was designed to ensure that residents of Noveleta, particularly those who are most vulnerable and in need, have access to essential healthcare services.

Governor Athena Bryana Tolentino remains committed to improving public health and ensuring that all residents have access to necessary medical care.--- OPIO

**HONESTY IS THE BEST POLICY**

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

File No. FC-DC-1610-24  
EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE  
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE  
UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED  
BY ACT 4118

NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE  
CORPORATION (NHMFC),  
*Mortgagee,*  
-versus-  
OLIVIA C. PARICA MARRIED TO  
RUBEN G. PARICA,  
*Mortgagor,*  
-----x

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, **NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION (NHMFC)**, a government owned and controlled corporation created under P.D. 1267, with postal address at 104 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City against mortgagors, **OLIVIA C. PARICA MARRIED TO RUBEN G. PARICA** with postal address at (1) Lot 20 Blk. 42, Cityhomes Dasmariñas, PH III, BO. Burol, Dasmariñas, Cavite; (2) Lot 6 Blk. 53 BO., Sta. Maria, Dasmariñas, Cavite and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of **OCTOBER 31, 2024** amounts to **SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY SIX THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED TWENTY TWO PESOS AND 06/100 (Php 686,822.06)**, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **February 18, 2025** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter at the lobby of Branch 90, Regional Trial Court, Ground Floor, Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Burol 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 buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

Transfer Certificate of Title  
No. T-406219

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

A parcel of land (Lot 20 Blk. 42 of the subd. plan Psd-04-053094, being a portion of Lot 6191, Imus Estate, L.R.C. Rec. No. ), situated in the Bo. of Burol, Mun. of Dasmariñas, Prov. of Cavite, Is. of Luzon. Bounded on the NE., along line 1-2 by Lot 19; on the SE., along line 2-3 by Lot 22, both of Blk. 42; on the SW., along line 3-4 by the Rd. Lot 26; on the NW., along line 4-1 by Lot 18, Blk. 42, all of the subd. plan. Beginning at a pt. marked "1" on plan, being N. 40 deg. 03'E., 2575.08 m. from Mon. 153, Imus Estate; thence S. 74 deg. 43'E., 4.00 m. to pt. 2; thence S. 15 deg. 17'W., 9.50 m. to pt. 3; thence N. 74 deg. 43'W., 4.00 m. to pt. 4; thence N. 15 deg.

is registered in accordance with the provisions of the Property Registration Decree in the name of **OLIVIA C. PARICA, married to RUBEN G. PARICA**, both of legal ages, Filipino 17'E., 9.50 m. to the pt. of beginning, containing an area of THIRTY EIGHT (38) SQUARE METERS. All pts. referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground by PS cyl. conc. mons. 15x60 cms.; bearings true; date of original survey, July 27, 1905-June 11, 1908 and that of the subd. survey Sept. 10, 1991-Jan. 10, 1992 and was approved on Feb. 10, 1992.

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 that the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **MARCH 4, 2025**, at the same time and place without further notice.

Dasmariñas City, Cavite, January 6, 2025

ARLYN P. BARCELON  
*Sheriff IV*

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

Publication: Cavite News Publishing  
Dates: January 16, 23, & 30, 2025

Copy furnished:  
**NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION (NHMFC)**

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

File No. FC-DC-1564-24  
EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE  
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE  
UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED  
BY ACT 4118

NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE  
CORPORATION (NHMFC),  
*Petitioner/Mortgagee,*  
-versus-  
**SPS. SHEILAH MAE G. LOPEZ & JONAS B. LOPEZ**  
*Respondents/Mortgagors,*  
-----x

**NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE**

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, **NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION (NHMFC)**, a government owned and controlled corporation created under P.D. No. 1267, with postal address at 104 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City against respondents/mortgagors **SPS. SHEILAH MAE G. LOPEZ & JONAS B. LOPEZ** with postal addresses at Lot 35 Blk. 4, Golden City Dasma 4, Brgy. Salawag, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and 7789-1 Greenwood St., Marcelo Green Vill., Parañaque, Metro Manila and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of October 31, 2024 amounts to **FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED THIRTY ONE PESOS & 97/100 (Php 554,631.97)**, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **February 13, 2025** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in the Ground Floor Lobby of Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Burol 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 buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

Transfer Certificate of title  
No. T-519014

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in the Mun. of Dasma Prov. of Cavite bounded and described as follows:

