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DOE increases benefits for energy-hosting barangays

CALAMBA CITY (PIA) — Barangays in CALABARZON hosting energy sources and power-generating facilities will receive additional benefits starting January 2026.

Under Department Circular No. 2025-10-0023 signed by Ener-
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Cavite Police gear up for safe, orderly Undas

IMUS, Cavite (PIA) — The Cavite Police Provincial Office is all set to ensure a smooth, safe, and peaceful observance of Undas 2025 as part of the nationwide “Ligtas Undas” operational plan of the Philippine National Police (PNP).

The Cavite PPO, led by Acting Provincial Director Police Colonel Ariel Red, has mapped out comprehensive security and public assistance measures in anticipation of

the influx of visitors to cemeteries and memorial parks across the province from October 29 to November 4, 2025.

According to police estimates, around 451,300 people are expected to visit 116 cemeteries (54 public and 62 private sites) as well as five columbariums throughout Cavite. To mitigate public safety risks and hazards, 2,422 personnel will be deployed in Cavite—comprising

1,250 PNP officers, 176 augmentation units, and 996 force multipliers from various community groups and organizations.

Red said force multipliers will be crucial in the operation, with 996 volunteers helping in different roles. These include Barangay Tanods maintaining order in cemeteries and nearby communities; Barangay Peace-keeping Action Teams (BPATs) managing crowd control and



public information; traffic enforcers directing vehicle flow; security guards protecting private cemeteries

and establishments; radio groups supporting communication; and volunteer organizations, including

civic and faith-based groups, assisting visitors.

Cavite Police will
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DSWD extends P150K medical aid to 72-year-old cancer patient

MANILA – The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) has stepped in to assist a 72-year-old retiree afflicted with Stage 4 colon cancer and liver metastases through the provision of medical aid.

In a statement on Tuesday, the DSWD said the assistance is in the form of a PHP150,000 guarantee letter.

According to the

DSWD, Secretary Rex Gatchalian learned of Emma “Bing” Kasilag’s health condition and her mounting hospital expenses through a newspaper report on Sunday.

He immediately ordered agency social workers to find the cancer patient and extend immediate assistance for her medical needs.

“Thank you for this information. Our social workers from the

Department will locate her and assist her through our AICS Program,” Gatchalian said in a Facebook post.

The AICS program or the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation serves as the DSWD’s primary mechanism for providing immediate support to individuals and families in crisis, offering financial aid for medical needs, hospitalization bills,
(Turn to p. 2)



COMPASSION IN ACTION. A social worker from the Calabarzon field office of the Department of Social Welfare and Development hands over a PHP150,000 guarantee letter to Emma Kasilag in a Cavite hospital on Monday (Oct. 27, 2025). The 72-year-old retiree is afflicted with Stage 4 colon cancer and liver metastases. (Photo courtesy of DSWD)

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also establish 117 Police Assistance Desks (PADs) and 23 Motorist Assistance Centers (MACs), supported by 19 Blue Teams that will conduct continuous patrols and monitoring.

Deployment highlights include 311 personnel for Police Assistance Desks (PADs), 68 personnel for Motorist Assistance Centers (MACs), 189 roving officers, 200 traffic marshals for major roads, 191 personnel for checkpoint and Oplan Sita operations, 87 officers for firewall operations, 34 personnel at transport terminals, and 167 personnel in areas of convergence.

Red emphasized that even with the public safety plans of his of-

fice, public cooperation remains crucial to the success of the operation.

"Our goal is not only to ensure a safe and orderly Undas but also to uphold peace and discipline among citizens. Let us work together to remain vigilant and responsible for the safety of our families and communities," he said.

He further stressed that Ligtas Undas 2025 will only be successful through the continued collaboration between the police, local government units, and the public—ensuring that this year's commemoration of Undas in Cavite is peaceful, organized, and meaningful. (RBF/PIA-Cavite; with reports from Cavite PPO)

PhilHealth assures benefit coverage for flu, urges early consultation



MANILA — The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) on Tuesday reminded members that benefits for the treatment of influenza and influenza-like illnesses are fully covered under its existing benefit packages.

In a statement, PhilHealth president and chief executive officer Edwin Mercado urged members who experience flu-like symptoms to visit their as-

signed YAKAP (Your Advanced and Kind Access to Primary Care) Clinics for immediate consultation.

The PhilHealth YAKAP benefit covers consultation fees, essential medicines and laboratory tests as recommended by the primary care physician.

