

CAVITE NEWS PUBLISHING

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER THAT'S NATIONAL IN SCOPE

VOL. XXVI NO. 48 MARCH 12-18, 2026 P10.00
ISSN: 2651-7450

DOE eyes biofuel importation to help address oil price spikes

MANILA – The Department of Energy (DOE) is proposing to import biofuel to help contain the surge in oil prices on the back of supply issues due to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East.

Energy Secretary Sharon Garin, during a Senate hearing on Wednesday, clarified that the DOE is not proposing any change in the blend of domestic fuel products since the law prohibits this.

“The proposal is (to) allow it (importation)

when the price is more than 5 percent of the pure fuel, pure gas, only to maximum of one year. Hopefully it will be shorter,” she said.

Under Republic Act 9367, otherwise known as the Biofuels Act of 2006, importation is allowed only after the local supply has been fully exhausted

Garin explained that, to date, the domestic fuel supply is adequate but only until the end of April this year.

She said the DOE is

in constant talks with all stakeholders to ensure that the domestic oil supply remains enough.

She, however, pointed out that “there will always be a risk” given the developments in the Strait of Hormuz, where most oil supply from the Middle East is shipped through going to other areas.

She said because of the situation in the Middle East, both the insurance and transportation costs for fuel transportation have

DOTr says NLEX-SLEX Connector to open next year

MANILA – The Metro Manila Skyway Stage 3 (SS3) section that will link the Skyway system to the North Luzon Expressway-South Luzon Expressway (NLEX-SLEX) Connector, will begin operation next year, Acting Transportation Secretary Giovanni Lopez said Wednesday.

Once completed, the section will significantly improve travel between the northern

and southern parts of Metro Manila.

In a media interview on the sidelines of the inspection of the SS3 project site in Pandacan, Manila, Lopez said the SS3 Section 2a will reduce travel time between Skyway and Buendia from two hours to around 30 minutes, while Skyway to Buendia up to Port Area will take around 25 minutes.

“Ang benepisyo dito ay ang sinasabi ng

ating Pangulo [Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.] na we have to cut travel time. ‘Yung oras natin na nasasayang sa trapiko, sa congestion sa kalsada ay we can spend more of it sa ating pamilya (Its benefits are in line with the President’s order to cut travel time. The time we waste in traffic can instead be spent with the family),” he said.

The new section of

Lawmakers seek stricter rules on junk food marketing targeting kids

MANILA – Lawmakers and public health experts are pushing for the urgent passage of measures that will require warning labels and restrict the marketing of unhealthy food to children, amid projections that obesity among Filipino youth will continue to

rise. During a joint hearing of the House of Representatives Committee on Health and Committee on the Welfare of Children on Wednesday, experts warned that by 2030, one in three Filipino children may become overweight or obese if

preventive measures are not implemented.

The hearing focused on the proposed Healthy Food Environment Bill, which aims to address obesity and other noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) by requiring front-of-pack warning

(Turn to p. 2)



(PNA file photo by Joan Bondoc)

gone up.

“So, on the supply

side, Madam Chair, ing with this proposal what we are attempt-

(Turn to p. 2)

GSIS to launch solar energy loan as gov’t pushes energy conservation

MANILA – The Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) is set to launch the Ginhawa Solar Energy Loan (GSEL), a financing program that allows government workers to borrow up to PHP500,000 to install solar panel systems in their homes.

The program supports the national government’s push for energy conservation as tensions in the Middle East drive up global oil prices and put



(Photo courtesy of GSIS)

pressure on electricity costs, the state pension fund said in a news release Wednesday.

The program is a green loan initiative that promotes the use of renewable energy,

helping government employees reduce their carbon footprint while lowering household electricity costs.

Under the GSEL, loans carry a 5 percent interest rate. (Turn to p. 2)

DOE... FR. P. 1

is, if anything happens, we can extend by adding more bio-fuels coming in the Philippines... If it's 10 percent or 20 percent, at least we can extend it for 10 percent more of the time," she said.

"And then on the price point currently, it's inevitable the price of fuel, the pump price, will go up. One possibility that we could also temper that sharp increase is having more biofuel, es-

pecially on gas, not on diesel, but on gas," she said.

DOE officials have been proposing several measures to help cushion the impact of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East on domestic supply and oil prices.

