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CALABARZON farmers to adopt tech for soil, nitrogen analysis

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite (PIA) – Farmers in the CALABARZON region will soon adopt modern technology to revolutionize local agricultural practices and improve local rice production.

Last September 15 to 19, around 25 rice farmers from the provinces of Batangas and Cavite joined DA ATI's training on Integrated Nutrient and Water Management (INWM).

Launched by the

Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Training Institute (DA ATI) in CALABARZON, the three-day training included lectures and practical exercises on using modern diagnostic tools for nutrient and water management such as the MOET App, Leaf Color Chart (LCC), and Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD).

Developed by the Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice), the MOET App is a low-cost alterna-

tive for diagnosing soil nutrient deficiencies in nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, sulfur, zinc, and copper.

Meanwhile, the Leaf Color Computing App (PhilRice LCC) captures leaf images and evaluates nitrogen needs of the rice plant. It can also generate recommendations in addressing nutrient needs of the plant in under a minute.

On the other hand, the Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD) technology helps farmers



save water to reduce their irrigation water consumption in rice fields without de-

creasing its yield.

The training also introduced knowledge on identifying emerg-

ing pests affecting palay production such as Rice Ragged Stunt Vi-

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Gov't measures help cushion impact of inflation

MANILA – Government measures have helped cushion the impact of inflation on the poorest Filipino families, Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. said Tuesday.

This, after the Philippine Statistics Authority reported during the day that price deflation

persisted for the bottom 30 percent income households, at -0.2 percent in September 2025 from -0.6 percent in August.

Headline inflation, meanwhile, slightly quickened to 1.7 percent from 1.5 percent in August, due to the impact of weather disturbances on food sup-

ply.

Among others, food inflation surged to 19.4 percent from 10 percent in August due to higher vegetable prices.

In a statement, Tiu Laurel said the Department of Agriculture (DA) has taken measures to manage the supply and prices

DTI, nagpaalala sa publiko na maging mapanuri at matalinong mamimili

LUNGSOD NG BATANGAS (PIA) – Nagpaalala ang Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Batangas sa publiko upang maging mapanuri at matalino sa pamimili.

Sa panayam kay Leila Cabreros, Provincial Director-DTI Batangas, sinabi nito

na tuwing buwan ng Oktubre ay ipinagdiriwang ang Consumer Welfare Month kung saan isa sa mahigpit niyang tagubilin ang pagiging mapanuri at matalino sa pamimili.

“Taon-taon tuwing buwan ng Oktubre ay ipinagdidiwang natin ang Consumer Wel-

fare Month kung saan sa taong ito ay may temang, Bida ang Consumers sa Bagong Pilipinas.” Ang aming ahensya ay patuloy din ang pagsasagawa ng mga information campaigns upang mapanatili at makapagbigay pa ng dagdag kaalaman

(Turn to p. 2)



INFLATION CUSHION. Vegetables being sold at the Novaliches market. Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. on Tuesday (Oct. 7, 2025) said government measures have helped cushion the impact of inflation on the poorest Filipino families. (PNA file photo by Joan Bondoc)

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CALABARZON... FR. P. 1

rus (RRSV) and Rice Grassy Stunt Virus (RGCV).

Apolinario Lama of Lian, Batangas was hopeful to pass along the new knowledge to his children, who will soon oversee their farm.

“Ang pinakamahal-agang bagay na nakuha ko dito ay kung paano natin maipapasa ang mga natutunan sa iba, lalo na sa ating mga anak na siyang susunod na henerasyon. Kung maisasalin natin ito nang maayos, malaki ang maitutulong nito sa ating kabuhayan at ekonomiya.”

For Roi Lance Baon of Nasugbu, the train-

ing was a wake-up call to embrace a modernized approach to local farming.

“Malaking bagay po ito para sa amin sapagkat may ilan pa rin sa aming mga kasama na nananatili sa nakasanayang pama-maraan at hindi bukas sa mga makabagong teknolohiya. Kaya mahalaga na ang mga natutunan natin dito ay maibahagi rin natin pag-uwis ating lugar. Nais ko ring hikayatin ang aking mga kasamahan na magdaos tayo ng pagpupulong upang balikan at muling talakayin ang mga aral na ating nakuha.”

(PB/PIA4A/ATI4A)

DTI... FR. P. 1

sa mga konsumentores kung ano ang kanilang mga karapatan gayundin ang responsibilidad upang maging matalinong mamimili, ani Cabreros.

