



Amidst uncertainties

Sta. Ignacia Mayor meets with poultry and piggery owners

Sta Ignacia, Tarlac – Is Mayor Nora Modomo of Santa Ignacia against poultry and piggery as perceived?

In a meeting that was called by the Mayor on October 24, she made it clear to the poultry and piggery owners in the municipality that personally, she “does not encourage” entry of newcomers, but qualified this by saying newcomers and existing ones must comply with laws, local ordinances, rules and regulations governing the industry.

The mayor furthered that in order to avoid non-renewal of business permits for the year 2020, she stressed the need for full and strict compliance with the LGU requirements as she already directed all offices concerned not to process business permits of the non-compliant businesses. She added that she called the meeting this early so that the concerned businesses will have time to prepare and fix up their deficiencies before the renewal season on January next year.

During the meeting, all the local officials concerned explained their offices’ requirements.

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Top photo shows municipal Assessor Bonerson Ganal (in podium), Mayor Nora Modomo in the center and the rest of Sta Ignacia Officials. Lower photo shows the Sta Ignacia Officials and Poultry-Piggery growers in the Municipality.

Tarlac hog growers losing P180-M monthly

Tarlac City, Tarlac–The province of Tarlac is still ASF free. But while that in itself is a feat, hog growers are hurting as they are losing money each day.

Sherwin Chua, a veterinarian and a member of the Tarlac Association of Swine and Poultry Raisers, Inc., in an interview, stressed that despite the province’s ASF-free status, they are selling at a loss, contrary to people’s impression that Tarlac hog growers are making money because the province is still ASF free and thus can sell or market at any part of the country. Chua laments that the decision of some LGUs to close their borders even for pass-through (or transit) of their trucks at the national highway is unjust and has created a trade imbalance. Particularly, he said Tarlac growers cannot reach their second major market which is Baguio and other areas in the north because Pangasinan closed the entire province from entry and even transit of live and slaughtered hogs even from ASF-free areas. He said that while they can pass through TPLEX, they are not allowed to traverse the 10-Km Pangasinan part of MacArthur Highway in order to reach La Union, Benguet, and most especially Baguio City. In effect, Pangasinan was able to stop the free trade and made itself the only major source of pork for the north (La Union, Benguet, Baguio, and Ilocos).

This is same situation with Bataan, which closed its borders, in effect preventing Tarlac growers to reach Olongapo and SBMA that do not have hogs industry to speak of.

But Baguio is a major concern because it has very few backyard growers and no commercial growers. It has to be noted that Baguio gets most of its pork requirements from

Pangasinan and Tarlac, but since Pangasinan closed itself from transit of hogs, it has now become the only major pork source of Baguio. Sources said that prices

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Tarlac City gets first ‘Good Governance’ award

Tarlac City - - “Bunga ito ng disente, masinop at walang korapsyon na pamamalakad ngayon sa lungsod.”

Thus said Mayor Cristy Angeles upon receiving the first “Seal of Good Local Governance” (SGLG) award from the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) in a ceremony held at the Manila Hotel last November 5.

SGLG is a “meticulous performance evaluation” conducted annually by the DILG to all local government units, towns, cities and provinces.

The evaluation covers “3 core or basic aspects and 4 essential elements on local government management” foremost of which is the “good financial housekeeping”.

It was launched in 2010 by the late DILG secretary Jessie Robredo as a “means to deter LGU officials from mismanaging their finances and minimize graft and corruption and to professionalize the administration of local governance.”

“When I took over in 2016, the city financial condition is a big mess. The fiscal deficit is more than P103 Million, the loans payable was around P600 Million, tax collection is very low, assets of the city are not earning and many were ‘sold out’ thru ir-

regular contracts. Many records are missing. Funds are released for other purpose without the approval from the SP (Sanggunian Panlungsod). Basic services to the people are not adequately provided, etc, etc. Thus we worked very hard to correct the total mismanagement of the city”, said Mayor Cristy Angeles, the first ever lady mayor of the city.

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LG Komentaryo Isang Palaisipan

Basahin at intindihin ang renewable energy act. Sa mga susunod na issue ay iisahin natin ang nilalaman nito at mga iba’t-ibang bagay patungkol na rin sa issuance at compliance ng ECC

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Almost 15K barangays cleared of illegal drugs: PDEA (read on page 7)

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- Call for action!?

BY: FREDDIE J. FARRES (Guest columnist)



MAGKASANGGA TAYO

Panahon na para ipursigi ang SOLAR POWER!!! (Part 1)

BY: NESTOR CASTRO



HATAW NA KAIBIGAN

The Best Talaga ang TARELCO 1 (Part 1)

BY: ROLDAN RAMOS



PRO 3 out to regain public trust- new Regional Director

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga -- Police Regional Office 3 (PRO 3) will implement several measures to regain public trust following recent controversies facing the service branch.

"Shaping public perception in favor of the Philippine National Police (PNP) remains a big challenge. Believe me or not, when the public is more suspicious with the police we can hardly accomplish half of the task at hand. Thus in order to meet the requisites on internal cleansing, several measures will be implemented," Newly-installed PRO 3 Acting Regional Director PGen. Rhodel O. Sermonia said during Tuesday's Assumption of Command Ceremony.

First is the establishment of a "Red Team" in every province which is going to be supervised by senior officers.

"The point is, I will rather catch you doing good than catch you flat footed doing the bad things. That will be the job of the Red Team. They will not only catch crooked policemen and women but also ensure that all programs will be properly implemented and felt by the people because that is the only way we can measure our accomplishment," he said.

Second, PRO 3 will implement an Open-Door Policy for all police stations adhering totally to the tenets of transparency to win the hearts and minds of the people.

"Our desks (at police stations) must be Police-Community Relations meaning we serve and protect the people with smile and confidence," he furthered.

Sermonia said he is going to start this Open-Door Policy in the Regional Headquarters in Camp Olivas.

"The Office of the Regional Director will be open 24/7. I made this during my stint at Police-Community Relations Group. I will see to it that there is a personnel on duty at my office to accept and entertain our kababayans 24/7," he stressed.

And lastly, the Regional and Provincial Mobile Forces will be utilized to augment in community engagement activities.

"All mobile forces will be doing police-community relations works in support to End Local Communist Armed Conflict, in support to the Anti-Criminality Programs, and in support to the War against Drugs," Sermonia said.

A member of Philippine Military Academy Makatao Class of 1989, Sermonia previously served as Deputy Director of the Directorate for Police Community Relations and Director of Police-Community Relations Group.

He replaced PGen. Joel Napoleon M. Coronel who is the new head of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group.

PNP Officer-In-Charge PLT. Gen. Archie Francisco F. Gamboa served as presiding officer of the Assumption of Command Ceremony. (CLJD-PIA 3)

Tarlac City gets... from page 1

used in the renovation of the Uptown Public Market.

"Saan ka naman nakakita na ang pambili ng electric fans ng munisipyo inutang sa bangko at ang halaga ng isang buckhoe-loader P14.7 Million," commented a barangay official on Manalang administration who requested to be anonymous.

According to the Commission on Audit (COA) 2016 Report, Manalang has almost P30 Million in "disbursement disallowances" or questionable expenses.