The package aims to promote preventive healthcare and early disease detection, in line with President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s directive to build

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gy Secretary Sharon Garin, barangays that host power plants and other power-generating facilities will enjoy increased financial benefits from Php0.01 to Php 0.03 per kilowatt-hour (kWh) of electricity generated and sold.

In a press release, Garin noted the directive as a 'major turning point for energy-hosting communities'.

"We are shifting our approach to focus on empowering people and giving them a greater stake in our country's energy growth. By reinvesting the benefits of power generation back into local areas, we are building shared prosperity and a stronger foundation for a sustainable future."

Under the ER 1-94 program, the funds allocated to host communities will increase to 2.5 centavos per kWh. The DOE said barangays can use the additional funds to support projects tailored to their locality's needs, such as live-

a healthy and resilient nation.

"We encourage everyone to avail their PhilHealth YAKAP benefit. Let us not wait for the cough, fever, or cold to worsen," Mercado said.

"I also urge everyone to prioritize simple preventive measures: wash your hands frequently, cover your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, and avoid crowded places if you are already feeling sick," he added.

PhilHealth advised members to register and select their preferred YAKAP Clinic

lihood development, environmental protection, healthcare, and educational initiatives.

The strengthened ER 1-94 framework promotes community-driven planning by empowering host local government units (LGUs) and indigenous cultural communities or indigenous peoples (ICCs/IPs) to identify and approve priority projects through their respective local council resolutions.

The CALABARZON region hosts a long list of power plants that provide provinces with a wide variety of sources, including coal, solar, and agro-solar power, catering to residential communities, industrial and commercial spaces alike.

Most recently, President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. led the ceremonial switch-on of Citicore Solar Batangas 1 Power Plant in Tuy, Batangas, the country's first agro-solar power plant. (PB-PIA4A/DOE)

through the eGovPH app, the PhilHealth member portal, or by visiting the nearest PhilHealth Local Health Insurance Office to access their primary care benefits.

The state health insurer also assured coverage for members who develop severe symptoms or require hospital care.

Patients rushed to emergency rooms and classified as emergent or critical are covered under the Outpatient Emergency Care Benefit package.

For patients requiring confinement due

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transportation, burial and other urgent needs.

Regional Director Barry Chua of the DSWD's field office in Calabarzon said they promptly released a PHP150,000 guarantee letter to cover part of Kasilag's medical expenses.

"We provided a guarantee letter. Discharged na si Bing today. She was also assured of further assistance pagkalabas ng hospital kung kailangan pa nila ng ibang tulong (Bing was already discharged and assured of further assistance if they need other kinds of help)," Chua said in a report on Monday.

Kasilag is a retired executive director and curator of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Museum and Historical Library Foundation.

She had been confined for nearly two weeks in a Cavite hospital due to complications from

chemotherapy, and her medical expenses had exceeded PHP170,000, excluding doctors' fees, with further costs expected for ongoing treatment.

According to the report, the 72-year-old retiree's only source of income is her meager government pension.

Kasilag has tried to seek help from PhilHealth but was told that only patients with Stages 1 to 3 colorectal cancer are qualified for its assistance package.

The DSWD said it continues to work with local government units and other partner-agencies to ensure that individuals like Kasilag receive comprehensive support from hospitalization to post-discharge care, demonstrating the agency's commitment to compassionate and responsive public service. (PNA)

CAVITE NEWS PUBLISHING WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

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SAY NO TO DRUGS



Cavite OFW Council gathered for a strengthened connection

Recently, the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer (OPSWDO) successfully facilitated the capacity building titled “Strengthening the OFW Council Connections” at the Bayleaf Hotel, City of General Trias, gathering focal persons and members from PGC offices and various agencies for a reinforced commitment and support for Caviteño migrant workers and their families.

The OPSWDO coordinated with the Department of Migrant Workers for a session of talks, tackling the interventions, services and programs for the benefit of OFWs. Resource speakers from the department included of Mr. Lito Doblado, Ms. Riza Flores-Ramirez, Mr. Melvin Casada, Mr. Paul Bernard Santiago, and Mr. Dennis Cabato.--- OPIO

Science-based disaster plan vital to earthquake preparedness

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — An expert from the University of the Philippines Los Banos (UPLB) said that earthquakes cannot be predicted, emphasizing preparedness should be part of daily life since it is a natural phenomenon in the Philippines being within the Pacific ring of Fire that is prone to seismic activity.