Naging bahagi ng kick off ang paglalagay ng information kiosk sa tanggapan ng DTI Batangas at nag-sagawa ng releases tulad ng Konsumer Ala Eh, Konsumer, Alam Mo Ga Are? Sa official FB page ng ahensya.

Mayroon ding kordinasyon na isinagawa sa isang malaking supermarket sa bayan ng Lemery kung saan ang mga mamimili att maninindahan ay makakakuha ng malaking diskwento kapag sila ay namili dito ng mga produkto na paninda o sariling gamit ng konsumentores.

Alinsabay din nito ang Product Standards Week kung saan magsasagawa ang DTI ng

seminar para sa mga manininda ng mga produktong nasasakop ng DTI tulad ng mga hardwares, nagbebenta ng mga appliances, electrical materials, construction materials at marami pang iba na nasasakop ng Philippine National Standard. Ang mga produktong nabanggit ay hindi dapat ilabas sa merkado kung walang kaukulang lisensya ng PS o ICC mark.

Kaugnay nito, patuloy din ang pagsasagawa ng mga surprise visitations sa iba't-ibang establisimyento na nagtitinda ng mga produktong nasa ilalim ng pangangasiwa ng DTI. Ang sinumang mapatunayang lumabag dito ay may nakalaang karampatang parusa naaayon sa batas.

Ang DTI ay nagpalabas din ng Suggested Retail Price o SRP na siyang maaaring gawing ba-

Health group to LGUs: Secure flu vaccines for seniors

MANILA – Senior health advocates on Thursday called on local government units (LGUs) to protect high-risk groups like the elderly against influenza-like illnesses (ILIs), emphasizing that delayed vaccination could lead to severe and costly flu complications.

This, after the Quezon City government reported that the ILIs have surpassed the epidemic threshold, with 152 cases reported from Aug. 31 to Sept. 13.

The Private Hospitals Association of the Philippines, Inc. (PHAPI) also reported a 10-percent increase in patient admissions, noting that hospitals are “mostly full” as the rainy season intensifies.

Bayan Bakuna lead convenor Mikaella Jeleene Salinas Asoy said vaccine allocations from the national government remain uncertain.

“LGUs should immediately coordinate with

tayang ng manininda sa paglalagay ng presyo sa kanilang produkto, sakaling may mga paglabag dito ay maaaring makipag-ugnayan sa naturang ahensya para sa kaukulang aksyon.

Samantala, marinang pagpapaalala ni Cabreros kaugnay ng walong karapatan ng mga mamimili kabilang ang basic needs, safety, information, choose, representation, redress, consumer education at health environment.

Dagdag pa nito na dapat alam ng isang mamimili ang kanyang karapatan upang mag-

the DOH (Department of Health) for available allocations or, if none are provided, procure vaccines locally and roll out vaccination drives before cases surge further,” she said in a statement.

According to health experts, seniors face the highest risk of severe flu complications, including pneumonia and heart attacks.

Hospitalization costs for such can range from PHP10,000 to PHP30,000

Household transmission rates can reach 13 to 32 percent, with flu spreading aggressively among school-age children. Older persons who live with or help care for grandchildren who may unknowingly bring the virus home become at a greater risk.

“The reported spike in cases highlights the urgent need for preventive measures,” Asoy said.

“Vaccination remains the most proven, cost-effective way to protect the elderly



(PNA file photo)

population,” she added.

She urged families to accompany their elderly loved ones to barangay health centers and inquire about vaccine availability.

She noted that such community demand can help LGUs prioritize vaccination programs and ensure that seniors are protected from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Bayan Bakuna is a grassroots senior ci-

zens’ organization that aims to promote the welfare of the elderly through productive legislative collaborations.

It developed a position paper advocating for the implementation of Republic Act 9994, also known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Act, including advocacy for free influenza and pneumococcal vaccines for indigent senior citizens.

(PNA)

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Provincial Development Council Holds 2nd Quarter Full Council Meeting

The Provincial Development Council (PDC) of Cavite convened its 2nd Quarter Full Council Meeting on September 18, 2025, at the New Provincial Government Center, underscoring its commitment to strategic and inclusive development planning for the province.

The session, facilitated by the Office of the Provincial Planning and Development Coordinator (OPPDC), brought together local chief executives, provincial officials, and key stakeholders to review ongoing initiatives and set the direction for upcoming programs.

Governor Francisco Gabriel D. Remulla presided over the meeting, emphasizing the provincial government's dedication to collaborative governance. In his message, he called for stronger synergy among all sectors to ensure the timely and effective implementation of development projects that directly address the needs of Caviteños.