It was also said the budget allotted for financial assistance to Senior Citizens, scholarship funds,

Renewable Energy Act... from page 8

pursuant to Presidential Decree No. 334, as amended;

(nn) "Power applications" refer to renewable energy systems or facilities that produce electricity;

(oo) "Registered RE Developer" refers to a RE Developer duly registered with the DOE;

(pp) "Renewable Energy (Systems) Developers" or "RE Developers" refer to individual/s or a group of individuals formed in accordance with existing Philippine Laws engaged in the exploration, development and utilization of RE resources and actual operation of RE systems/facilities;

(qq) "Renewable Energy Market" (REM) refers to the market where the trading of the RE certificates equivalent to an amount of power generated from RE resources is made;

(rr) "Renewable Energy Policy Framework" (REPF) refers to the long-term policy developed by the DOE which identifies among others, the goals and targets for the development and utilization of renewable energy in the country;

(ss) "Renewable Portfolio Standards" refer to a market-based policy that requires electricity suppliers to source an agreed portion of their energy supply from eligible RE resources;

Philhealth card for indigents, among others, were diverted to other purposes without the approved re-alignment resolution from the SP.

"We are very proud of the SGLG award. This is the fruit of decent, prudent and corruption-free management of the city today," said Atty. Joselito Castro.

Castro, the chief of the city legal office, led the filing of several cases in courts

against the "anomalous contracts" executed during the previous administration and a corruption case against Manalang among which is the petition to invalidate the "onerous" lease contract of Paliparan Central Market Corporation over the Uptown Market.

The SGLG award makes an LGU eligible to avail of special projects and programs funded by the national government. Meaning, LGUs without SGLG are not allowed to be recipients of some national projects.

Tarlac Hog Growers... from page 1

of pork in Baguio has been skyrocketing because of lack of supply. Chua said that this act of the Pangasinan LGU has affected not only the Tarlac growers but Baguio consumers as well. Other industry players describe such as a "selfish" move in the guise of protecting its hog industry.

When asked if the Tarlac hog growers are getting enough support from the government, Chua said that the DILG has given directives to the LGUs to allow transit of hogs from ASF-free areas, but such has allegedly been ignored.

So what is being done now for Tarlac to remain ASF-free?

Chua said for the province to remain ASF-free, it takes very close coordination and cooperation between government and private groups and individuals. He said the very first thing being done now is serious and honest to goodness checkpoints, in which the Tarlac Association of Swine and Poultry Raisers, Inc. has

(tt) "Renewable Energy Service (Operating) Contract (RE Contract)" refers to the service agreement between the Government, through the DOE, and RE Developer over a period in which the RE Developer has the exclusive right to a particular RE area for exploration and development. The RE Contract shall be divided into two (2) stages: the pre-development stage and the development/commercial stage. The preliminary assessment and feasibility study up to financial closing shall refer to the pre-development stage. The construction and installation of facilities up to operation phase shall refer to the development stage;

(uu) "Renewable Energy Resources" (RE Resources) refer to energy resources that do not have an upper limit on the total quantity to be used. Such resources are renewable on a regular basis, and whose renewal rate is relatively rapid to consider availability over an indefinite period of time. These include, among others, biomass, solar, wind, geothermal, ocean energy, and hydropower conforming with internationally accepted norms and standards on dams, and other emerging renewable energy technologies;

(vv) "Renewable Energy Systems" (RE Systems) refer to energy systems which convert RE resources into useful energy forms, like electrical, mechanical, etc.;

(ww) "Rural Electrification" refers to the delivery of basic electricity services, consisting of power generation, sub-transmission, and/or extension of associated power delivery system that would bring about important social and economic benefits to the countryside;

(xx) "Solar Energy" refers to the energy derived from solar radiation that can be converted into useful thermal or electrical energy;

(yy) "Solar Energy Systems" refer to energy systems which convert solar energy into thermal or electrical energy;

(zz) "Small Power Utilities Group" (SPUG) refers to the functional unit of the NPC mandated under Republic Act No. 9136 to pursue missionary electrification function;

(aaa) "Supplier" refers to any person or entity authorized by the ERC to sell, broker, market or aggregate electricity to the end-users;

(bbb) "Transmission of Electricity" refers to the conveyance of electric power through transmission lines as defined under Republic Act No. 9136 by TRANSCO or its buyer/concessionaire in accordance with its franchise and Republic Act No. 9136;

(ccc) "Wind Energy" refers to the energy that can be derived from wind that is converted into useful electrical or mechanical energy;

(ddd) "Wind Energy Systems" refer to the machines or other related equipment that convert wind energy into useful electrical or mechanical energy;

(eee) "Wholesale Electricity Spot Market" (WESM) refers to the wholesale electricity spot market created pursuant to Republic Act No. 9136;

-to be continued-

"The SGLG award is proof that we are in the right track. Now we are able to provide more services to the people and more projects and programs without resorting to loans. The employees of the city are now much more responsive and professional. But we shall still strive to be more efficient, prudent and competent to better serve the city populace," added the feisty lady mayor.

Last year only 6 towns of the province's 18 LGUs were awarded the SGLG.

This year 9 Tarlac LGUs are SGLG recipients which are Tarlac City, Gerona, Moncada, Sta. Ignacia, Capas, Pura, San Clemente, San Jose and Victoria.

A DILG notice says, "national recognition plus a higher cash awards, to finance development projects, await an SGLG Recipient"./Nelson Bolos



Mayor Cristy Angeles and top city officials receive the first ever Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) award of Tarlac City at the DILG awarding ceremony held in Manila Hotel, November 5, 2019. The SGLG was bestowed to the city "as a result of Mayor Angeles' sound financial management and professionalization of the city's administration". (Nelson Bolos)

been actively supporting and funding. He added currently, the province has 24 checkpoints manned by Department of Agriculture (DA) and private volunteers. Their group, he said, is spending Php500K monthly to sustain these checkpoints.

Next is the cooperation and participation of the backyard growers. Swill feeding should be stopped, and proper and strict biosecurity should be observed. The public should also participate by cooking their pork at 70 °C for 30 minutes.

Economic implications

But what is really for the public, for the consumers, for the non-hog farmers? Why should they care? Chua further explained that everyone is affected by this ASF crisis. While the major blow is with hog growers and backyard raisers, the long term effect goes all the way down to the rice, and corn farmers, because these are major raw materials for feeds. Sale of veterinary products will also suffer. If the piggeries cannot sell, they would soon reduce their capacity of might even close

down in which feeds manufacturing would also slow down, and the farmers could no longer sell their corn and darak among others.

Thus, Chua and the rest of the industry players are seeking the help and support of everyone to keep TarlacASF-free for the sake of the whole province.

Tarlac is the third swine producer in Luzon next to Batangas and Bulacan, having a capacity of 700,000. But Tarlac has the most number of commercial growers (90%) with only 10% backyard raisers. This, Chua said is also contributory to the province's ASF-free status to date.

And where did the 180-M monthly loss come from? As it is now, Tarlac growers are selling at a loss of Php 2,000 to Php 3,000 per head (some even lower) just to dispose off their inventory. Chua said if only Tarlaquenos go back to eating pork (well, while it is cheap), it will be a very big help for the industry and for the local and national economy as well./BDF

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12 Pampanga, Tarlac MSMEs receive Halal Certification

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga -- A total of 12 micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) from the provinces of Pampanga and Tarlac received their Halal certification from Department of Science and Technology (DOST).