Among others, it has advised the public to help conserve electricity and carpool if possible to lessen demand for fuel. (PNA)

GSIS... FR. P. 1

cent annual interest rate, payable over five years in 60 equal monthly installments, with no service fee. A PHP500,000 loan will have a monthly amortization of PHP10,416.67.

Solar panel systems financed under the program will come with three years of insurance coverage against fire, earthquake, lightning and typhoon at no cost to the borrower. The coverage takes effect once the member notifies GSIS and submits proof that installation has been completed.

The GSIS Board of Trustees has approved PHP12.5 billion for the loan program and PHP60 million to cover insurance for solar panel installations.

Applications will be processed entirely through the GSIS Touch mobile app, where members can upload supplier quotations, installation contracts, or official receipts for reimbursement.

Members who install solar panels may also

benefit from the government's net metering system, which allows households to sell excess electricity back to the grid, further reducing energy costs.

GSIS President and General Manager Wick Veloso said the program offers members a practical way to manage rising electricity prices.

"This loan allows our members to invest in solar energy for their homes and generate substantial savings on their electricity bills while paying it back over five years at a competitive interest rate," Veloso said.

The GSEL will run for an initial three-year period, after which GSIS will evaluate its performance to determine whether the program should be extended.

Qualified borrowers include active GSIS members with permanent, regular, or non-career status who have been in government service for at least three years.

Further details will be announced soon. (PR)

LAWMAKERS... FR. P. 1

labels on food products high in fats, sugar, and sodium.

The bill also seeks to restrict the marketing of unhealthy food and beverages targeting children, including advertisements that use cartoons, mascots, games, prizes, and other promotional tactics.

Lawmakers said the measure is designed to help families make informed food choices and reduce children's exposure to advertisements promoting unhealthy products.

Reynolds Michael Tan, principal author of House Bill 819, said strong legislative backing for the measure reflects growing concern over the rising burden of preventable diseases.

"Nearly a hundred legislators are now standing behind these measures because we see the same reality: Filipino families are being overwhelmed by preventable diseases," Tan said. "Every billboard, every cartoon character selling unhealthy food chips away at their future."

He added that aggressive marketing of unhealthy food has contributed to normalizing unhealthy dietary habits among children.

Manila 4th District Rep. Giselle Mary Maceda, vice chairperson of both committees and principal author of House Bill 6166, cited the importance of protecting Filipino children from manipulative marketing practices.

"Children deserve protection from food environments that set them up for a lifetime of disease," Maceda said.

Health Committee Vice Chairperson Carlos Andres Loria, principal author of House Bill 6333, meanwhile, said preventive policies are needed as obesity and related diseases continue to increase

in the country.

"We cannot afford to wait while obesity, diabetes, and chronic kidney disease continue to rise," he said.

To date, lawmakers have filed 20 versions of the Healthy Food Environment Bill and four versions of a standalone front-of-pack warning label bill, with support from 77 legislators.

Public health advocates and civil society groups also expressed support for the proposed measure.

The Healthy Food Environment Coalition said the bill could help create a healthier food environment for Filipino children and families.

"This is not just a fight against unhealthy food; it's a movement toward a future where children can live to their full potential, free from chronic diseases," the coalition said.

The Philippine Society of Public Health Physicians, a member of the coalition, also underscored the importance of preventive measures in addressing diet-related diseases.

The group said physicians and public health professionals regularly encounter patients suffering from complications linked to unhealthy diets, including diabetes and metabolic disorders, among younger Filipinos.

Health advocates said experiences from countries, such as Chile and Peru, have shown that warning labels and marketing restrictions can reduce purchases of unhealthy food and encourage families to shift to healthier options.

They added that the swift approval of the proposed measure would be a crucial step in preventing the rise of obesity and other diet-related diseases in the Philippines. (PNA)

DOTr... FR. P. 1

the Skyway is a 1.2-kilometer, 2x2 elevated structure that will serve as an alternate road for traffic passing through R-10, Altura, España and Araneta.

Once operational, it is expected to serve an estimated 30,000 vehicles per day.

Construction and right-of-way acquisition of the project began six years ago in partnership with the San Miguel Corporation.