Dr. Decibel V. Eslava Geologist and Dean at the UPLB School of Environmental Science and Management (SESAM), said that knowledge and constant preparedness is essential to minimize disaster risks.

“It is natural in our region, a reality that we should have long accepted so that our decisions and preparedness are aligned in that situation,” she said.

The Philippines is situated in the Pacific ring of fire including



the region from East Australia, New Zealand, Philippines, Japan, Russia and the west coast United States.

Eslava emphasized that because the country has active fault lines and an earthquake can’t predict when it will move, people need to be always ready for the possibility of earthquakes.

“Because of this geographical reality, we need to learn how to adapt,” she said.

Meanwhile, Jeffrey Perez, geologist at

Philippine Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs), said the West Valley Fault (WVF) has moved four times in the past 1400 years and movement interval to 400 to 600 years. The last major earthquake from the valley fault was 1658.

“The west valley fault has been accumulating strain for about 357 years. It could move before it reaches 400 years, It could also occur within 600 years — it may happen in our generation or the next,” Perez said.



PGC awards free hearing aids to hearing-impaired Caviteños

In its continued commitment to inclusive and compassionate public service, the Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC) awarded hearing aids to 35 Caviteños with hearing impairments in a simple awarding ceremony on October 22 at the New Provincial Government Center in Trece Martires City.

A total of 33 children received hearing aids through the Provincial Council for the Protection of Children fund, while 2 adult beneficiaries were assisted under the Office of the Provincial Persons with Disability Affairs Officer (OPPDO) fund. The program aims to enhance communication abilities, social interaction, and overall quality of life among individuals with hearing challenges.

The event was graced by Chief of Staff Ferdinand A. Belamide, who conveyed the Provincial Government’s unwavering support to programs promoting accessibility and equal opportunities for all Caviteños, especially persons with disabilities.

An orientation was also conducted by the Manila Hearing Aid to guide beneficiaries and their families on the proper use and maintenance of the devices, ensuring their effective and long-term utilization.

Spearheaded by the OPPDAO, the program reflects the province’s strong advocacy to empower persons with disabilities through access to essential health and assistive services.--- OPIO



PGC’s medical and dental mission boosts wellness in Brgy. Poblacion 2, GMA

As influenza cases continue to affect people’s health, Brgy. Poblacion 2 in General Mariano Alvarez received a timely dose of care through the Provincial Government of Cavite’s medical and dental mission held on October 21, 2025. A total of 488 residents benefited from free consultations, dental services, ECG, and X-ray exams, bringing healthcare closer to the community when it’s needed most.

The initiative, spearheaded by the Office of the Provincial Governor in collaboration with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer, emphasizes the PGC’s commitment to promoting accessible and preventive healthcare, keeping every Caviteño safe, and healthy amid the flu season.

“What we are saying in Phivolcs is that we need to be prepared. We don’t want to cause alarm, what we are saying, let’s use the term – ripe. But we cannot still predict when it will happen,” he added.

Eslava highlighted the importance of designing houses and infrastructure that can withstand natural phenomena. She also emphasized having regu-

(Turn to p. 4)

Taal LGUs report ‘minimal’ impact from phreatic eruption



CALAMBA CITY (PIA) – Local government units surrounding the Taal volcano have reported minimal impact following its minor phreatic eruption on Sunday morning, October 26.

According to the CALABARZON Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (RDRRMC), rains with ashes were observed in the municipalities of Laurel and Agoncillo, prompting residents from Barangay Banyaga in Agoncillo, and Barangay Gulod in Laurel to seek temporary shel-

ter in nearby barangay halls and relatives’ homes.

As of reporting time, the CALABARZON RDRRMC said the total number of affected families is still being verified.

Meanwhile, the Local Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Offices (LDRRMOs) in the municipalities of Balete, Laurel, Talisay, San Nicolas, and Agoncillo are closely coordinating with provincial authorities to keep residents informed on the latest activities at the volcano. (PB/PIA4A)

SCIENCE-BASED... FR. P. 3

lar earthquake drills to help the masses know where to go during an earthquake, to reduce panic and to lessen disaster.

In Calabarzon, local government units are conducting infrastructure assessments of school buildings and other facilities to ensure their structural integrity.

Meanwhile, Dr. Eslava shared that UPLB takes initiatives to reassess the integrity of campus buildings, re-

vive evacuation drills and sites and safety protocols.