Halal is an assurance of quality, safety, hygiene and cleanliness. It also demands services with safe, wholesome and hygienic properties similar to food safety objectives.

"DOST launched its S&T Program to fulfill its commitment on the implementation and promotion of Halal programs in order

to boost the development of the Halal industry in the Philippines," DOST Regional Director Julius Caesar V. Sicat said.

Newly certified MSMEs include Mica by the Sea Company, Potter's Hand Processed Food, TGA Foods Corporation, Upventures Corporation (Eat Special), Aiza's Sweets, Emy's Sweets and Pastries, Bea's Homemade Peanut Butter, Urdu Restaurant and Bakeshop, RP Corpus Sales Enterprises, JSJ Goat Farm and JEGEN SWE Enterprises.

These entrepreneurs were compliant to the Halal standards in terms of sourcing

raw materials, preparation and packaging of their products.

Also, packaging of Agro-based and herbal products, processing of goat milk, feeding management of live goat or no blood meal, and slaughtering procedures.

"These were duly certified by the Muslim Mindanao Halal Certification Board after the conduct of thorough inspection, evaluation, and scrutiny in accordance with Islamic Laws and Guide-

lines of the board," he added.

DOST continuously helps MSMEs on their concerns on products, process and productivity improvement through its Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program or SETUP.

It is a member of the Halal Board as stated in Section 7 of Republic Act 10817 otherwise known as the Philippine Halal Export Development and Promotion Act of 2016. (CLJD/CJFV-PIA 3)



President Duterte Calls... from page 7

through the full and effective implementation of the ASEAN-China Free Trade Area (ACFTA)," he said.

"We welcome China's continued support for ASEAN's efforts to narrow the development gap among ASEAN Member States."

ASEAN and China, he said, share a common interest in preserving and protecting free trade and upholding the rules-based multilateral trading system embodied in the World Trade Organization (WTO).

All parties should reaffirm their commitment to intensifying efforts to conclude the negotiations on a modern, comprehensive, high-quality, and mutually beneficial Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) as soon as possible, he noted.

The President also welcomed China's proposal for closer partnership with ASEAN on the blue economy, tasking officials to continue studying the proposal.

PND



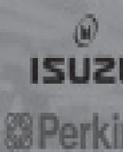
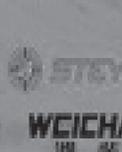
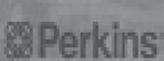
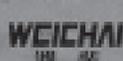
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Happy Birthday Danilo "Boy" Baylon

October 29, 2019



Bad start for Leni

By: Ninez Cacho-Olivares (tribune.net.ph)

Will Leni also take responsibility and accountability for any increase in the smuggling of drugs, the proliferation of the drug lords and the loss of lives of police and other anti-illegal drug agents?

Now that Vice President Leni Robredo has accepted her appointment as President Duterte's "Drug Czar" and for her to lead the drug war, she is now portraying herself as yet another "political martyr" under the Duterte administration.

In accepting her new post, Robredo succeeded in showing herself as more of a shrew even as she plays martyr; as she was quoted as saying, "Even if we say that the offer was mere politicking and the government agencies will not follow me and they will do everything for me not to succeed, I'm ready to bear all of these. Because if I can save one innocent life, my principles and heart are telling me I should give it a try."

The Vice President should have been more careful with her words, especially when they pertain to the officers, the rank and file she will have to work with, if she intends to succeed in her new post as the drug czarina.

Instead, Leni already gave the government agencies of which she would be in charge of, and obviously in charge too of their personnel, a grave insult, as she had already prejudged them, saying that these agencies and the employees will do everything to make her fail at her new job, although she claims she is ready to "bear" all of these for the sake of saving one innocent life.

Quit the dramatics, Leni. It doesn't work.

Clearly, Leni is not fit to take on the job, and it certainly is not a good beginning for her and the concerned inter-governmental agencies, as well as their employees.

So, pray tell, Leni, do you think you lifted the spirits of the heads and the employees of the offices you will be heading with your early condemnation and your distrust of them?

A good and competent boss never disparages her people. She needs them to succeed because the truth is, she can't do the job alone. Nobody can — unless of course, being a yellow type and knowing that she would fail miserably at her new job, Leni is already preparing for her imminent failure, and no doubt, lay the blame on the officers and personnel's lack of cooperation, as well as Duterte.

She would be pointing to the heads of the inter-governmental agencies against illegal drugs as the reason for her failed attempts to stop the drug war; or, as she herself put it, she would end up saying that she bore all the slings and arrows for the one life she has saved.

But if, as head of the entire inter-agencies against narcotics, a lot more die due to a firefight between law enforcers and drug dealers, will she throw the book at the law enforcers, even when proved that the police acted in self defense?

Robredo did say that in her intention to curb drug killings, she would hold accountable not only drug smugglers, large-scale traffickers and "ninja cops" who recycle illegal drugs, but also those behind rights abuses in waging the war.

But will Leni also take responsibility and accountability for any increase in the smuggling of drugs, the proliferation of the drug lords and the loss of lives of police and other anti-illegal drug agents?

The heads of the Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Illegal Drugs (ICAD) should bare to the public the official death figures and the steps they have made in curbing the smuggling of drugs and the stoppage of drug distribution, as the yellows are known to take credit for something they never achieved on their own.

Robredo also made clear that her appointment as co-chair of ICAD would not stop her from criticizing the administration's wrong policies, something which no Cabinet ranked official should do — at least not in public.

She can, of course, raise her objections in Cabinet meetings or in private meetings with the President, but apparently, Leni will also be using her new position to hit out at Duterte some more — and evidently, to make herself look good.

In accepting her appointment, Leni was quoted as saying, "The President knows my position on the drug war. I'm against the killings of the innocent. I'm against abusive officials. He knows my criticisms. He knows what I would like to fix."



KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Kabaliwan ng isip, dulot ng kawalan ng takot sa Diyos



BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO

INSPIRASYON SA BUHAY: "... Hindi ko ikinahihiya ang Mabuting Balita sapagkat ito ang kapangyarihan ng Diyos sa ikaliligtas ng bawat sumasampalataya..." (Roma 1:16, Bibliya).

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NATASHA GOULBORN FOUNDATION, MABUTI ANG LAYUNIN SA MGA KABATAAN: Sang-ayon ako sa layunin ng isang grupong ang pangalan ay Natasha Goulborn Foundation + Mindstrong na turuan ang mga kabataang Pilipino ng mga paraan upang maging matatag ang kanilang mga kaisipan at tuloy makaiwas sa pagkabalih at litong pag-iisip, at sa pagpapakamatay dahil lamang sa mga problema nila sa buhay.

Tunay nga, may pangangailangang magabayan ang mga kabataang Pilipino. Ayon sa mga ulat, higit sa isang milyong mga kanila ang nakakaranan ng depresyon o ng pagkakaroon ng kaisipang nagbibigay ng matinding lungkot at pighati, na kadalasan ay nauwi sa pagpapatiwakal o pananakit sa kanilang sarili, o sa mga malalapit sa kanila, lalo na kung hindi na nila makayanan ang bigat ng kanilang mga suliranin.