Toll discount

In a press conference in Malacañang, Lopez also announced a deal to provide toll discounts to Class 3 vehicles, such as trucks and buses, to help dampen the effects of rising fuel prices.

"Kami ay nagpapalamat sa toll operators

natin na sila naman po ay sumasang-ayon, kasi we did the numbers, like sa mga bus, makakatipid sila ng mga PHP5 to PHP7, and for a hundred liters, there is PHP7,000 na matitipid din (We thank toll operators for agreeing with the discount, because we did the numbers, and for buses, they can save as much as PHP5 to PHP7, and with 100 liters of fuel, they can save as much as PHP7,000)," he said.

In addition, the DOTr and the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines are also studying the reduction of land and take-off fees during the holy week as part of the government's efforts to cushion the effects of rising oil prices in the transportation sector. (PNA)

CAVITE NEWS PUBLISHING WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

raquel.cavitenews@gmail.com
0997409432/09329770888
Website Cavitenews.com

RAQUEL M. MAGTIBAY
Publisher

JESSIEL M. RAVANA
Editor-In-Chief

JOHN JEPREE MAGTBAY
Lay-out-Artist

LAURO M. MAGTIBAY
Circulation Manager

ATTY. RACQUEL C. LARA
Legal Counsel



MEMBER of PRIME ALLIANCE of
PUBLISHERS, EDITORS, &
REPORTERS of the Philippines Inc.

THIS NEWSPAPER IS EDITED, PUBLISHED AND CIRCULATED
IN THE PROVINCE OF CAVITE AT BLK. 8 LOT 19
SAINT FRANCIS ST. CARDINAL VILLAGE
SALITRAN 3 DASMARIÑAS CITY OF CAVITE

Commercial Advertising Rate: P200.00/col.cm
Legal Rate P160.00/col.cm.



Book signing event: Change Your Mind, Change Your Life

An inspiring blend of art, advocacy, and authorship took center stage recently, as Atty. Elaine Antonio Bordeaux held a book signing for her latest work, “Change Your Mind, Change Your Life: A Transformational Journey,” at the Office of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Library, Legislative Building, New Provincial Government Center, Trece Martires City.

A sculptor and immigration lawyer based in Texas, Atty. Bordeaux brings a rare fusion of creativity and legal insight into her writing. Her book is a deeply personal yet empowering narrative, a combination of her healing story and reflections on mindset, leadership, and emotional growth. Through its pages, she aims to help readers reclaim their inner power and rediscover their sense of purpose.

The program opened with welcome remarks from Ms. Connie Villanueva, Provincial Librarian, who underscored the importance of literature in shaping both intellect and character.

On-the-job trainees, employees, and professors attended the event, reflecting a shared commitment to lifelong learning. Also present was Mr. Aaron Paul K. Bawalan, Executive Assistant, representing the Amadeo Mayor Jose Domingo, Jr., demonstrating local government support for initiatives that promote personal and professional development.

Atty. Bordeaux’s message was clear and resonant: transformation begins within. With sincerity and conviction, she encouraged attendees to view challenges not as barriers, but as catalysts for growth.

The book was edited by Ms. Irish R. Antonio, content writer and editor, whose collaboration helped shape the narrative into a compelling guide for readers seeking clarity and confidence in their journey.

The program concluded with closing remarks from Mr. Jovani Cuadra, Provincial Board Secretary IV, followed by the book signing, where Atty. Bordeaux personally handed signed copies to attendees, each signature symbolizing not just authorship, but affirmation. More than a literary event, the gathering served as a reminder that healing and leadership share a common starting point: the courage to change one’s mind, and in doing so, change one’s life.--- OPIO



Medical and Dental Mission serves 482 patients in Brgy. Tua, Magallanes

A successful Medical and Dental Mission was conducted on February 26, in Brgy. Tua, Magallanes by the Provincial Government of Cavite with the dedicated support of GEAMH healthcare professionals.

The outreach activity provided essential medical and dental services as well as diagnostic tests such as FBS, ECG and X-ray examinations to residents of the community, benefiting a total of 482 patients. The mission aimed to improve access to quality healthcare services and promote overall community well-being.