A parcel of land (Lot 35 Blk. 4 of the subd. plan Psd-042106-068306, being a portion of lot 5777C-1, Psd-042106-059852, LRC Rec. No. ), sit. in the Brgy. Salawag, Mun. of Dasma., Prov. of Cavite Is. of Luzon. Bounded on the SW., along line 1-2 by lot 34., on the NW., along line 2-3 by lot 33 both Blk. 4; on the NE., along line 3-4 by Rd. lot 4; & on the SE., along line 4-1 by lot 37 Blk. 4 all of the subd. plan. Beginning at a pt. marked "1" on plan being S. 60 deg. 16'E., 718.36m. from Mon. 171, Imus Estate; thence N. 10 deg. 57'W., 3.75m. to pt. 2; thence N. 79 deg. 3'E., 9.50m. to pt. 3; thence S. 10 deg. 57'E., 3.75m. to pt. 4; thence S. 79 deg. 3'W.,

is registered in accordance with the provisions of the Property Registration Decree in the name of **SHEILAH MAE G. LOPEZ**, Filipino, of legal age, married to **JONAS B. LOPEZ**. 9.50 m. to the pt. of beginning, containing an area of THIRTY FIVE SQ. M. & SIXTY THREE SQ. DECIMETERS (35.63). All pts. referred to are indicated on the plan and are marked on the ground by PS cyl. conc. mons. 15x60 cm.; bearings true; date of orig. survey, July 27, 1905-June 11, 1908 & that of the subd. survey, Oct. 1-Nov. 30, 1993 & was approved on eb. 10, 1994.

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.

104 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

**OLIVIA C. PARICA MARRIED TO RUBEN G. PARICA**  
(1) Lot 20 Blk. 42, Cityhomes Dasmariñas, PH III, BO. Burol, Dasmariñas, Cavite;  
(2) Lot 6 Blk. 53 BO., Sta. Maria, Dasmariñas, Cavite

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

## Coconut's removal in USFDA major food allergen list to boost PH export

MANILA – The country's coconut industry got a big boost after the coconut was removed by the United States Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) from the list of major food allergens, a trade official said on Monday.

"The delisting of coconut as a major food allergen can boost demand for these products and encourage more producers and consumers to support coconut-based/containing products. This, in turn, will benefit our coconut farmers and exporters," Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) - Export Marketing Bureau Director Bianca Pearl Sykimte said in a statement.

The DTI said the delisting would waive the requirement for coconut products, particularly coconut-containing packaged foods and supplements, to secure special allergen labeling under the US Food Allergen Labeling and Consumer Protection Act of 2004

(FALCPA).

This may cover an increased demand for coconut-based products such as refined and virgin coconut oil, coconut milk, desiccated coconut, coconut water, and coconut sugar, among others, it said.

Sykimte lauded the combined and continuous efforts of the DTI and the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA), and the private stakeholders in addressing the industry's challenges.

"This progress underscores our commitment to support the development and growth of our coconut sector by addressing key market access and regulatory issues," she said.

Citing Mintel's global new product database from 2018 to 2023, the DTI official said over 20,000 coconut product variants are being used in the US as ingredients for food, drinks, and personal care products.

**(Turn to p. 5)**

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on **February 27, 2025** at the same time and place without further notice.

08 January 2025, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite.

**RODRIGO C. ESTOGERO, JR.**  
*Sheriff IV*

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

Publication: Cavite News Publishing  
Dates: January 16, 23, & 30, 2025

Copy furnished:  
**NATIONAL HOME MORTGAGE FINANCE CORPORATION (NHMFC)**  
104 Amorsolo St. Legaspi Village, Makati City

**SPS. SHEILAH MAE G. LOPEZ & JONAS B. LOPEZ**  
Lot 35 Blk. 4, Golden City Dasma 4, Brgy. Salawag, Dasmariñas City Cavite and 7789-1 Greenwood St., Marcelo Green Vill., Parañaque, Metro Manila.

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

## No inappropriate topics in CSE, DepEd assures Senate panel

MANILA – Officials of the Department of Education (DepEd) on Tuesday clarified that abstinence and other family planning methods are presented as part of factual health and medical discussions within the comprehensive sexuality education (CSE) curriculum.

During the public hearing of the Basic Education panel on the rising number of adolescent pregnancies among the youth, education officials also refuted allegations that CSE teaches inappropriate topics to young learners, stressing that all lessons are age-appropriate and developmentally aligned.

"All competencies are mapped to existing learning objectives appropriate for the students' age and development," DepEd Assistant Secretary Janir Datukan assured senators, responding to concerns raised about the program's content.

This, after Senate Deputy Minority Leader Risa Hontiveros highlighted the importance of addressing online sexual abuse, exploitation of children, and the role of comprehensive sexuality education in empowering youth and preventing teenage pregnancies.

Hontiveros also raised concerns about how abstinence is incorporated into CSE, urging a clearer discussion on methods of preventing pregnancy, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

"There should be a progressive discussion of abstinence alongside traditional and modern family planning methods as students mature," she stated.