Tama ito, pero, maliban sa pagtulong sa mga kabataan upang maibsan ang kanilang mga problema, kailangang suriin ding mabuti ng Natasha Goulborn Foundation + Mindstrong ang dahilan kung bakit nagkakaroon ng depresyon, pagkabalih, at kalituhan sa isip, ang mga batang Pilipino. Batay sa kalalabasan ng pagsusuri, marapat ding magsulong ito ng akmang solusyon na tatapos sa problema at magpapatatag sa mga kabataan.

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KABALIWAN NG ISIP NG TAO, BUNGA NG KAWALAN NG TAKOT SA DIYOS: Aking ipinapanukala ang pag-aaral ng koneksiyon, kung mayroon man, sa pagitan ng depresyon, pagkabalih, at pagkalito ng isip di na lamang ng mga kabataan kundi pati na ng kanilang mga magulang at iba pang matatanda ng mamamayan, at ng maliwanag na kawalan na ng marami sa atin ng pagkilala, takot, at pagmamahal sa Diyos.

Nakasulat kasi sa Bibliya ang isang mabigat na pahayag: ang kabaliwan, pagkalito, o pagkawala ng isip at katinuan, ay isang sumpang nagmumula sa Diyos. Sabi sa Deuteronomio 28:28, "Padadalhan kayo ng Diyos ng kabaliwan, ng pagkalito, at pagkawala ng katinuan..." Kung pag-aaralang mabuti ang bersikulong ito, tiyak

Leni dared her critics to be ready as she takes the helm of the anti-narcotics campaign, with her saying, "This drug war issue is not something to be taken lightly. This is a serious matter as lives are at stake here. They asked me if I'm ready for this job. I'm returning the question to them. Are you ready for me?" she said.

Careful, Leni. You may just have to eat your words.

She stressed that "if he (Duterte) thinks I'll accept (the job) and I'll keep silent, he is wrong."

It should also be added, if Leni thinks she can do the job right, she is wrong.

na takot ang lulukob sa mag-aaral kasi Diyos mismo ang sinasabing gumagawa ng paraan upang mabaliw o masiraan ng ulo ang tao.

Ano naman kaya ang dahilan ng Diyos at Siya mismo ang kikilos upang mabaliw at masiraan ng ulo ang tao? Ayon din sa Dueteronomio 28 sa kaniyang bersikulo 15, gagawin ito ng Diyos sa tao dahil hindi na siya nakikinig sa Kaniyang tinig at hindi na sumusunod sa Kaniyang mga utos. Mabigat ang pahayag na ito ng Bibliya, kasi ang sabi, hindi titigil ang mga sumpa ng Diyos sa pagkabalih at pagkalito ng isip ng mga tao hanggang hindi sila namamatay.

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AND KNK: MAKINIG AT SUMUNOD SA BIBLIYA: Sa amin sa Simbahang Anak ng Diyos Kadugo Ni Kristo (AND KNK), kinikilala namin na ang puspusang pag-aaral ng Bibliya at ang matapat na pagsunod sa mga utos ng Diyos na nakasulat sa Bibliya ang natatanging paraan upang labanan ang kabaliwan, kalituhan, pagkasira ng isip, at pagkakaroon ng depresyon. Sa totoo lang, ang pakikinig at pagsunod sa mga Salita ng Diyos ay nagdudulot din ng kasaganaan at katagum[ayan].

Ang ganitong pananaw namin sa AND KNK ay nakasandal sa aming marubdob na paniniwala na ang isang tao na isinasandal ang lahat sa kaniyang buhay sa Diyos at sa Kaniyang Salita ay nagkakaroon ng talino, kapangyarihan, karangyaan, at katagumpayan sa buhay. Nagkakaroon kasi ang ganitong tao ng unawa kung ano ang mabuti at masama, at kung ano ang magdudulot sa kaniya ng kapahamakan (na dapat na niyang iwasan agad), o ng kabutihan (na dapat niyang isulong).

Dahil dito, naiwasan ng isang tao ang kalungkutan sa isip. Naiwasan din niya ang mabigat na dalahin sa kanyang konsiyensiya at sa kanyang dibdib. Nagiging magaan ang kaniyang pakiramdam, nagiging maayos ang daloy ng kaniyang dugo sa kaniyang mga ugat, nagiging payapa ang kaniyang mga laman at iba pang mga bahagi ng kaniyang katawan. Ang dulot nito ay kalusugang magdadagdag ng mga araw sa kaniyang buhay, at kalakasang kumayod upang kumita ng husto. Ayaw niyo ba yun?

-000-

REAKSIYON? Tawag po sa 0977 805 9058, 0918 574 0193, 0933 8251308 o sa aking Messenger account sa Facebook: Melanio Lazo Mauricio Jr. Email: batasmauricio@yahoo.com, mmauriciojr111@gmail.com. Maaari din po kayong mag-post ng inyong mga reaksiyon sa aking Facebook page, www.facebook.com/attybatas.

Magsumbong sa Weekender!

>Meron ba kayong issue na matagal nang pinapasin?

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The Best Talaga ang TARELCO 1 (Part 1)

BY: ROLDAN RAMOS



Bago isipin ng aking mga mahal na mambabasa na ako ay isang sip sip B ___ sa Tarelco 1 o isipin na ako ay isang bayarin ng Tarelco 1, o spokesman ng Tarelco 1, sa totoo lang ay kung sabihin sa Ingles ay nothing could be farther from the truth. Sa totoo lang ay nai-impress kasi ako sa mga nakasulat sa Tarelco 1 Primer (Know Your Electric Cooperative) kung saan gusto kong talakayin ng bahagya.

Una sa lahat ay nais kong linawin base sa aking pagkakaintindi na ang Tarelco 1 ay hindi isang tunay na kooperatiba (Cooperative) at base sa depinisyon ni Propesor Google ang Cooperative ay: adjective: cooperative; **involving mutual assistance in working toward a common goal.”every member has clearly defined tasks in a cooperative enterprise”; noun: cooperative; a farm, business, or other organization which is owned and run jointly by its members, who share the profits or benefits.**

Sa palagay ba ninyo na ang depinisyon na ito ay ukma o katulad halimbawa sa inyong nakikita o nararanasan sa Tarelco 1? Kaya siguro maari nating matawag o makonsidera na isang pseudo cooperative o isang hilaw na kooperatiba ang Tarelco 1. Mabuti pa ang Tarlac Electric Company (TEI) ay hindi nagsabi na sila ay kooperatiba at malinaw sa pangalan pa lamang na isa siyang pribadong kompanya. Bagamat aking napag alaman na ang Tarelco 1 ay nagkaroon ng isang referendum noong taong 2015 kung saan pinapili ang kanyang mga consumer/customers-members kung ano ang nais nilang maging, base sa mga sumusunod: (1) tunay na kooperatiba, ito ay maisasagawa sa pag-rehistro at pagsasailalim sa Cooperative Development Authority (CDA); o (2) Hilaw o pseudo cooperative (ito ay sa pag-rehistro sa National Electrification Administration); o (3) isang pribadong kompanya sa pag-rerehistro sa Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).