Present during the activity were local officials led by Mayor Janessa Ann Maligaya De Ramayo, along with members of the Sangguniang Bayan of Magallanes, who expressed their support and appreciation for the continued efforts to bring



Medical and Dental Mission serves over 500 residents in Gen. Trias City

More than 500 residents benefited from a medical and dental mission conducted on March 3 at Sunnybrooke 1, Brgy. San Francisco, in the General Trias City. The health outreach activity was spearheaded by the Office of the Provincial Governor (OPG) Medical Mission Team in partnership with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (OPHO).

Medical and dental professionals from General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital (GEAMH) and AMIGA District Hospital and dental team of Gen. Trias City Health Office joined forces to deliver essential healthcare services to the community. Residents availed free medical and dental consultations, tooth extraction and diagnostic services, including electrocardiogram (ECG) and fasting blood sugar (FBS) tests. Likewise, prescribed medicines were provided for free.

The initiative was part of the provincial government’s continuing efforts to bring accessible healthcare services closer to Caviteños, particularly those in communities with limited access to medical facilities. Through the collaborative efforts of the provincial and partner LGU health offices, the activity ensured that residents received timely medical attention, proper diagnosis, and guidance on maintaining their health and well-being.

Beneficiaries expressed their gratitude for the services provided, highlighting the importance of such programs in addressing their healthcare needs and promoting a healthier community.--- OPIO



Medical and Dental Mission serves 482 patients in Brgy. Tua, Magallanes

A successful Medical and Dental Mission was conducted on February 26, in Brgy. Tua, Magallanes by the Provincial Government of Cavite with the dedicated support of GEAMH healthcare professionals.

The outreach activity provided essential medical and dental services as well as diagnostic tests such as FBS, ECG and X-ray examinations to residents of the community, benefiting a total of 482 patients. The mission aimed to improve access to quality healthcare services and promote overall community well-being.

Present during the activity were local officials led by Mayor, along with members of the Sangguniang Bayan of Magallanes, who expressed their support and appreciation for the continued efforts to bring vital healthcare services closer to the people.

The provincial government reaffirmed its commitment in sustaining Janessa Ann Maligaya De Ramayo healthcare initiatives that address the needs of communities across the province.--- OPIO

vital healthcare services closer to the people.

The provincial government reaffirmed its commitment in sustaining healthcare initiatives that address the needs of communities across the province.--- OPIO

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-015-26

CHINA BANK SAVINGS, INC.
Mortgagee,
-versus-

SPOUSES GEOFFREY G. SABELALA
AND AIRA B. SABELALA,
Mortgagors/Borrowers

x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Petitioner/Mortgagee, CHINA BANK SAVINGS, INC., with business address at CBS Building, No. 314 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City against the Mortgagors/Borrowers, SPOUSES GEOFFREY G. SABELALA and AIRA B. SABELALA, with residence and postal addresses at (1) 219 F, Brgy. St Purok 6-A, Brgy. Lower Bicutan, Taguig City; (2) 64 VP Cruz St. Purok 05, Brgy. Lower Bicutan, Taguig City (3) 42 Barangay St., Purok 06-A, Brgy. Lower Bicutan, Taguig City, and (4) Blk. 13, Lot 10, Westwood Phase 3, Brgy. Pasong Camachile, General Trias, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of January 15, 2026 amounts to **ONE MILLION SEVENTY-ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED NINETY-FOUR PESOS and 79/100 (Php1,071,994.79)**, Philippine Currency, inclusive of interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **March 25, 2026** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 12:00 o'clock noon, at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 057-2022007553

Lot No.10 Block No. 13 Plan No. Pcs-04-031444
Portion of: Block 17, Pcs-04-029302; Lot 1930, FRS-04-005921; Lot 1931, FRS-04-005433; Lot 3049, SFDM Estate, Decree No. 4270, LRC Record No. 5964

Location: Barangay of Tapia, City of Gen. Trias, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon

Boundaries:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	NE	Lot 12, Block 13, Pcs-04-031444
2-3	SE	Road Lot 17, Pcs-04-031444
3-4	SW	Lot 8, Block 13, Pcs-04-031444
4-1	NW	Lot 9, Block 13, Pcs-04-031444

Area: FIFTY (50) SQUARE METERS, more or less

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 time and date, it shall be held on **APRIL 8, 2026** without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City, February 27, 2026.

