



Hacienda Luisita farmers gather to promote peace, harmony

TARLAC CITY- Farmers of the 11 barangays of Hacienda Luisita gathered to promote peace and harmony as the community marks the 15th anniversary of an infamous massacre in the area.

Balete Punong Barangay Ernesto Pingol said the activity, dubbed as "Prayer for Peace and Harmony, Paggunita sa Hacienda Luisita" seeks to remember and pray for the souls of the famers' departed loved ones.

"Let us be in unison. The government is here, bringing themselves in person for peace," he told the attendees.

For his part, former farmer's group chairperson Florida Sibayan urged his fellow farmers to push for peace, forgiveness and change.

"No more conflict. Let us unite. Let us forgive. The situation now is different. We now see what the government is doing for us. We see change that is why let us embrace it and unite as one," Sibayan emphasized.

Activities during the event include a mass, ceremonial candle lighting and releasing of white balloons as a demonstration of love and peace.

Other attendees in the event are personnel from the Provincial government of Tarlac, Tarlac Police Provincial Office, Army 3rd Mechanized Infantry Battalion and Armed Forces of the Philippines 1st Civil Relations Group. (CLJD/TJBM-PIA 3)



Farmers of the 11 barangays of Hacienda Luisita gathered to promote peace and harmony as the community marks the 15th anniversary of an infamous massacre in the area. (Armed Forces of the Philippines 1st Civil Relations Group)

Puregold to pay Tarlac City P810k monthly (City cancels market contract)

By Nelson Bolos

Tarlac City - - Kailangan itaguyod ang laban kontra korapsyon para sa kapakanan ng bayan.

Thus, said Mayor Cristy Angeles after signing last Wednesday a new lease contract with Puregold Supermarket which occupies more than half of the Tarlac City Downtown Market (TCDM) at P810,000 per month for 25 years.

This came after the Sangguniang Panglunsod (SP) of this city, "thru the strong request of Angeles", cancelled the contract signed by ex-mayor Gelacio "Ace" Manalang with Ellen Te Laddaran which leased more than half of TCDM for a measly P70,000 per month for 30 years.

In turn, Laddaran, thru a Lease of Contract, leased a portion of the said market space to Puregold at P700,000 per month which gives her an earning of P630,000 net every month.

Backed with a Resolution from the SP, Angeles also ordered the cancellation of the Laddaran-Puregold lease contract.

This is a historical gain for the city. We did not only triumph against this contract of the past administration. The city will also earn more than P327 Million.

The new lease contract between the city government and Puregold signed by Angeles includes an escalation cost (additional rent) of 5% every 2 Years.

Under the old Contract of P70,000 per month, the city will only earn P35 Million within 30 years.

It may be recalled that upon assuming the office of the mayor in 2016, Angeles made known of several multi-million contracts entered by her predecessor with private individuals and businesses which are very disadvantageous to the city.

Among which is the 50-year lease contract of Uniwide Sales Corp. on the sprawling more than 7 hectares adjacent to the Uptown

market.

The former Mayor Manalang leased the so-called Uniwide area at P500,000 per year or P25 Million in 50 years. (The rent is actually less than 59 centavos per square meter per month.)

The Uniwide lease contract was also recently "declared rescinded" by a court in Pasay City based on the 2014 petition filed by Angeles and ordered the "return of possession and control over the whole property" to this city.

Another is the leasing by the former Mayor of the Tarlac City Victory Uptown Market (TCVUM) to the Paliparan Central Market Corporation (PCMC) at P3 Million year on the first year.

But before the former Mayor leased the more than 4 hectares TCVUM, the former mayor renovated the market thru a loan of more than P450 million from the Land Bank of the Philippines.

However, because of reported "exorbitant market stall fees and rents being charged by the PCMC to vendors", Angeles filed a petition against the corporation.

Subsequently, the court issued an Injunction against PCMC and ordered it to strict-

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LG Komentaryo
Isang Palaisipan
MGA KAGALANG-GALANG NA
MAYORS, ANG HAMON NG LINIS
GOBYERNO SA INYO, KAYA BA NINYO
ANG MAGAGANDA AT TAMANG MGA
PANUKALA NI MAYOR MODOMO?!!