Tunay na nakalulungkot at ang pinili “**daw**” ng mga miyembro ay magparehistro sa NEA (**kapani-paniwalang ba ba talaga???**). Sa tutuo lang ay maraming mga bagay bagay sa ating lipunan na kapag hindi na-ipaliwanag ng tama at husto sa mamamayan ay maaaring hindi makapamilya ng tama ang mga miyembro dala ng lack of information o misinformation na sinasabi. Hindi ba at nakikita natin ito ng madalas every 3 years sa ating halalan kung saan ang isang maayos at tapat na kandidato ay hindi nahahalal dala ng kakulangan ng pondo at iba pa? Kaya the **SAD NEWS** is sa taong 2025 pa ang susunod na referendum kung saan sa aking paniniwala ay kapag naipaliwanag sa mga concerned consumers kung ano ba talaga ang mga benepisyong na kanilang makakamit kung ang Tarelco 1 ay magiging isang tunay na kooperatiba kung saan magkakaroon ng isang malakas na boses at magandang say sa mga polisiya etc... ang mga consumer-members ng kooperatiba; aayawan ba yan ng mga consumer ng Tarelco 1? Isang katanungan na yan na kung aking sasagutin din ay kung tawagin sa ingles ay isang **“no brainer” of course the consumers/customer-members will choose to become an honest to goodness cooperative under the CDA, run by the people (consumers/customers-members) and for the benefit of the people (consumers/customers-members).**

#####

Balikan natin kung bakit ko nasabi na The Best ang Tarelco 1, ito ay base lamang sa nakasaad sa inside front page cover ng kanilang Primer ang mga sumusunod: **VISION** - The Excellent electric power industry player geared for global competitiveness; **MISSION** - To sustain the rural electrification program and to provide the best customer care through world class service and distinctive performance; **CORPORATE COMMITMENT** - To exceed internationally accepted business standards through uncompromised integrity; **CORPORATE VALUES/VIRTUES**- Courage, Honesty/Hardwork, Responsibility, Integrity, Solidarity/ Selfless Love, Trustworthiness, Discipline, Knowledge, Initiative, Nobility, Godliness *****

Napakagandang basahin ang mga nakasaad sa Primer ng Tarelco 1, ngunit ang tanong ko ay ito ba ay mga salitang palamuti lamang o mga salitang inimpenta lamang sa kanilang primer na walang saysay at kung sabihin sa ingles ay **“empty meaningless words”?** Ating aalamin ang kasagutan sa aking katanungan na yan sa mga susunod na kolum ko at sa mga impormasyon na ating ilalabas sa pahayagan na ito at sa ating mga affiliates (print, radio and social media). **Vaya Con Diyos !!!**

Sta Ignacia Mayor meets... from page 1

Municipal Assessor Bonerson Ganal emphasized the need to declare all improvements and equipment installed in the farms so as to avoid penalties and sanctions. He said that there are farms who just add build-

ings and install equipment without getting the necessary permits and without declaring them, to the detriment of the municipality. The municipality will no longer tolerate such practices, he stressed.

Mina Martin of Municipal Planning also stressed that

Panahon na para ipursigi ang SOLAR POWER!!! (Part 1)

BY: NESTOR “PAKEN” CASTRO



Alam niyo ba mga dear readers ang hinggil sa Anapakagandang benepisyong na naidudulot ng solar energy para tayo ay makatipid ng malaki sa ating buwanan na electric bills? Siyempre, sa una ay maglalabas tayo ng konting capital o gastusin para maikabit ang sistema sa inyong gusali. Ang maganda nito ay kapag nabawi na ninyo ang konting ipinuhunan sa pagpapakabit ng solar power system ay lalabas na makakalibre na kayo sa inyong koryente at maari pa na magkaroon kayo ng surplus generated power (o sobra sa inyong panga-ngailangan) ng sa ganoon ay babayaran pa kayo ng Distribution Utility o yung kooperatiba (pseudo cooperative ang mga iba sa kanila) na nagpaparating (distributor) sa atin ng koryente.

Alam ba ninyo na mayroon ng batas noon pang 2008, ang RA 9513 also known as the Renewable Energy Act kung saan tayong mga consumer ay mayroon ng karapatan na magpakabit ng isang solar power. At base sa enerhiya na ating mage-generate mula sa ating solar power system ay bibilhin sa atin ito ng distribution utility (katulad ng TARELCO 1). Ito ay sinasabi sa batas na sinasabi na NET METERING kung saan ang enerhiya na ating nalilikum sa araw araw ay konektado sa grid o yung linya ng koryente mismo. Mayroong metro kung saan nasusukat ang enerhiya (power) na ating nage-generate o naha-harvest mula sa araw (sun).

Ganito ang isang halimbawa nito. Kung ang monthly bill mo halimbawa ay P5,000 per month at ang nage-generate ng iyong solar power system ay P4,000 worth of energy (base sa power generation charge ng iyong DU), ibabawas ng distribution utility (DU) sa bill mo na P5K ang nage-generate mo na P4K kaya ang bill mo ay magiging P1K na lamang. Ito ay hindi gimmick at matagal ng ginagawa sa mga ibang mauunlad na bansa katulad ng Amerika, mga bansa sa Europa at pati na rin sa Asia katulad sa kasalukuyan, sa Vietnam ay napakalawak na ng pag gamit ng kanilang mga mamamayan ang solar power systems na kadalasan ang solar panels ay nakakabit sa bubong ng kanilang mga bahay o gusali.

Kamakailan lamang ay nag-desisyon ang aming NGO, ang Linis Gobyerno (www.linisgobyerno.org) kung saan ang manunulat na ito ay ang Director For Anti Graft and Corrupt Practices, na bibigyan na ng malawakang importansya ang renewable energy. Magsasagawa ang ating grupo ng isang malawakang information drive and campaign kung saan kasama dito ang related support services katulad ng mga alternatibo, mga pamamaraan sa pag set up ng solar system, mga propesyonal na serbisyo at kinaukulang financing o financial services para makapag set-up kayo ng isang solar power generation system. Maliban dito ay ang grupo natin ang siyang magbibigay ng liaison services (serbisyo sa paglalakad) mula sa distribution utility (BENECO) at sa Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC) kung saan ang ERC ang mag bibigay ng permit sa isang gusali o indibidwal na maka pag sagawa ng sinasabing NET METERING with the Distribution Utility. Basahin ang probisyon ng batas hinggil dito:

RA 9513 also known as the Renewable Energy Act of 2008, Section 10. Net-metering for Renewable Energy. - Subject to technical considerations and without discrimination and upon request by distribution end-users, the distribution utilities shall enter into net-metering agreements with qualified end-users who will be installing RE system.

The ERC, in consultation with the NREB and the electric power industry participants, shall establish net metering interconnection standards and pricing methodology and other commercial arrangements necessary to ensure success of the net-metering for renewable energy program within one (1) year upon the effectivity of this Act.

The distribution utility shall be entitled to any Renewable Energy Certificate resulting from net-metering arrangement with the qualified end-user who is using an RE resource to provide energy and the distribution utility shall be able to use this RE certificate in compliance with its obligations under RPS.

The DOE, ERC, TRANSCO or its successors-in-interest, DUs, PEMC and all relevant parties are hereby mandated to provide the mechanisms for the physical connection and commercial arrangements necessary to ensure the success of the Net-metering for Renewable Energy program, consistent with the Grid and Distribution Codes.”

the municipality’s Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP) that was approved in 2017 is already being fully implemented. This municipal CLUP identified only 4 barangays where poultry and piggery are allowed. These barangays are: Santa Ines East, Santa Ines Centro, Santa Ines West, and Padapada. Thus she said those poultries and piggeries that are not in the zoned areas

for such purpose were given 10-year phase-out period, which means within 10 years from receipt of notice, they should transfer to areas with proper zoning or close down their operations.