Among the key agenda items were major infrastructure and development proposals, including the construction of a farm-to-market bridge, flood mitigation measures, and several infrastructure projects in Bacoor City. Other highlights included the proposed Silang Public Hospital, the farm-to-market road network plan, the realignment of the 2025 20% Development Fund, and the supplementary list of programs, projects, and activities for inclusion in the 2025 Annual Investment Program (AIP).

The Council also discussed long-term plans such as the Executive-Legislative Agenda (ELA) 2025–2028, the Provincial Development and Investment Program (PDIP) 2025–2028, the Updated Commodity Investment Plan 2024–2026, and the preparation of the 2026 AIP. Updates on the accomplishments of the Cavite Provincial Project Monitoring Committee (PPMC) and the reorganization of PDC's sectoral and functional committees were likewise presented.

Notable attendees included Bacoor City Mayor Strike Revilla, Silang Mayor Ted Carranza, and Ternate Mayor Lamberto Bambao, who actively engaged in the deliberations.

The meeting concluded with a renewed commitment among council members to push forward programs that advance inclusive growth and sustainable development across Cavite. The productive session reaffirmed the PDC's role as the province's central coordinating body for development planning, laying a firm groundwork for continued progress in the years ahead.



Livelihood on the Go empowers communities through meat processing training

The Office of the Provincial Cooperative Development Officer (OPCDO) successfully spearheaded the Livelihood on the Go: Meat Processing Training held recently, at the Centro de Oro Subdivision Clubhouse, City of General Trias.

The program gathered 16 participants composed of HOA Kababaihan members and livelihood committees, who were trained in preparing meat-based products such as morcon and chicken cordon bleu. The activity aimed to equip participants with practical skills that can serve as an additional source of income, fostering economic stability and self-sufficiency within their communities.

Through the initiative, the province continues to provide avenues for community members to explore small-scale enterprises, promote self-reliance, and contribute to sustainable livelihood opportunities in Cavite.--- OPIO



PGC Awards Hearing Aids to Children and Adults with Hearing Impairment

The Provincial Government of Cavite, through the OPG-Office of the Provincial Persons with Disability Affairs Officer (OPG-OPPDAO), successfully held the dispensing and awarding of hearing aids last September 19, 2025, at the auditorium of Cavite Collaboration Center for Public Health in Trece Martires City.

A total of 66 beneficiaries, composed of 41 children and 25 adults with mild to severe hearing loss, received hearing aids during the activity. The children received assistance through a partnership with the Provincial Council for the Protection of Children. All recipients were selected based on the results of hearing tests conducted by the Manila Hearing Aid recently.--- OPIO

The Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC), through the Office of the Provincial Cooperative Development Officer (OPCDO), successfully held its Livelihood On-the-Go (LOG) training on recently, at the Cavite Government Center, Trece Martires City.

The session, which featured a reveal bar and chocolate brownie-making training, was attended by 60 online participants, including out-of-school youth (OSY), solo parents, and persons with disabilities (PWDs). The activity was designed to equip participants with practical baking skills that can serve as an affordable and marketable livelihood opportunity.

With its goal of providing free and accessible train-



Livelihood Training Opens New Opportunities for OSY, Solo Parents, and PWDs



Cavite Holds Consultative Meeting on Rabies Prevention in Support of World Rabies Day

The Office of the Provincial Health Officer spearheaded a Consultative Meeting on Rabies Prevention and Control Program in celebration of World Rabies Day recently, at the Cavite Collaboration Center for Public Health in Trece Martires City.

The activity gathered doctors and nurses from various Animal Bite Treatment Centers (ABTCs) in Cavite, alongside health professionals, to strengthen the province's response against rabies.

Dr. Nelson C. Soriano, Provincial Health Officer I, delivered the welcome remarks emphasizing Cavite's continuing efforts to eliminate rabies. Updates on human rabies cases in the province were presented by Ms. Charlene E. Rosanes, Provincial Rabies Prevention and Control Program (RPCP) Coordinator, followed by an in-depth discussion on DOH Interim Guidelines (DM No. 2025-0368) regarding the administration of suspected and confirmed counterfeit anti-rabies vaccines, led by Mr. Jomell V. Mojica, Regional RPCP Coordinator of DOH-CHD IV-A.

In addition, Ms. Janissa Therese G. Gutierrez of the FDA highlighted the risks of counterfeit medicines and the proper process of reporting such cases to ensure public safety.