Hontiveros also



**REPRODUCTION CLASS.** A teacher discusses sexual reproduction with his Grade 10 students as part of their science and health lessons in Quezon City High School on Jan. 20, 2025. Education officials on Tuesday (Jan. 28) assured the Senate that lessons under the comprehensive sexuality education curriculum are age-appropriate and developmentally aligned. (PNA photo by Robert Oswald P. Alfiler)

asked whether the Reproductive Health (RH) Law undermines parental authority over children's sexual and reproductive health education.

In response, DepEd Undersecretary Filemon Ray Javier assured the committee that CSE is intended to complement, not replace, parental guidance.

"CSE is supplementary. It does not supplant or override parental authority," Javier explained.

Hontiveros likewise sought details about parent orientations, teacher training, and challenges in implementing CSE as mandated by DepEd Order No. 31, Series of 2018, and the RH Law.

Hontiveros noted DepEd's earlier report of training over 11,000 parent representatives on CSE in various regions, asking for a detailed breakdown of schools and teachers involved.

She emphasized the program's inclusivity, stating that it should benefit not only students but also parents, guardians, and teachers.

DepEd Assistant Sec-

responded that approximately 400,000 teachers had been trained on CSE, particularly in sensitive topics, to enhance their ability to teach older students.

"The universe of teachers in DepEd is over 800,000, and we've trained roughly half so far," Galban said.

However, he acknowledged gaps in coverage, as DepEd oversees only students within school premises, leaving out-of-school youth unserved.

He added that challenges include unfamiliarity with CSE content among teachers, and coordination with other government agencies, such as the Department of Health and the Department of Social Welfare and Development, to address issues like teenage pregnancy and child exploitation.

Senator Sherwin Gatchalian, chair of the panel, emphasized the importance of strengthening CSE and integrating preventive measures into the basic education system to better equip students for these challenges.

"We cannot ignore the data showing how

## DPWH beefs up construction, repair of flood control projects in Calabarzon

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) – The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in Calabarzon has acknowledged the need to establish resilient flood control structures in the region due to recent destructive typhoons that hit the country.

DPWH Region IV-A director Jovel Mendoza said that the department has finished the construction and repair of 1,155 flood control projects in the region funded under the General Appropriations Act from 2023 to 2025 worth Php69.9 billion.

Mendoza said the DPWH has conducted studies to make sure that the projects can withstand the maximum effects of stronger typhoons and higher storm surges.

"We are conducting detailed estimates and designs for our damaged flood control structures especially in the past year because



there have been a lot of typhoons that had devastating effects," the director said.

In a special meeting by the Calabarzon Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC) last December 5, local governments around the Laguna de Bay said that lake waters would swamp neighboring communities due to rains being dumped by stronger typhoons, water pollution, and problems on drainage and infrastructure systems.

The DPWH had acknowledged that floods in road net-

works have disrupted public transportation especially during times of disaster.

"Rest assured that we have requested [the repairs], some are requested under the Office of Civil Defense while some are requested under regular funds," Mendoza explained.

The flood control projects that were partially damaged will be repaired and implemented under the 2025 GAA while most projects are under the regular process of procurement. (CH/PIA-Laguna)

### COCONUT...FR. P. 4

Meanwhile, coconut stakeholders welcomed the development and underscored the need for science-based information in global policy-making.

"It is a welcome development and great news for the coconut industry, not only in the Philippines but globally. The issue on food allergens has been running for decades. Finally removing coconut as a tree nut eliminates one issue against it. This is the result of a joint private-government sector effort," United Coconut Associations of the Philippines (UCAP) Executive Director Yvonne Agustin said.

To date, coconut products remain the country's top export, amounting to USD524.92 million from January to October 2024, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority. (PNA)

President Dr. Rhoey Lee Dakis said the USFDA decision provides much-needed clarity for consumers, manufacturers, and the broader industry.

"It ensures that coconut products are no longer subject to unnecessary allergen labeling or misconceptions... We believe this progress will further strengthen the global coconut industry by removing barriers and offering consumers accurate, reliable information," Dakis said.

Peter Paul Philippine Corporation Sales, Marketing and Export Vice

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## PSA to honor Yulo, other top performers in PH sports 2024

MANILA – A huge toast is in store for the country's best-ever showing in the Olympics and the rest of the top performers of 2024 at the San Miguel Corporation-Philippine Sportswriters Association (SMC-PSA) Awards Night Monday at the Centennial Hall of The Manila Hotel.

Gymnastics sensation Carlos Yulo is the star of the night as the well-deserved recipient of the Athlete of the Year award from the country's oldest media organization under the leadership of Nelson Beltran, sports editor of The Philippine Star.