Compliance with SSS, PhilHealth and Pag-ibig was also mentioned. The mayor gave strict instructions to the Permits and Licensing office not to accept “to follow” excuses of business

FASTRACK

- African Swine Fever (ASF) is serious!!!
- Call for action!?

BY: FREDDIE FARRES



African Swine Fever (ASF) is serious - The Tarlac Hog Raisers and the hog industry in general is going through one dire and serious crisis. Apparently, the agencies of government tasked to conduct the needed information drive on the ASF issue have failed and failed miserably, why do I say so? Just look at the demand for pork despite of its reduced price, mahina instead of lumakas given na bumaba na ang presyo more so in other areas outside Tarlac. It has been made clear repeatedly so on and so forth that the ASF is not transferrable to humans. What the effing assurance do people want to hear or know about it? Totoong hindi nakakahawa sa tao ang ASF, so bakit mahina ang demand para sa baboy sa maraming lugar? What is government not doing that it should do when it comes to the needed information campaign and/or drive that it is mandated to do in order to protect the hog industry and its related stakeholders? To my mind, the info drive and information campaign of government (if there is any) is ineffective and is obviously not being taken seriously.

This baseless and unfounded ASF scare has led to the price increase of chicken and related meat items, which is not a good thing as we all know that when pricing of certain considered basic commodities like chicken goes up to the current retail price of P180/per kilo from the former P110 or P120/kg, the demand for chicken will certainly not increase but may even decrease. Kung dati kang bumibili ng tatlo o apat na kilong manok, ngayon isa o dalawang kilo na lang ang bibilhin mo gawa ng taas ng presyo.

While it is not my practice to criticize without offering possible solution(s) or even suggestion(s) on how the information drive should be handled by government, one thing apparent is the failure of effective communication. As they say, for a problem to be solved we must first admit and recognize that there is a problem. Ang problema kasi, lahat ng magagaling sa effective social media and related media campaign ay napapakinabangan lamang tuwing eleksyon. Siguro ito is more than high time now for the concerned hog raising industry practitioners and its related stakeholders (feeds suppliers/manufacturers, corn farmers, end user restaurants, supermarkets etc...) should come up with an effective information drive and get it through the effing thick skulls of some Juan dela Cruz's. There is no better time to patronize pork consumption than right now.

####

Call for action - Government together with the hog industry players should further take decisive action against the controllable aspects of the problem, Number one of which is the continued (importation) smuggling of possibly ASF-contaminated pork products, otherwise unless this is plugged, the eradication of ASF may be forestalled. According to Doc Sherwin Chua the de facto spokesman of the Tarlac Hog Raisers Group, when a similar situation like ours occurred in Korea (Sokor), when the ASF unfounded and baseless scare happened, what the Koreans did was to further patronize pork products in order to help the hog industry. The Koreans have continuously shown their level of patriotism (love of country) and if that is not love of country coupled with plain common sense (I don't know what is). That is why Sokor is what it is today, a highly industrialized, sound and strong economy.

The kind of complacency and bahala na (I am in my comfort zone attitude, why bother) the Pinoys have repeatedly shown is nothing new actually, that is why just look where Sokor and Vietnam are today and look where we are. Baka hindi pa magtagal ay lampasan na rin tayo ng Cambodia at Myanmar.

The question now is, what will the hog industry players and stake holders do, if any (mind you halos lahat tayo stake holder sa industriya na ito).

All concerned should act now!

owners. She said the 3 agencies will have booths at the municipal building on January 8 and 9, 2019 to make it easier for businesses to secure clearances.

Councilor Freddie Bagay urged the growers to be transparent and be responsible in their declarations and the conduct of their business.

Santa Ignacia is second in the province (next to Concepcion) in terms of poultry and piggery industry.

Problems with industry were also brought up like foul smell from piggery and flies from poultry. The industry players said they are

and will continue to resolve the said issues.

The poultry and piggery operators in the municipality thanked the mayor for meeting them early, and laying down her cards. This, in a way gave them a sense of relief that for as long as they comply with rules and regulations, that they don't have to worry about “closure” as other industry players experienced in other areas. They also assured the mayor of full cooperation./BDF

October 31, 2019

Happy Birthday

Ka. EDUARDO V. MANALO

Executive Minister of Iglesia Ni Cristo

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Pahabol na pagbati mula kina Freddie at Bing Farres



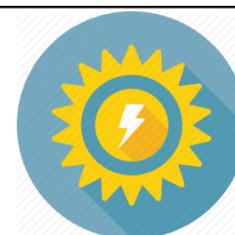
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Ang bawat mambabasa naman ay aming pinapayuhan na maging mapanuri sa kanilang binabasa lalo na sa mga on-line news na kalimitang pinanggalingan ng mga fake news. Mag-fact check parati at basahin ang kabuuan ng balita, hindi lang ang title nito bago i-share.

Sa susunod na issue ay aming namang ihayag at batas tungkol sa Cyber Libel kung saan dapat malaman ng bawat mambabasa bago mag-share ng ano mang balita na nababasa sa internet.

1. I shall scrupulously report and interpret the news, taking care not to suppress essential facts nor to distort the truth by omission or improper emphasis. I recognize the duty to air the other side and the duty to correct substantive errors promptly.
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11. I shall comport myself in public or while performing my duties as journalist in such manner as to maintain the dignity of my profession. When in doubt, decency should be my watchword.

Approved by the Philippines Press Institute, the National Union of Journalists in the Philippines, and the National Press Club in 1988.

MANILA -- The Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) on Thursday reported that 14,922 out of 42,045 barangays in the country are declared cleared from illegal drugs from July 2016 to September 2019 under the Duterte administration's continuing anti-illegal drugs campaign.

PDEA Director General Aaron Aquino said these barangays have reached drug-cleared status after receiving a certification by members of the Oversight Committee on Barangay Drug-Clearing Program.

The Oversight Committee, chaired by PDEA, is composed of provincial representatives of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Health (DOH) and local government units.

Before declaring that a barangay is free from illegal drug activities, the committee must convene and validate the non-availability of drug supply in the area and the absence of drug transit activity, clandestine drug laboratory and chemical warehouse, marijuana cultivation site, drug den, drug pusher and user.

"Once cleared, we monitor newly-declared drug-free barangays to ensure that they will maintain their status. All our efforts will go to waste if we allow the resurgence of illegal drug activities in these areas," Aquino said.

Aquino said PDEA aims to clear 18,712 drug-affected barangays by 2022.

Aquino said that these barangays represent 44.5 percent

out of 42,045 barangays in the country that are still plagued by the drug menace. Out of the 18,712 drug-affected barangays, 7,817 are classified as slightly affected, 10,616 are moderately affected, while 279 barangays are seriously affected.

"PDEA intends to sustain the pace of clearing an average of 6,200 drug-affected barangays every year or 520 barangays every month, for the next three years. The mission of ridding the country's drug problem by 2022 would be a reality," Aquino said.