The program aimed to raise awareness and enhance advocacy against rabies, support the global observance of World Rabies Day, and tackle critical issues related to the circulation of counterfeit vaccines.

The event concluded with an open forum and closing remarks from Dr. Armand J. Dotollo, Medical Officer III and Head of OPHO Infectious Cluster, underscoring Cavite's unified commitment to protect communities from rabies and safeguard the integrity of vaccines provided to the public.--- OPIO

GOV'T MEASURE... FR. P. 1

the impact of recent weather disturbances. import ban.

“Even while imposing a rice import ban, extended through year-end, we maintained the maximum suggested retail price and have increased the availability of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.’s PHP20 rice program in calamity-hit areas,” he said. (PNA)

ing, the program empowers Caviteños—especially from marginalized sectors—to explore micro-entrepreneurial ventures, improve household income, and develop sustainable livelihood options. The program underscores the Provincial Government's commitment to building inclusive opportunities and strengthening community empowerment.--- OPIO

DepEd Calabarzon strengthens child protection measures amid shortage of mental health professionals

But where does teasing end and bullying begin?

The United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) defines bullying as 'a pattern of behaviour, rather than an isolated incident where children who usually come from a perceived higher social status or position of power and who are bigger, stronger, or perceived to be popular are the perpetrators.'

In his 2025 State of the Nation Address (SONA), President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. highlighted the growing number of students experiencing depression and bullying, with a promise to hire more school counselors and other mental health professionals to support the education sector.

"Maraming mag-aaral ang nakakaranas ng bullying o kaya ay nade-depress. Binabantayan din natin ang mental health ng ating kabataan. Magdagdag tayo ng mga school counselors na magsisilbing sanggunian at gabay nila," the President said.

The President's directive underscores the pressing issues faced by the Philippine education system. Data from the 2018 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) revealed that the Philippines ranked close to the bottom for reading, mathematics, and science. On the other hand, it is among the countries with prevalent issues on school bullying.

This concern was reinforced in a 2024 discussion paper of the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II), which described



Every young student has experienced playfully teasing and being teased by their classmates, their school bags stashed away or their textbooks replaced with rocks inside their bags – all in good fun. These mischiefs, once we have cried over them, are usually converted to memories we remember with fondness.

the Philippines as the 'bullying capital of the world.' The report revealed that 63 percent of Grade 5 pupils reported experiencing various forms of bullying – ranging from harassment, exclusion by their peers, physical harm, and, in some instances, the subject of malicious rumors.

Similarly, a 2019 UNICEF report found that almost half of Filipino children aged 13 to 17 had experienced cyberviolence or online bullying.

Like other forms of abuse, online bullying has devastating effects on the emotional and physical well-being of youngsters who are vulnerable and can access the internet very easily, and are becoming targets of online violence.

The Department of Education (DepEd) CALABARZON is now facing a challenge that goes far beyond managing classes and improving lesson plans. It must ensure that every child under its care is safe from abuse – both online and in real life.

Data from DepEd CALABARZON revealed that around 16 cases of bullying were reported during the first quarter of School Year 2025-2026. Of these, 11 cases have al-

ready been resolved at the school-level, while the rest remain under evaluation by their respective Schools Division Offices.

Rochelle May Nisola, Focal Person for Learner Rights and Protection, explained that DepEd CALABARZON has put in place a mechanism to help schools properly report and document bullying cases.

"We have initiated a reporting mechanism for schools where they fill out forms to report the status of these cases: if they have already been resolved or referred to other agencies."

Compensating the shortage

However, DepEd acknowledges that the shortage of mental health professionals has worsened the situation with many students facing mental health concerns such as depression and bullying.

"Of course hindi enough ['yung bilang ng guidance counsellors] kasi mahirap mag-cater ng ilang bata na involved sa bullying cases. We cannot deny the shortage of registered guidance counselors dahil nasa data natin, maraming items pero kaunti ang naga-apply dahil sa requirements. Maraming unfilled positions [na] guidance counselors."

Lawmaker wants farmers prioritized amid rice import suspension

MANILA – A lawmaker from Manila on Tuesday expressed his strong support for President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s Executive Order No. 93, which suspends the importation of regular milled and well-milled rice effective Sept. 1.

In a statement, Manila 1st District Rep. Ernesto Dionisio Jr. noted the negative effects resulting from oversupply of imported rice, which have diminished opportunities for local producers and leads to economic hardships in rural communities.