ANDRES B. ESPINA
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished:

BUENAVENTURA PAGTAKHAN CONSTANTINO MANGRO-BANG ROSELL AND ASSOCIATES

Counsel for the Mortgagee
12th Floor, China Bank Savings Inc. Building
314 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

SPS. GEOFFREY G. SABELALA & AIRA B. SABELALA

(1) 219 F, Brgy. St Purok 6-A, Brgy. Lower Bicutan, Taguig City
(2) 64 VP Cruz St. Purok 05, Brgy. Lower Bicutan, Taguig City
(3) 42 Barangay St. Purok 06-A, Brgy. Lower Bicutan, Taguig City,
(4) Blk. 13, Lot 10, Westwood Phase 3, Brgy. Pasong Camachile, General Trias, Cavite

Published at: Cavite News Publishing
Dates: March 5, 12, & 19, 2026

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Extra Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-054-26

CHINA BANK SAVINGS, INC.
Mortgagee,
-versus-

SPS. ARTHURO A. SOLIS AND ANNALYN U. SOLIS
Mortgagors/Borrowers

x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Petitioner/Mortgagee, **CHINA BANK SAVINGS, INC.**, with business address at CBS Building, No.314 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City against the Mortgagors/Borrowers, **SPS. ARTHURO A. SOLIS AND ANNALYN U. SOLIS**, with residence and postal addresses at (1) Lot 13, Blk. 1, Suburban Heights, Brgy. San Juan, Cainta, Rizal and (2) Block 17, Lot 40, Phirst Park Homes Tanza, Ph3, Batch 3, Brgy. Tanuan, Tanza, Cavite to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of **January 15, 2026** amounts to **ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED EIGHTY THREE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY FIVE PESOS AND 26/100 (Php1,683,885.26)**, Philippine Currency, inclusive of interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **March 25, 2026** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 12:00 o'clock noon, at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for **CASH** and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 057-2024004437

Lot No.40 Block No. 17 Plan No. Psd-04-248018

Portion of: Block 20, Pcs-04-030746

Location: Barangay of Tanauan, Mun. of Tanza, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon

Boundaries:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2	SE	Lot 37, Block 17, PSD-04-248018
2-3	SW	Lot41,Block 17, PSD-04-248018
3-4	NW	Road Lot 9, PSD-04-248018
4-1	NE	Lot 38, Block 17, PSD-04-248018

Area: FORTY FOUR (44) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS

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 time and date, it shall be held on **APRIL 8, 2026** without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City, February 27, 2026.

JOANNAH AVIGAIL C. TIMKANG
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished:

BUENAVENTURA PAGTAKHAN CONSTANTINO MANGRO-BANG ROSELL AND ASSOCIATES

Counsel for the Mortgagee
12th Floor, China Bank Savings Inc. Building
314 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

SPS. ARTHURO A. SOLI AND ANNALYN U. SOLIS,

(1) Lot 13, Blk. 1, Suburban Heights, Brgy. San Juan, Cainta, Rizal
(2) Block 17, Lot 40, Phirst Park Homes Tanza, Ph3, Batch 3, Brgy. Tanuan, Tanza Cavite

Published at: Cavite News Publishing
Dates: March 5, 12, & 19, 2026

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Extra Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale.

DTI assures public of continued services amid 4-day workweek

MANILA – Alternative work arrangement (AWA) at the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) will start on Friday, but the agency assured the public that its Public Assistance Desk at the main office will continue to provide uninterrupted service.

In an advisory posted on its Facebook page Thursday, the DTI said the AWA is in line with the directive for all government agencies to strictly adopt energy conservation measures ahead of the summer months and amid oil supply concerns given the ongoing conflict in the Middle East.

“While this arrangement takes full effect this week, DTI remains fully committed to uninterrupted public service. The Public Assistance Desk (PAD) located at G/F,

at Ave., Makati City, will continue to operate onsite to provide immediate assistance to walk in clients,” it said.

The agency also encouraged the public to access DTI’s various channels such as its Facebook page, DTI Philippines; X, @DTIPhilippines; Instagram, @DTIPhilippines; YouTube, @DTI_Philippines; as well as the Customer Contact Center, at 1-DTI (1-384); the hotline, which only accommodate SMS, 0917 834 3330; and its email address, ask@dti.gov.ph, for any inquiries.