The Regional Disaster Risk Reduction Council has also urged local government units to strengthen earthquake preparedness and contingency plans and to conduct large-scale practical earthquake drills that focus on public facilities including schools, government offices, and places of mass gathering. (KA PIA4A)

PHILHEALTH... FR. P. 1

to influenza, PhilHealth provides a case rate package worth PHP12,870, with separate benefit packages available for those who develop complications such as pneumonia.

The state insurer reit-

erated its commitment to providing comprehensive healthcare protection and ensuring that Filipinos receive timely and affordable treatment for common illnesses like influenza. (PNA)

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

File No. FC-DC-1946-25
EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE
UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED
BY ACT 4118

GLADYS O. ABANTO,
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 **UNIONBANK OF THE PHILIPPINES**, with postal address at UnionBank Plaza Building, Meralco Avenue corner Onyx and Sapphire Roads, Ortigas Center, Pasig City against the respondent/mortgagor **GLADYS O. ABANTO** with postal addresses at Block 1C, Lot 5, Pamplona Street, Camella Lessandra, Molino 1, Bacoar, Cavite; B3 L21 Gabriel St., St. Michael Subd., Bacoar, Cavite and Lot 17 Blk, 32 Camella Dasma 2 @ The Islands, Brgy. Salawag, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of 29 September 2025 amounts to **ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED NINETEEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY ONE PESOS & 50/100 (Php 1,719,571.50)**, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned sheriff will sell at public auction on **December 14, 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, 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. 057-2019002023

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in BARANGAY OF SALAWAG, MUNICIPALITY OF DASMARINAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON, bounded and described as follows:

LOT NO: 17 BLOCK NO.: 32 PLAN NO.: PCS-04-027972
PORTION OF: THE CONS. OF LOT 6161-NEW, FLS 2143-D (RS-04-005353) & LOT 63-49-K, FLS-2006 (IDEN. TO LOT 6971, IMUS ESTATE); LRC RECORD NO. 8843
LOCATION: BARANGAY OF SALAWAG, MUNICIPALITY OF DASMARINAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON

BOUNDARIES:		
LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	NORTH	ROAD 7, PCS-04-027972
2-3	EAST	LOT 16, BLOCK 32, PCS-04-027972
3-4	SOUTH	LOT 19, BLOCK 32, PCS-04-027972
4-1	WEST	LOT 18, BLOCK 32, PCS-04-027972

TIE POINT: MON NO. 163, IMUS ESTATE

LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE TO CORNER
1	S. 18 .37°W	2077.99 M.
1-2	DUE EAST	6.00 M.
2-3	DUE SOUTH	6.00 M.
3-4	DUE WEST	6.00 M.
4-1	DUE NORTH	9.00 M.

AREA: FIFTY FOUR (54) SQ. M.
is registered in accordance with the provision of the Property Registration Decree in the name of
Owner: **GLADYS O. ABANTO, SINGLE, FILIPINO, OF LEGAL AGE**

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 **December 18, 2025**, at the same time and place without further notice.

27 October 2025, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite.

RODRIGO C. ESTOGERO, JR.
Sheriff IV

Study: Gray hair linked to body’s anti-cancer defense mechanism

BRUSSELS – Gray hair may be more than just a sign of aging as it could reflect the body’s natural defense mechanism against cancer, according to new research from the University of Tokyo.

A study published in Nature Cell Biology revealed that white hair results from damaged stem cells in hair follicles that self-eliminate to prevent the development of melanoma, a type of skin cancer.

Researchers led by Emi Nishimura and Yasuaki Mohri analyzed stem cells responsible for producing melanocytes –the pigment cells that give color to hair and skin.

They discovered that when these stem cells suffer serious DNA damage, they stop renewing themselves and self-destruct, preventing the damaged cells from dividing and spreading potentially cancerous mutations. This process leads to gray or white

hair.

The process is driven by the activation of key signaling molecules that trigger cell self-elimination. However, under exposure to certain carcinogens, such as ultraviolet B radiation, the same stem cells may continue to renew and proliferate.

While researchers emphasize that gray or white hair does not directly protect against cancer, the study provides new insights into how the body’s defense systems balance between cell death and uncontrolled growth.