There are three basic parameters in determining barangay drug-affectation: slightly affected, moderately affected, and seriously affected. Barangays are considered slightly affected if there is a reported presence of drug user/s; moderately affected if there is a reported presence of drug pusher/s and/or user/s; and seriously affected if there is a reported presence of any of the following: clandestine drug laboratory, warehouse, marijuana plantation, drug den/tiangge, drug trafficking or smuggling activities, and drug personalities such as users, pushers, financiers, protectors, cultivators, manufacturers and others.

The National Capital Region (NCR) has the highest rate of barangay drug-affectation with 72.7 percent, followed by Region 7 (Central Visayas) at 72.4 percent; Region 5 (Bicol Region) at 68.9 percent; Region 3 (Central Luzon) at 63.6 percent; and Region 4-A (CALABARZON) at 55.7 percent. The regions least affected by illegal drugs are Cor-

dillera Administrative Region (CAR) at 7.2 percent; Region 8 (Eastern Visayas) at 17.5 percent; and Region 13 (Caraga Region) at 17.7 percent.

Integrated approach

To accelerate efforts against the proliferation of illegal drugs in drug-affected barangays, the government has adopted an integrated approach in securing the assistance of the local government units in drug-clearing operations pursuant to Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) Regulation No. 3 Series of 2017, otherwise known as "Strengthening the Implementation of the Barangay Drug-Clearing Program", which includes the activation of Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Councils (BADACs) in the communities.

For its part, PDEA, as the lead agency against illegal drugs, adopted a three-pronged strategy in the national anti-drug campaign: Supply Reduction, Demand Reduction, and Harm Reduction.

Besides the traditional drug supply and drug demand reduction strategy of the government, PDEA integrated into the campaign a harm-reduction approach to soften the social and economic impact of the drug problem by implementing programs that reduce harms associated with illegal drugs.

To prevent or end drug dependency, PDEA is implementing harm-reduction efforts such as: "Balay Silangan", a community-based reformation program for surrendering drug offenders; Project: "Sagip Batang Solvent", to rescue street children, particularly those hooked on solvent-sniffing; drug test of public transport drivers nationwide, to ensure road safety; and "Drug-Free Workplace Program", to promote a working environment free from the influence of dangerous drugs in business establishments.

"We are gaining ground in freeing every barangay in the country. PDEA will carry on with its aggressive supply reduction operations, and holistic approaches to prevent people from wanting and taking illegal drugs, while offering interventions, thus saving the lives of drug users and surrendering drug pushers," the PDEA chief said. (PNA)

President Duterte calls for self-restraint, binding COC in South China Sea

NONTHABURI, Thailand -- President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on Sunday reiterated his call to all claimants in the South China Sea to exercise self-restraint and refrain from undertaking activities that heighten uncertainty and instability and called for the quick conclusion of a binding code of conduct (COC) for the disputed area.

Land reclamation, militarization of features and paramilitary actions erode trust and confidence among concerned parties and exacerbate tensions in the area, President Duterte said in his intervention during the 22nd ASEAN-China Summit here.

The Philippines, together with other littoral states of the South China Sea, plays a significant role in ensuring and maintaining the South China Sea as a sea of peace, stability, and prosperity through international cooperation, according to the President.

"We are strongly committed to the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC) and to conclude the negotiations of an effective

and substantive Code of Conduct," he said.

"True to its name and nature, we aspire to have a Code that would guide the behavior of states on activities in the South China Sea, in accordance with international law, including the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea."

ASEAN and China agreed on a non-binding DOC in 2002.

The Philippine leader urged ASEAN and China to conclude an effective and substantive Code of Conduct.

If realized, the conclusion of the COC would be one of the most important deliverables for the 30th anniversary of the ASEAN-China relations, he noted.

As Country Coordinator for ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations, President Duterte said the Philippines is committed to push the negotiations forward and keep the momentum going. At the same time, he sought for continuing support for the negotiations and urged all parties to refrain from activities that would derail the process.

"Let us get this job done

sooner than later as we are given the assurance of tranquility of the area," he said.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang led the Chinese delegation during Sunday's ASEAN-China Summit.

ASEAN-China partnership

As the Country Coordinator for ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations, President Duterte also delivered Sunday the ASEAN Common Statement for the ASEAN-China meeting.

ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations is one of the most substantive partnerships between ASEAN and its Dialogue Partners.

ASEAN, the President said, expresses its appreciation to China for its strong support for ASEAN Centrality in the evolving regional architecture. In 2021, ASEAN and China will mark the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-China Dialogue Relations.

Although the regional bloc and China achieved important milestones, there is more work to be done. The President said that ASEAN and China should continue promoting peace, security, stability, and safety in the

South China Sea, freedom of navigation and overflight and pursue peaceful resolution of disputes without resorting to threats or use of force.

ASEAN reaffirms its shared aspiration to conclude an effective and substantive COC within a three-year timeline or earlier.

He also welcomed efforts to promote practical maritime cooperation including in areas such as marine environmental protection.

On trade and commerce, President Duterte acknowledged China as ASEAN's largest trading partner, third largest external source of foreign direct investment (FDI), and an important source of tourists.

"We should continue to strengthen trade, investment, and tourism flows between ASEAN and China, including

continued on page 3

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President Rodrigo Roa Duterte poses for posterity with the leaders from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member countries and the Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China Li Keqiang during the 22nd ASEAN-China Summit at the Impact Exhibition and Convention Center in Nonthaburi, Thailand on November 3, 2019. SIMEON CELI JR./PRESIDENTIAL

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THE RENEWABLE ENERGY ACT OF 2008

Aming i-publish and batas na nagbibigay sa atin ng karapatan na gumamit at mag-produce, ng malinis, libre, at renewable na kuryente (energy) na galing halimbawa sa araw. Basahing maigi ng malaman niyo ang katotohanan.

First Part

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila

Fourteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-eight day of July, two thousand eight.

REPUBLIC ACT No. 9513 December 16, 2008

AN ACT PROMOTING THE DEVELOPMENT, UTILIZATION AND COMMERCIALIZATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

CHAPTER I

TITLE AND DECLARATION OF POLICIES

Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Renewable Energy Act of 2008". It shall hereinafter be referred to as the "Act".

Section 2. Declaration of Policies. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to:

- (a) Accelerate the exploration and development of renewable energy resources such as, but not limited to, biomass, solar, wind, hydro, geothermal and ocean energy sources, including hybrid systems, to achieve energy self-reliance, through the adoption of sustainable energy development strategies to reduce the country's dependence on fossil fuels and thereby minimize the country's exposure to price fluctuations in the international markets, the effects of which spiral down to almost all sectors of the economy;
- (b) Increase the utilization of renewable energy by institutionalizing the development of national and local capabilities in the use of renewable energy systems, and promoting its efficient and cost-effective commercial application by providing fiscal and nonfiscal incentives;
- (c) Encourage the development and utilization of renewable energy resources as tools to effectively prevent or reduce harmful emissions and thereby balance the goals of economic growth and development with the protection of health and the environment; and
- (d) Establish the necessary infrastructure and mechanism to carry out the mandates specified in this Act and other existing laws.

Section 3. Scope. - This Act shall establish the framework for the accelerated development and advancement of renewable energy resources, and the development of a strategic program to increase its utilization.