“DTI reaffirms its dedication to ensuring that essential services remain available, responsive, and within reach of every Filipino we serve,” the advisory added. (With a report from Joann Vilanueva/PNA)

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

Proverbs 17: 1

ERRATUM

This is to correct the error made in the publication dated March 5, 12, & 19, 2026 filed by Petitioner/Mortgagee, **CHINA BANK SAVINGS INC.**, against the Mortgagors/Borrowers **SPS. ARTURO A. SOLIS AND ANNALYN U. SOLIS** it should be **SPS. ARTHURO A. SOLIS** not ARTURO A. SOLIS in the first line of Transfer Certificate of Title No. 057-2024004437 it should be Plan No. Psd-04-248018 not Plan No. Pcs-04-248018 in the sixth line of Copy Furnished it should be **SPS. ARTHURO A. SOLIS** not SPS. ARTURO A. SOLI.

Published at: Cavite News Publishing
Date: March 12, 2026

DA forms team to explore fertilizer options amid global oil surge

MANILA – Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. has ordered the creation of a team to assess the fertilizer supply situation in the country and monitor fertilizer prices as global oil prices continue to surge, the Department of Agriculture (DA) said on Wednesday.

In a press conference, DA spokesperson Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa said they are now exploring options to cushion the impact of ongoing tensions in the Middle East.

“All options now ay tinitingnan ng ating kalihim para makatulong. Kasi ang iniwasan natin ay bumaba ang productivity (The Secretary is exploring all options to help. Because what we want to prevent is the reduction of productivity),” de Mesa said.

Among the options under study are the use of organic fertilizers, government-to-government (G2G) partnerships, and cash subsidies for fertilizers.

“The Secretary is looking into the use of first, organic. Secondly, the use of biofertilizer, because in some studies, biofertilizers can replace up to 50 percent of the synthetic fertilizers,” de Mesa said.

“We can also look doon sa provisions na magkaroon ng (to have) G2G arrangements for fertilizers.”

De Mesa said these options are being considered to prevent lower productivity or a decrease in farmers’ income.



FERTILIZER WATCH. Agriculture Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa says the Department of Agriculture has formed a team to assess and monitor prices of fertilizers amid global crude oil price surges, in a press briefing on Wednesday (March 11, 2026). He said the team will also look into the possible use of organic fertilizers and government-to-government (G2G) arrangements for importation. (PNA photo by Stephanie Sevellano)

In terms of cash aid, de Mesa said it still depends on the recommendation of the DA team, which is expected to be submitted to the Office of the Secretary “as soon as possible.”

Meanwhile, the DA official has monitored a slight increase in prices of imported fertilizer due to an uptick in freight costs.

“Nagsisimula ng tumaas ang preso ng fertilizer. Ang basic reason ng pagtataas niyan, ‘yung freight cost at saka ‘yung pagmahal ng pagdala dito sa atin (The fertilizer prices are starting to go up. The basic reason for the uptick is the freight cost and

the rising shipment cost to our country), but not to the level of PHP3,000 (per bag),” de Mesa said.

The PHP3,000/bag level was previously experienced during the start of the Ukraine-Russia war.

To date, the prices of urea range from PHP1,600 per 50-kg. bag to PHP1,889, according to the recent weekly data of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA).

The prevailing price of bureau-granular, meanwhile, is at PHP1,650.31 per 50-kg. bag and PHP1,638.89 for complete (14-14-14) fertilizer. (PNA)

Four-day work schedule at pagtitipid sa produktong langis at petrolyo, isinusulong sa Batangas

LUNGSOD NG BATANGAS, Batangas (PIA)—Pormal na nilagdaan ni Governor Vilma Santos-Recto ang Executive Order No. 07, Series of 2026 na nakatutok sa maayos na paggamit ng produktong langis lalo na ang gasolina at diesel nitong nakaraang linggo.

Ang paglagda ay isang hakbang upang mai-paalala sa mga kawani ng Pamahalaang Panlalawigan ang patuloy na pagtitipid at maayos na paggamit ng mga produktong langis partikular ang gasolina at diesel lalo na sa mga sasakyang ginagamit sa araw-araw na paghahatid ng serbisyo para sa mga Batangueño.