BASAHI SA PAHINA 8

Solar power sets new electricity record supplying a quarter of UK demand (read on page 6)

PGH Polyclinic in New Clark City opens (read on page 2)

Duterte sees no need to suspend rice importation (read on page 7)

Abangan sa mga darating na linggo: KNOW YOUR PUBLIC SERVANT section, kung saan ating i-feature ang inyong paboritong lingkod-bayan



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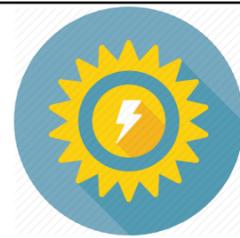
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DILG rolls-out Constitutional Reform Roadshow in Tarlac

CAPAS, Tarlac - Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) rolled-out Thursday the Constitutional Reform (CoRe) Roadshow in Tarlac. DILG Provincial Director Belina Herman emphasized the need to reform the 1987 constitution, which has not yet been amended, to spread the economic progress in all regions.

"I am from Leyte and I can attest that the development in our region is not as fast as the development here in Central Luzon," she stated.

In her presentation, she cited the existing problems under the unitary system such as political dynasty, weak political party system, personality-based politics, turncoatism and urban development caused by centralization fund.

"To solve these problems, CoRe has proposed surgical amendments in a message house that consists four main pillars," Herman said.

These pillars are Pagyamanin ang Probinsya, Paluwagin ang Metro Manila; Gobyerno para sa Tao, hindi para sa Trapo; Bukas na Ekonomiya nang Lahat ay may Pag-asa; and Bagong Konstitusyon para sa Bagong Henerasyon.

Proposals under the first pillar include constitutionalizing of Mandanas ruling which will increase the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) being given to local government units (LGUs) and establishment of Regional Development Authorities that will make the current recommendatory Regional Development Councils into decision-making bodies.

"Aside from these, CoRe advocacy aims to change the existing bases of IRA into a new set of criteria that are responsive to the needs of the LGUs. From the criteria of population, land area and equal sharing, the proposed criteria will be poverty incidence, geographic peculiarities, level of locally resourced revenues and lev-

el of financial management," she disclosed.

Meanwhile, Municipal Local Government Operations Officer Bryan Rivera discussed the second pillar which tackles campaign finance transparency, anti-turncoatism and anti-political dynasty.

"To ensure a government for the people and not for traditional politicians, CoRe also proposes the strengthening of political parties as democratic and principle-based institutions," Rivera said.

He stated that the removal of the explicit foreign equity limitations is being pushed under the third pillar. "Congress shall be given the power to enact changes as they deem necessary," he added.

In the four and last pillar, Rivera stressed that the constitutional amendments will contribute in meeting the needs and reflecting the aspirations of the present generation.

Activities in the roadshow include a Media Briefing, Townhall Meeting with local chief executives, CoRe Talk with the youth sector and the Balangayan 2019: CoRe Convention Rally that was attended by barangay officials.

Tarlac was the fourth to hold the roadshow in Central Luzon after Bataan, Bulacan and Nueva Ecija. A similar event will be held this last week of November in Aurora, Zambales and Pampanga. (CLJD/TJBM-PIA 3)



During the SEA Games, the Philippine General Hospital Polyclinic will be equipped with a 24-hour Emergency Room Facility, Primary Care and Sports Medicine, Dentistry, Ophthalmology, Imaging Center (X-ray and Ultrasound), Diagnostic Laboratory and Pharmacy. (Gabriela Liana S. Barela/PIA 3)

PGH Polyclinic in New Clark City opens

NEW CLARK CITY, Tarlac - University of the Philippines-Manila and its training hospital, Philippine General Hospital (PGH) opened the Polyclinic of the PGH-Satellite for Sports Medicine and Wellness (PGH-SSMW) at New Clark City (NCC) in time for the country's hosting of the 30th South East Asian Games (SEA Games).

"We thank UP and PGH for putting up a polyclinic that would provide free medical and health care services to athletes participating in the SEA Games. This facility will also greatly benefit future residents of NCC as well as the neighboring towns and provinces," Bases Conversion and Development Authority President and CEO Vivencio Dizon said in a statement.

"UP, through UP Manila and PGH, is committed to serve the health needs of the SEA Games athletes as well as the rest of the community of NCC," UP President Danilo L. Concepcion emphasized.

During the SEA Games, PGH Polyclinic will be equipped with a 24-hour Emergency Room Facility, Primary Care and Sports Medicine, Dentistry, Ophthalmology, Imaging Center (X-ray and Ultrasound), Diagnostic Laboratory and Pharmacy.

PGH-SSMW is beside the 20,000-seater Athletics Stadium, which is part of the sports complex that will serve as the national training center of Filipino athletes and host to major international sports events starting with the SEA Games.