Section 4. Definition of Terms. - As used in this Act, the following terms are herein defined:

- (a) "Biomass energy systems" refer to energy systems which use biomass resources to produce heat, steam, mechanical power or electricity through either thermochemical, biochemical or physico-chemical processes, or through such other technologies which shall comply with prescribed environmental standards pursuant to this Act;
- (b) "Biomass resources" refer to non-fossilized, biodegradable organic material originating from naturally occurring or cultured plants, animals and micro-organisms, including agricultural products, by-products and residues such as, but not limited to, biofuels except corn, soya beans and rice but including sugarcane and coconut, rice hulls, rice straws, coconut husks and shells, corn cobs, corn stovers, bagasse, biodegradable organic fractions of industrial and municipal wastes that can be used in bioconversion process and other processes, as well as gases and liquids recovered from

materials;

(c) "Board of Investments" (BOI) refers to an attached agency of the Department of Trade and Industry created under Republic Act No. 5186, as amended;

(d) "Co-generation systems" refer to facilities which produce electrical and/or mechanical energy and forms of useful thermal energy such as heat or steam which are used for industrial, commercial heating or cooling purposes through the sequential use of energy;

(e) "Department of Energy" (DOE) refers to the government agency created pursuant to Republic Act No. 7638 whose functions are expanded in Republic Act No. 9136 and further expanded in this Act;

(f) "Department of Environment and Natural Resources" (DENR) refers to the government agency created pursuant to Executive Order No. 192;

(g) "Department of Finance" (DOF) refers to the government agency created pursuant to Executive Order No. 127, as amended;

(h) "Department of Science and Technology" (DOST) refers to the government agency created pursuant to Executive Order No. 128;

(i) "Department of Trade and Industry" (DTI) refers to the government agency created pursuant to Executive Order No. 133;

(j) "Distributed generation" refers to a system of small generation entities supplying directly to the distribution grid, any one of which shall not exceed one hundred kilowatts (100 kW) in capacity;

(k) "Distribution of Electricity" refers to the conveyance of electricity by a Distribution Utility through its distribution system pursuant to the provision of Republic Act No. 9136;

(l) "Distribution Utility" (DU) refers to any electric cooperative, private corporation, government-owned utility or existing local government unit which has an exclusive franchise to operate a distribution system in accordance with its franchise and Republic Act No. 9136;

(m) "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001" or Republic Act No. 9136 refers to the law mandating the restructuring of the electric power sector and the privatization of the National Power Corporation;

(n) "Energy Regulatory Commission" (ERC) refers to the independent quasi-judicial regulatory agency created pursuant to Republic Act No. 9136;

(o) "Generation Company" refers to any person or entity authorized by the ERC to operate facilities used in the generation of electricity;

(p) "Generation Facility" refers to a facility for the production of electricity and/or thermal energy such as, but not limited to, steam, hot or cold water;

(q) "Geothermal energy" as used herein and in the context of this Act, shall be considered renewable and the provisions of this Act is therefore applicable thereto if geothermal energy, as a mineral resource, is produced through: (1) natural recharge, where the water is replenished by rainfall and the heat is continuously produced inside the earth; and/or (2) enhanced recharge, where hot water used in the geothermal process is re-injected into the ground to produce more steam as well as to provide additional recharge to the convection system;

(r) "Geothermal Energy Systems" refer to machines or other equipment that converts geothermal energy into useful power;

(s) "Geothermal Resources" refer to mineral resources, classified as renewable energy resource, in the form of: (i) all products of geothermal processes, embracing indigenous steam, hot water, and hot brines; (ii) steam and other gases, hot water, and hot brines resulting from water, gas, or other fluids artificially introduced into geothermal formations; (iii) heat or associated energy found in geothermal formations; and (iv) any by-product derived from them;

(t) "Government Share" refers to the amount due the National Government and Local Government Units from the exploitation, development, and utilization of naturally-occurring renewable energy resources such as geothermal, wind, solar, ocean and hydro excluding biomass;

(u) "Green Energy Option" refers to the mechanism to em-

the decomposition and/or extraction of non-fossilized and biodegradable organic

power end-users to

choose renewable energy in meeting their energy requirements;

(v) "Grid" refers to the high voltage backbone system of interconnected transmission lines, substations, and related facilities, located in each of Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao, or as may otherwise be determined by the ERC in accordance with Republic Act No. 9136;

(w) "Hybrid Systems" refer to any power or energy generation facility which makes use of two or more types of technologies utilizing both conventional and/or renewable fuel sources, such as, but not limited to, integrated solar/wind systems, biomass/fossil fuel systems, hydro/fossil fuel systems, integrated solar/biomass systems, integrated wind/fossil fuel systems, with a minimum of ten (10) megawatts or ten percent (10%) of the annual energy output provided by the RE component;

(x) "Hydroelectric Power Systems" or "Hydropower Systems" refer to water-based energy systems which produce electricity by utilizing the kinetic energy of falling or running water to turn a turbine generator;

(y) "Hydroelectric Power Development" or "Hydropower Development" refers to the construction and installation of a hydroelectric power-generating plant and its auxiliary facilities, such as diversion structure, headrace, penstock, substation, transmission, and machine shop, among others;

(z) "Hydroelectric Power Resources" or "Hydropower Resources" refer to water resources found technically feasible for development of hydropower projects which include rivers, lakes, waterfalls, irrigation canals, springs, ponds, and other water bodies;

(aa) "Local government share" refers to the amount due the LGUs from the exploitation, development and utilization of naturally-occurring renewable energy resources;

(bb) "Micro-scale Project" refers to an RE project with capacity not exceeding one hundred (100) kilowatts;

(cc) "Missionary Electrification" refers to the provision of basic electricity service in unviable areas with the aim of bringing the operations in these areas to viability levels;

(dd) "National government share" refers to the amount due the national government from the exploitation, development and utilization of naturally-occurring renewable energy resources;

(ee) "National Power Corporation" (NPC) refers to the government corporation created under Republic Act No. 6395, as amended by Republic Act No. 9136;

(ff) "National Transmission Corporation" (TRANSCO) refers to the corporation created pursuant to Republic Act No. 9136 responsible for the planning, construction, and centralized operation and maintenance of high voltage transmission facilities, including grid interconnection and ancillary services;

(gg) "Net Metering" refers to a system, appropriate for distributed generation, in which a distribution grid user has a two-way connection to the grid and is only charged for his net electricity consumption and is credited for any overall contribution to the electricity grid;

(hh) "Non-power applications" refer to renewable energy systems or facilities that produce mechanical energy, combustible products such as methane gas, or forms of useful thermal energy such as heat or steam, that are not used for electricity generation, but for applications such as, but not limited to, industrial/commercial cooling, and fuel for cooking and transport;

(ii) "Ocean Energy Systems" refer to energy systems which convert ocean or tidal current, ocean thermal gradient or wave energy into electrical or mechanical energy;

(jj) "Off-Grid Systems" refer to electrical systems not connected to the wires and related facilities of the On-Grid Systems of the Philippines;

(kk) "On-Grid System" refers to electrical systems composed of interconnected transmission lines, distribution lines, substations, and related facilities for the purpose of conveyance of bulk power on the grid of the Philippines;

(ll) "Philippine Electricity Market Corporation" (PEMC) refers to the Corporation incorporated upon the initiative of the DOE composed of all Wholesale Electricity Spot Market (WESM) Members and whose Board of Directors will be the PEM Board;

(mm) "Philippine National Oil Company" (PNOC) refers to the government agency created