Ayon kay Santos-Recto, dahilan sa nararansang digmaan sa ibang bansa, malaki ang epekto nito sa suplay ng bansa sa produktong petrolyo kung kaya’t hinihikayat ang lahat na makiisa at gamitin ng tama at episyente ang lahat ng produktong langis.

“Sa kabila ng napipintong pagsubok sa suplay ng mga produk-



tong langis at petrolyo, dapat nating isaisip at isapuso na ang serbiyo publiko ang siyang dapat maging prayoridad kaakibat ng tamang paggamit ng mga produktong ito. Hinihikayat din natin ang ma lokal na pamahalaan na gawin ang parehong pagtitipid kaugnay nito.”

Matatandaang noong ika-6 ng Marso, nagpalabas ng panawagan ng nararansang epekto ng pagtaas ng langis at produktong petrolyo dulot ng gulo sa Gitnang Silangan.

Bunsod nito, nakaambang ang pagtaas ng presyo ng petrolyo sa mga susunod na araw. Dahil sa kaguluhang ito, naapektuhan ang pagdaan ng mga barkong nagdadala ng langis sa Strait of Formos, isang mahalagang daanan ng langis na nagbubunsod upang tumaas ang presyo nito sa pandaigdigang merkado.

Samantala, magpapalabas din ang Pamahalaang Panlalawigan ng Batangas ng kautusan kaugnay ng four-day work schedule para sa mga kawani nito. May

mga lokal na pamahalaan na din ang tumalima para naman dito tulad ng bayan ng San Juan.

Ito ay alinsunod sa Memorandum Circular No. 114 na inilabas ng Malacañang bilang suporta sa energy conservation efforts ng pamahalaan. Ang bagong office hours ng lokal na pamahalaan ng San Juan ay mula Lunes Hanggang Hwebes, alas-7 ng umaga hanggang alas-6 ng hapon at walang transaksyon sa mga tanggapan nito mula Biyernes, Sabado at Linggo.

Hindi naman kasama sa mga bagong schedule ang mga opisina na may kinalaman sa disaster response, social services, health services at iba pang may mahalagang gampanin upang masiguro na tuloy-tuloy ang pagbibigay ng serbisyo sa publiko.

Nagsasagawa naman ng pagpupulong sa kanilang mga nasasakupan ang iba pang mga bayan at lungsod sa lalawigan ng Batangas upang tumalima sa Memorandum Circular No. 114. (MP-DC-PIA Batangas)

This book of the Law should not depart from your mouth, and you must read it in an undertone day and night, in order to observe carefully all that is written in it; for then your way will be successful and then you will act wisely.

CAVITE NEWS PUBLISHING

A COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER THAT'S NATIONAL IN SCOPE

VOL. XXVI NO. 48

MARCH 12-18, 2026

P10.00

UP conquers NU to keep UAAP men's tennis lead

MANILA – The University of the Philippines (UP) stunned defending champion National University (NU), 3-2, on Wednesday to keep the lead in the UAAP Season 88 men's tennis tournament at the Colegio San Agustin in San Jose del Monte, Bulacan.

Andrei Jarata and Carl Tan defeated Miguel Vicencio and Jules Lazaro, 6-3, 6-4, in the second doubles match of the best-of-five tie as the Fighting Maroons notched their ninth win against one loss.

UP's Lance Fernandez downed Alexis Acabo 6-3, 6-2, but Andrei Padoa beat Loucas Fernandez, 6-4, 6-4, and Isaac Lim defeated Heinz Carbonilla, 4-6, 6-2, 6-3, to give NU a 2-1 lead.

Raymund Goco and Miguel Iglupas outplayed Angil Balaoing and Christian Padilla, 7-5, 6-3, in the first doubles match to level the score at 2-all.

NU slipped to third place with a 7-3 slate, in a tie with University of the East, which dominated Ateneo de Manila University, 5-0.