Yulo, the 24-year-old pride of Manila, carved out the Philippines' first ever double gold medal during the Paris Olympics in a fitting highlight to the country's 100th participation in the quadrennial showcase.

### Awards proper starts at 7 p.m.

With the theme "Golden Year, Golden Centenary," the formal event that counts a total of 117 awardees, will also honor past Olympians for their hard work and sacrifices in representing the Philippines at the highest level of sports.



2024 Paris Olympics double gold winner Carlos Yulo (File photo)

Philippine Olympians in the last 60 years will be represented by their respective batches and join the 2024 contingent on center stage during the program made possible by the Philippine Sports Commission, Philippine Olympic Committee (POC), MILO, PLDT/Smart, and Senator Bong Go, with support from the PBA, PVL, 1-Pacman Party List, Rain Or Shine, Akari, and AcroCity.

Former senator Freddie Webb, who played for the men's basketball team in the 1968 (Mexico) and 1972 (Munich) Olympics, is the keynote speaker and will speak on behalf of all the Olympians.

Weightlifter Hidilyn Diaz, who gifted the country its first ever Olympic gold in Tokyo five years ago, will have her special moment in the

star-studded affair as she will be formally enshrined in the PSA Hall of Fame.

The 33-year-old Diaz is a four-time winner of the Athlete of the Year award (2016, 2018, 2021, 2022).

Boxers Nesthy Petecio and Aira Villegas will be feted with the President's Award for their bronze medals in the Paris Games, while POC president Abraham Tolentino is the 2024 Executive of the Year for his leadership that netted impressive results.

Meanwhile, the Gymnastics Association of the Philippines is the National Sports Association (NSA) of the Year, and joins June Mar Fajardo and Kevin Quiambao (Mr. Basketball), Jia Morado-De Guzman (Ms. Volleyball), Rubilen Amit and Carlo Biado (billiards), Melvin Jerusalem and

## Cool Smashers eye 6th win in PVL All-Filipino Conference

MANILA – Creamline hopes to sustain its winning form against Nxled in the 4 p.m. opener of the Premier Volleyball League All-Filipino Conference at the Philsports Arena in Pasig City on Tuesday.

With the return of former MVP Tots Carlos, the Cool Smashers are favored to notch their sixth win and join the Petro Gazz Angels on top of the 12-team standings with 17 points.

"Of course, this win (against Capital1) is a big help, especially for our next game. Especially now that our key players are back and healthy, 100 percent, that's really our number one goal this year—to have them return by the start of the elimination round so that by the end or middle of it, their performance will really improve," Creamline head coach Sherwin Meneses said in a news release.

Supporting Carlos are Kyle Negrito, Jema Galanza, Bea de Leon, Michele Gumabao, Lorie Bernardo



KEY PLAYER. Creamline's Tots Carlos (No. 18) tries to score against Capital1's Katherine Villegas (No. 11) during the Premier Volleyball League All-Filipino Conference at the Philsports Arena in Pasig City on Jan. 21, 2025. Carlos will lead the Cool Smashers' bid for a sixth win against the Nxled Chameleons in the same venue on Tuesday (Jan. 28). (PVL photo)

and Alyssa Valdez.

Nxled, on the other hand, will rely on Chiara May Permentilla, Jaiela Marie Atienza and Lycha Ebon in a bid to end a seven-game slump.

Meanwhile, Cignal and PLDT will square off in the main game at 6:30 p.m.

Cignal, coming off a 25-17, 25-20, 25-19 victory over the Galerias Tower last week, will lean on Vanie Gandler, Jacqueline Acuña, Roselyn Doria-Aquino, Ishie Lalongsip and Judith Abil.

PLDT, seeking to re-

bound from its 25-21, 22-25, 18-25, 18-25 loss to Choco Mucho last Thursday, will bank on Savi Davison, Erika Mae Santos, Dell Palomata.

"The good thing about the team is that even though I returned to training a bit late, while monitoring them through video on Zoom, their performance didn't change. Actually, they seem to enjoy it even more. They are really committed to fulfilling their obligations and goals," said Cignal coach Shaq delos Santos. (PNA)

Pedro Taduran (boxing), Daniel Quizon (chess), Rianne Malixi (golf), Tachiana Mangin (taekwondo), and jockey John Alvin Guce, Batang Manda, and Benhur Abalos (horse racing) as major awardees.

Also included in the PSA honor roll are the NCAA and MVP Group of Companies (Special Awards), 19 citations, and seven recipients of the Tony Siddayao Awards for youth achievers.

All awardees, officials and guests who failed to get their invitations may claim their copies at the venue to witness the grand cele-

***The Son cannot do a single thing of his own initiative, but only what he sees the Father doing.***

**John 5:19**