“These findings reveal that the same population of stem cells can follow opposing fates (exhaustion or expansion) depending on the type of stress and microenvironmental signals,” Nishimura said in a statement. “This redefines hair graying and melanoma not as unrelated events, but as divergent outcomes of stem cell responses to stress.” (Anadolu)

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL POLICE

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

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GLADYS O. OBANTO
Block 1C, Lot 5, Pamplona Street, Camella Lessandra, Molino 1, Bacoar, Cavite;
B3 L21 Gabriel St., St. Michael Subd., Bacoar, Cavite and Lot 17 Blk. 32 Camella Dasma 2 @ The Islands, Brgy. Salawag, Dasmariñas City, 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



Cavite entrepreneurs empowered through technology and innovation

Over 150 participants composed of local entrepreneurs, members of various cooperatives across Cavite, Public Employment Service Office (PESO) Managers from different local government units, and representatives from various Provincial Government of Cavite offices gathered on October 24, 2025, for the event “Empowering Cavite Entrepreneurs Through Technology.”

Held at the Admin Function Hall of the New Provincial Government Center, the program was spearheaded by the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) in partnership with Board Member Camille V. Del Rosario, Chairperson of the Committee on Transportation and Communications, and the Provincial Information and Communications Technology Office (PICTO).

In her welcome remarks, BM Del Rosario underscored the significance of information technology as an essential tool in daily life and business. She emphasized that “technology is no longer optional—it is a necessity that drives productivity, efficiency, and innovation.”

A video message from Dir. Emelita Bagsit, Regional Director of DOST CALABARZON, inspired participants to see the value of science and technology in community and economic development. “Science works best when it works for the people,” she said, adding that “small innovations can spark big changes.”

Provincial Administrator Engr. Gilbert V. Gandia also delivered an inspirational message, encouraging participants to fully embrace technological advancements to further improve and grow their businesses. “Let us continue to explore and use technology to enhance productivity and competitiveness,” he said.

The event featured in-depth discussions on DOST programs and initiatives designed to support and empower local entrepreneurs. During the program, Provincial Director Gilda S. De Jesus presented the StartUp Program, highlighting how innovation serves as a key driver in accelerating enterprise growth. This was followed by Ms. Verjo Angelie M. Sisante, who discussed the Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program 4.0 (SETUP 4.0) and Innovation for Filipinos Working Distantly from the Philippines (iFWD PH), emphasizing the importance of innovation-driven solutions in strengthening small businesses. Meanwhile, Ms. Anna Marie S. Daigan elaborated on DOST’s Community-Based Project Grants-in-Aids (GIA), Community Empowerment thru Science & Technology (CEST), and the iSTART and SMART Cities and Sustainable Communities Programs, all of which aim to build resilient and sustainable communities through the effective use of science and technology.

An open forum followed the sessions, providing an avenue for participants to engage directly with the speakers and explore opportunities for partnership and support.

The highlight of the event was the sharing of success stories from Cavite-based entrepreneurs Mr. Noriel Bergonio of Daine 1 & 2 Farmers Association, Inc. and Mr. Harry Binos, who both shared how government assistance and DOST programs helped them expand and sustain their businesses.

Board Member Lloyd Emman D. Jaro, Chairperson of the Committee on Cooperatives and Rural Development, delivered the Closing Remarks, commending DOST and all participants for their commitment to empowering local entrepreneurs. He emphasized the importance of continuous collaboration between the government and the private sector to ensure inclusive and sustainable growth in Cavite’s business landscape.

Through initiatives like this, Cavite continues to strengthen its position as a hub for innovation, technology, and entrepreneurship — paving the way for a smarter, more progressive province.

PBBM to DTI: Ensure no price increases during the holidays

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has directed the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) to make sure that there is no price increase in basic and prime commodities during the holiday season until yearend.

“Alinsunod sa kautusan ni Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos Jr. na hindi magkakaroon ng paggalaw sa mga presyo ng mga bilihan bago ang holiday season, inanunsyo ng Department of Trade and Industry na walang price increase sa basic at prime commodities sa bansa hanggang sa matapos ang kasalukuyang taon (Upon the directive of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., the DTI has announced that there will be no price increase on basic and prime commodities until yearend),” Presidential Communications Office Undersecretary Claire Castro said on the sidelines of the 47th Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit and Related Summits here Monday.

“Nagtutulungan din ang lahat upang maibigay ang presyo na naaayon at gusto ng ating mga kababayan (All agencies are working to keep the price fair and reasonable for consumers),” she said.

Marcos, she said, instructed the DTI to ensure the strict monitoring and implementation of the maximum suggested retail prices (SRP) for imported rice and other essential food items.