Nisola added.

In CALABARZON, registered guidance counselors are often assigned to more than one school in an effort for make up for the shortage of mental health professionals.

As of 2022, Education Secretary Juan Edgardo Angara reported that there are only 4,069 licensed guidance counselors in the country, a far cry to the more than 50,000 counselors needed to meet the recommended global ratio of one counselor for every 250 students.

This problem is even more pronounced in CALABARZON, where only about 50 licensed guidance counselors are tasked to serve over three million students across 6,000 schools.

"Yung shortage hindi natin made-den kasi sa data namin, maraming items pero kaunti ang naga-apply dahil sa requirements. Maraming unfilled positions [na] guidance counselors."

Many positions for mental health professionals, such as guidance counselors, re-

"Napakababa po ng presyo ng palay. Nalulugi po ang mga magsasaka (The price of palay is very low. Farmers are losing). We need to take decisive action now. The influx of imported rice has flooded the market, leaving our hard-working farmers with fewer buyers and lower prices for their harvest," Dionisio said.

"I am hopeful that through Executive Order 93, we can finally prioritize our local farmers and bolster their livelihoods," he added.

Dionisio, vice chair

of the House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means, issued the statement after Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. revealed that the order has no specified end date and outlined plans to extend the import ban until the end of 2025, alongside studies for higher tariffs on rice imports.

The lawmaker said he is hoping that the discussion about the suspension of the rice importation would lead to the amendment of the Rice Tarification Law (Republic Act

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provide quality mental health support to students.

"We are providing continuous training for registered guidance counselors and for our designates, so they will have the knowledge on handling such child protection concerns."

DepEd clarified that these designates are well-versed in child protection policies and mental health program, including conducting risk assessment for students.

"This will help us identify students who have a history of suicidal attempts or abuse. Guidance designates are also very important in our mental health programs."

With the passage of Republic Act 12080, more commonly known as the Basic Education Mental Health and Well-Being Promotion Act, DepEd CALABARZON expects to hire more registered guidance counselors to better address cases of bullying and other child protection concerns in the region.

(PB/PIA4A)

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LAWMAKER... FR. P. 4

No. 11203) that will best protect and serve farmers.

"There is a pressing necessity to revise our policies, beginning with the Rice Tariffication Law, to ensure that our agricultural sector thrives and our farmers are not

sidelined by the overwhelming volume of imports," he said.

Dionisio believed that farmers should get more benefits even as Filipinos enjoy lower prices of rice in the market.

"Ito po ay ating pag-

aaralan at tutukan sa kumite. Dapat mas makinabang ang ating sariling mga magsasaka (We will study and focus on this in the committee. Our farmers should benefit more)," he said. (PNA)



A. Furniture: 1. Floor Lamp; 2. Round Coffee Table; 3. Blue Chair; 4. Large Wall Clock; 5. Modern Round Side Table; 6. Black Chair; 7. Black Center Table; 8. Black Side Table; 9. Black Accent Chair.

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**Better is a piece of dry bread where there is peace
Than a house full of feasting along with quarreling.**

Proverbs 17: 1

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Bullpups roll to 5th straight win in UAAP basketball

MANILA – Clark Khobuntin registered the first triple-double in the UAAP Season 88 junior basketball tournament Wednesday, leading National University Nazareth School to a 93-82 victory over Adamson University at the SM Mall of Asia Arena in Pasay.

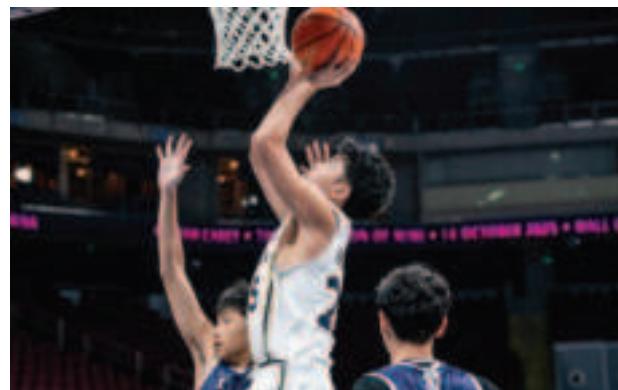
He posted 17 points, 12 rebounds, 11 assists, three steals and one block as the Bullpups rolled to their fifth straight win.

Khobuntin's triple-double performance was the tournament's fourth after UST's Andwele Cabañero delivered 20 points, 15 rebounds and 10 assists in a 105-71 victory over Ateneo de Manila University on Nov. 27, 2024.