Allyson Cabanilla delivered UE's first



VICTORY. Andrei Jarata makes a double-handed forehand return in the UAAP Season 88 tennis tournament at the Colegio San Agustin in San Jose del Monte, Bulacan on Wednesday (March 11, 2026). He teamed up with Carl Tan to beat Miguel Vicencio and Jules Lazaro of National University, 6-3, 6-4, in the second doubles match. (UAAP photo)

point following a 6-1, 6-1 victory over Vito Singson. JB Aguilar waylaid JD Velez, 6-1, 6-3; Kian Sanchez trounced Gabby Calilung, 6-2, 6-0; Mark Dave Palanas and Kent Morales blanked Gab Quintana and Lukas Yupangco, 6-0, 6-0; while Marc Suson and RJ Baje completed the sweep after thrashing JB Cuarto and JC Pabilloro, 6-1, 6-1.

Meanwhile, University of Santo Tomas (UST) clobbered Adamson University, 4-1, to improve its record to 9-2 for second place.

UST raced to a 3-0 lead after Richard

Bautista and Nash Agustines downed Angelo Rosales and Lander Butcon, 2-6, 6-1, 10-7; Ericjay Tangub whipped Albretch Job, 6-2, 6-0; and Evan Bacalso conquered Nikko Lumahang, 6-2, 6-3.

Adamson's Miecoco Candelasa survived Mcleen Gomera, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5, while UST's Steven Sonsona and Al Zayeed Baid won over John Kenneth Jumamoy and Herald Aton, 6-2, 6-4, to wrap up the tie.

Adamson slipped to 2-9, while Ateneo is winless after 11 out-

A joyful heart is good medicine, But a crushed spirit saps one's strength.

Proverbs 17:22

Eala exits BNP Paribas Open after losing to Noskova

MANILA – Filipino Alexandra Eala bowed out of the WTA 1000 BNP Paribas Open after losing to Linda Noskova of Czech Republic, 2-6, 0-6, Wednesday at the Indian Wells Tennis Garden in California, USA.

The 14th-seeded Noskova fired seven aces to send the world's No. 32 Eala packing after 55 minutes.

Noskova advanced to the quarterfinals against Australian Talia Gibson, who eliminated No. 7 seed Italian Jasmine Paolini, 7-5, 2-6, 6-1.

Meanwhile, top seed Aryna Sabalenka downed No. 16 seed Japanese Naomi Osa-



Alexandra Eala (Contributed photo)

ka, 6-2, 6-4, to forge a quarterfinal duel with No. 10 seed Canadian Victoria Mboko, who ousted No. 6 seed American Amanda Anisimova, 6-4, 6-1.

In the doubles, Eala and her American partner Iva Jovic lost to American Hailey Baptiste and Latvian Jelena Ostapenko, 2-6, 2-6, in the first round.

Eala set up a meet-

ing with Noskova after posting a 6-2, 2-0 win over American Coco Gauff, who was forced to retire due to a left arm injury.

Eala and Gauff had met in the quarterfinal round of the WTA 1000 Dubai Tennis Championships last month, with Gauff winning, 6-0, 6-2. (PNA)



PGC successfully conducts Group Sale of ROPA for employees

The Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC) through the Provincial Housing Development and Management Office (PHDMO) successfully conducted a two-day Group Sale of Real and Other Properties Acquired (ROPA) for PGC employees recently, at the New Provincial Government Center, Trece Martires City.

Held in partnership with Pag-IBIG Fund, the activity provided employees with accessible and affordable housing opportunities under the ROPA program. ROPA properties are assets acquired by the Pag-IBIG Fund through foreclosure or non-payment of housing loans and are subsequently offered for sale at competitive prices.

In his welcome remarks, Provincial Administrator Engr. Gilbert V. Gandia encouraged employees to take advantage of the initiative, emphasizing that the program is a valuable opportunity to invest in the future homes for their families. He highlighted the provincial government's continuing commitment to employee welfare and urged participants to explore the available options and make informed decisions toward homeownership.

Ms. Reychel Avila and Ms. Raina Jane from the Pag-IBIG Fund led the presentation on acquired assets and the group sale program, discussing available ROPA properties, eligibility and documentary requirements, application and approval processes, loan programs, and flexible payment schemes. An open forum followed the presentations, allowing employees to raise questions and seek clarification directly from the speakers.

Meanwhile, Ms. Karen Camañag-Tupas, Department Head of the PHDMO, expressed her hope that the project will greatly benefit PGC employees. She shared her optimism that the initiative will help more employees achieve their dream of owning a home.--- OPIO