Marcos also ordered the DTI to continue its coordination with manufacturers to maintain current price levels and prevent unwarranted price hikes.

“More manufacturers



RCEP SUMMIT. President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. participates in the 5th Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on Monday (Oct. 27, 2025). Prior to his departure for the high-level meetings in ASEAN, he directed the Department of Trade and Industry to make sure that there is no price increase in basic and prime commodities during the holiday season until yearend. (Photo courtesy of PCO)

and stakeholders are cooperating. It is not price freeze,” she said in a separate statement on Tuesday.

Castro said Trade Secretary Ma. Cristina Roque earlier assured that all industry stakeholders are working closely with the government to stabilize market prices, particularly during the holiday period.

“Nagtutulungan din ang lahat upang maibigay ang presyo na naaayon at gusto ng ating mga kababayan (All agencies are working to keep the price fair and reasonable for consumers),” she said.

Manufacturers’ assurance of support

The DTI said the President’s directive “follows assurances from manufacturers, conveyed through the DTI, committing to keep prices stable in

response to the President’s directive to prevent any hikes through year-end.”

“To support this, the DTI is deploying monitoring teams nationwide to ensure no unreasonable price increase will occur in public markets and supermarkets,” it said in a statement issued Tuesday.

“The DTI’s mission is clear: to prevent overpricing, profiteering, and supply disruptions, ensuring price stability for every Filipino household,” it added.

The DTI called on consumers to report violations through the DTI Consumer Care Hotline (1-DTI or 1-384), email consumercare@dti.gov.ph, or ReportToSec@dti.gov.ph. (With a report from Joann Villanueva/PNA)

***Draw close to God
and He will draw close to you***

James 4:8

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MPTC GEARS UP FOR UNDAS 2025

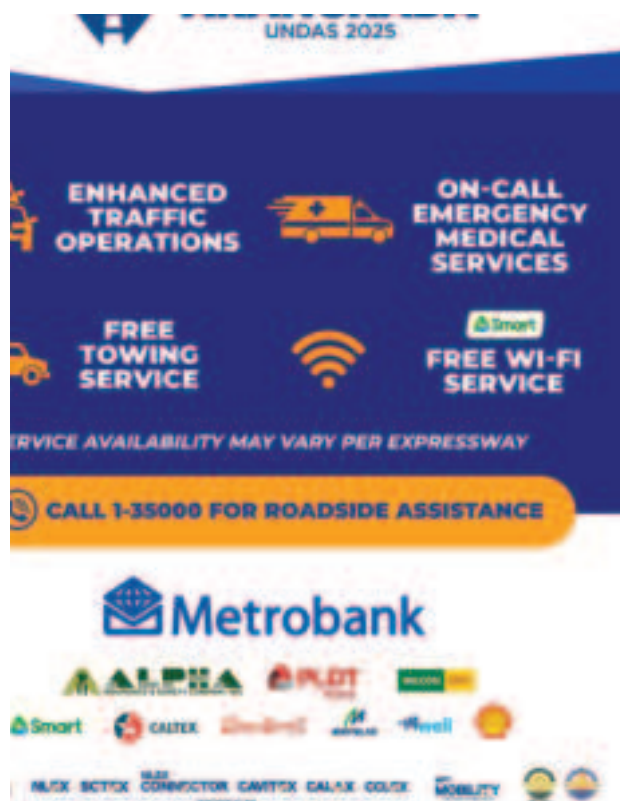
Enhanced traffic management, shoulder lane regrading, and motorist assistance set across MPTC expressways

Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC) is reactivating its “Biyaheng Arangkada” Motorists Assistance Program to ensure safe and convenient travel during the Undas season. With an expected surge in traffic across NLEX, SCTEX, NLEX Connector, CALAX, CAVITEX, and CCLEX, MPTC is intensifying operations through increased personnel deployment, 24/7 traffic monitoring, and quick-response teams.

Free towing for Class 1 and Class 1M (for CCLEX) vehicles to the nearest exit will be available from 6:00 AM of October 30 to 6:00 AM of November 3 to assist motorists, while roadworks will be suspended from October 29 to November 3, except for emergency repairs, to keep traffic flowing smoothly.