"We still need to improve our defense. For us, it all starts with the defense. That's what we have to polish heading into the next game," said NUNS head coach Leo Pujante.

The score was tied at 23-all at the end of the first quarter before Khobuntin, Mark Arzola, Nick Peña and Dean Tria joined hands to give NUNS a 60-40 lead at halftime.

Allison Jordan sank a triple and Veng Veng-



VICTORY. Clark Khobuntin of National University Nazareth School tries to score under the goal during the game against Adamson University in the UAAP Season 88 junior basketball tournament on Wednesday, Oct. 8, 2025, at the SM Mall of Asia Arena in Pasay. The Bullpups won, 93-82. (Contributed photo)

co scored on a layup as the Baby Falcons cut the lead to 65-79, six minutes remaining in the third quarter.

But the Bullpups pulled away at 87-68, with Moussa Diakite scoring six straight points, four minutes left to play.

Diakite led NUNS with 20 points and rebounds followed by Arzola with 18 points, six assists, five steals and two rebounds. David Sabareza made 15 points, two steals and two rebounds while Peña had 10 points, four rebounds and three assists.

"Basketball is a team game, it shouldn't be just one person to win. Moussa (Diakite) still really needs a backup like him. Not only Clark, but all of them have to perform.

That's what I'm telling them, don't rely on Moussa," Pujante said.

Kieff Iledan had 24 points, 10 rebounds, three assists and two steals, while Fran Flores chipped in 14 points, eight rebounds, five assists, five steals and two blocks for Adamson, which placed third in the standings with a 3-2 record, behind defending champion University of the East and Far Eastern University-Diliman, who have identical 3-1 cards.

In the other game, Ateneo de Manila clobbered University of the Philippines Integrated School, 87-40, to secure its second win in five outings for sixth place.

The Fighting Maroons are winless after five games. (PNA)

MPT South Strengthens Sustainability Commitment in the International Coastal Cleanup Day 2025

Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPT South), a subsidiary of the Metro Pacific Tollways Corp. (MPTC), reaffirms its commitment to environmental sustainability by actively participating in the International Coastal Cleanup Day 2025. This global movement, held annually to protect and preserve our oceans and coastlines, sees contributing organizations and hundreds of volunteers come to collectively combat marine pollution.

In partnership with the City Environment and Natural Resources office of Bacoor, Cavite, and Santa Rosa, Laguna, MPT South volunteer employees came together to champion sustainability and environmental stewardship by actively cleaning up the coastlines of Brgy. Caingin in Santa Rosa, and Brgy. Maliksi 1 in Bacoor. Aside from the efforts exerted in the said coastal barangays, MPT South also donated cleaning materials such as safety boots, sacks, brooms, gloves, and garbage pickers for the cleaning of the Las Piñas-Parañaque Wetland Park (LPPWP). LPPWP is a critical protected area managed by DENR to preserve its rich biodiversity and ecological value, a Ramsar site situated in the Gulf of Manila.

MPT South volunteer employees assisted in collecting 65 kg of residual waste and 48 kg of other debris in the coastline of Santa Rosa, accumulating to 12,039 kilograms of waste removed from its coast; on the other hand, a total of 43.5 kg of wood debris and 60.5 kg of plastic and foam materials were collected by MPT South volunteers in the coast of Bacoor, resulting in a total of 7,275 kilograms of waste collected from



the coastal area. Efforts like these continue to pave the way in raising awareness about marine conservation, proper waste segregation, and promoting sustainable practices among its volunteers.

"Protecting our coastlines is vital for the health of our community and future generations, and our duty doesn't end after the International Coastal Cleanup Day," said Arlette V. Capistrano, Vice President for Communication and Stakeholder Management of MPT South. "Through MPT South's consistent programs like cleanup drives, various tree planting activities, and its active participation in the annual International Coastal Cleanup, we aim to reduce marine litter, foster environmental awareness, and reinforce our commitment to sustainable development in the communities we serve."

In August 2025, MPT South was awarded two Green Awards from the Santa Rosa City Government, a Plaque of Appreciation as a Sustainable Development Partner, and an Earth Hour Advocate Award, marking its third consecutive year of recognition in the esteemed program of the city.

MPT South's efforts align with its broader sustainability goals, which include preserving our natural waterways, reducing environmental impact, promoting eco-friendly infrastructure, and engaging with communities to nurture environmental responsibility and a more sustainable environment for future generations.