To reduce bottlenecks, NLEX Corporation has regraded shoulder lanes in key areas to support counterflow operations. Motorists are advised to plan their trips ahead and avoid peak hours, particularly during the following periods:

- Afternoon of October 29



- Afternoon of October 30 to evening of October 31

- Morning of November 1

- Afternoon of November 2

- Morning until noon of November 3

Around 2,000 traffic, toll, and emergency personnel will be on duty across MPTC expressways, in coordination with the PNP, LGUs, and key agencies. At CAVITEX, “Biyaheng Arangkada” will be implemented with PEA Tollway Corporation, a subsidiary of the Philippine Reclamation Authority.

Motorists can use the MPT DriveHub app for real-time traffic up-

dates, RFID reloading, and assistance. As part of the MVP Group’s efforts, Maynilad will provide free bottled water, while Smart Communications will offer free Wi-Fi and charging stations in select areas.

MPTC encourages motorists to ensure their vehicles are in good condition and RFID accounts are sufficiently loaded before traveling.

For updates, follow @NLEXexpressways, @OfficialCALAX, @CaviteXpressway, and @CCLEXexpressway on Facebook, or call 1-35000 for 24/7 assistance.

MPTC is the tollways infrastructure

PH swimmer Ajido wins silver medal in Asian Youth Games

MANILA – Swimmer Jamesray Mishael Ajido on Monday bagged the silver medal in the boys’ 100-meter butterfly event of the ongoing Asian Youth Games at the Khalifa Sports City pool in Bahrain.

The 16-year-old Grade 10 student from La Salle Greenhills registered a personal best 55.11 seconds to finish second behind Iran’s Mohammadmahdi Gholami, who won gold in 54.75. Hong Kong’s Lau Kin Hei James took the bronze with a time of 55.23.

Ajido, a member of the FTW Royals Swim Club, also won the event at the 11th Asian Age Group Championships at the New Clark City Aquatics Center in Capas, Tarlac on Feb. 28, 2024.

Over at the Exhibition World Bahrain (EWB) Hall 3, weightlifter Alexandra Ann Diaz of Mampang, Zamboanga City settled for the bronze medal after lifting 92kgs in the girls’ 48kg clean and jerk.

Chinese Lan Xinyi lifted 93kgs on her second attempt to win the gold.

“I’m happy because I did not expect to get a medal. My opponents are strong,” said Diaz, niece of Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Hidilyn.

The Philippines improved its medal haul to six gold, six silver and seven bronze medals for eighth spot

unit of the Manuel Pangilinan-led Metro Pacific Investments Corporation.



in the 45-nation meet.

Meanwhile, 15-year-old Justin James Zampatti suffered an referee stopped contest at the 1:44 mark of the second round against Uzbekistan’s Diyorbek Murodilloev in the boys’ 75kg preliminaries at the EWB Hall 9, leaving Leo Mhar Lobrido the last man standing for the Philippine boxing team.

Lobrido, nephew of Olympians Isidro and Virgilio Vicera, will try to reach the gold medal round when he faces Uzbekistan’s Abdugani Yorkinjonov in the boys’ 46kg semifinals on Tuesday.

In volleyball, the Philippines will face powerhouse Thailand in the bronze medal match on Wednesday at the Isa Sports City Hall C.

Alas Pilipinas lost to Iran, 28-26, 18-25, 19-25, 18-25, while Thailand bowed to Indonesia, 24-26, 25-27, 17-25, in the semifinal round Monday night.

Thailand defeated the Philippines, 25-21, 25-

18, 25-14, in the preliminary round.

In badminton at the Isa Sports City Hall D, Cris Ivan Dosano downed Bahrain’s Ali Alashoor, 21-5, 21-9, and Kazakhstan’s Mustafa Malikzhan, 21-9, 21-12, to reach the boys’ singles Round of 16.

Ron Ezekiel Zacarias also advanced after beating Ibrahim Hamdi of Maldives, 21-8, 21-11, in the Round of 64.

In the girls’ division, Eve Bejasa prevailed over Margaret Biswas of Bangladesh, 21-9, 21-4, and Mak Nitajulie of Cambodia, 21-6, 21-6, to reach the last 16.

Cristel Fuentespina lost to Hong Kong’s Liu Hoi Kiu, 21-12, 21-15, in the Round of 32. John Lanuza and Rosheila Quierez were also eliminated in the mixed doubles event, falling to Indonesians Abdul Azib and Fiersha Shafa, 11-21, 15-21, in the Round of 32. (PNA)

**The wicked flee when
no one pursues them,
But the righteous are
as confident as a lion.**

Proverbs 28:1