The complex likewise boasts of a 2,000-seater Aquatics Center with an Olympic-size pool, and an Athletes' Village which will house the SEA Games athletes, officials and volunteers.

"UP as a national university is mandated and committed to put its resources at the disposal of and in the service of the nation and its people. In the field of health and wellness, UP Manila as a national health university is grateful to be included in these extensive plans all the way to the development of a smart, healthy city by the year 2065," UP Manila Chancellor Carmencita Padilla said.

Talks of the Smart Healthy City concept started in 2015 when Japan Overseas Infrastructure Investment Corporation for Transport and Urban Development and BCDA invited UP Manila in the planning phase.

"Future cities are envisioned to have a network of advanced medi-

Gov't officials make final inspection of SEA Games venue

CAPAS, Tarlac — To ensure a smooth and well-ordered run of the forthcoming Southeast Asian (SEA) Games, government officials made a final inspection of the sports facilities at the New Clark City Sports Complex here on Thursday.

The country is currently hosting the SEA Games slated from November 30 to December 11, this year.

The inspection team was led by Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea, Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez, Public Works and Highways Secretary Mark Villar, House Speaker Alan Peter Cayetano and Secretary Vivencio Dizon, Presidential Adviser for Flagship Programs and Projects and concurrent Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) president and CEO.

Also present were Albay Second District Representative Joey Salceda, Tarlac Governor Susan Yap, San Manuel, Tarlac Mayor Donya Tesoro, Clark Development Corporation president and CEO Noel Manankil, and Philippine Olympic Committee president Abraham Tolentino.

"New Clark City Phase I,

especially these facilities for athletes which was built in 18 months, show the President's resolve for change and this is only the beginning," Dizon said.

He also assured the athletes participating in the SEA Games of full government support.

"Just focus on your training. The President loves you and we will never stop. In the next few years, you will see other sports facilities," Dizon said.

During the inspection, the team first visited the Athletes' Village, which will serve as the official residence of the athletes, officials, and international volunteers for the SEA Games.

The facility features 525 rooms, gym amenities, kitchen and dining areas, conference rooms, and other recreational facilities.

The team then proceeded to the 2,000-seater Aquatics Center, which will be the venue for swimming and diving competitions.

The inspection team also went to the seven-story government building, an integrated operations center for government agencies which also features state-of-the-art equipment in disaster risk reduction and management.

For the last stop, the inspection team had a walk-

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cal treatment centers for cancer, cardiac care and geriatrics among others. Inside or within a new 1,000 bed-PGH, there will be a healthy technology innovation center; a network of health facilities for preventive medicine, artificial intelligence and new fields in science. It is also envisioned to include health educational facilities probably another medical school and a nursing school," Padilla furthered.

It is also planned to have a disaster medical center with the Philippine version of a medical dispatch team. For the implementation of this Smart Healthy City concept, BCDA allocated 100 hectares for UP Manila at NCC. This is on top of the 70 hectares allotted for a new campus of the UP system.

"2065 seems so distant from today. Planning for the future is indeed very challenging not knowing exactly what medical landscape we will have 50 years from now but if we commit to put our minds and hearts together, the outcome might even surpass our expectations," Padilla stressed.

Going back to the present, the Chancellor explained that the PGH Polyclinic is the first of three phases.

The second phase is a 25-bed hospital and the third phase a 250-bed hospital. Phasing will depend on the population growth of NCC. (CLJD-PIA 3)

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Mobile Phone No.: (0917) 506-9123
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Website: www.tarlacweekender.com
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Consultant: Freddie Farres
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Kevin Villena
Cartoonist: Levis
Columnists:
Nestor A. Castro
Atty. Batas Mauricio
Roldan Ramos
Clyde Sacpa

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NPA weakens further in C. Luzon due to mass surrender of members

BALER, Aurora -- The already waning strength of the New People's Army (NPA) in Central Luzon is on further decline as a result of the mass surrender of its members and supporters in the past weeks.

Col. Andrew D. Costelo, commander of the 703rd Infantry Brigade, in an interview on Wednesday said the recent surrenders show the continued downfall of the NPA's main source of support, their mass organizations, and indicate the effectiveness of the whole-of-nation approach to end the insurgency problem.

So far, a total of 459 NPA terrorists and their supporters in Central Luzon have voluntarily surrendered to the government from November 6 to 19, this year.

Out of the total surrenderers, 81 are NPA rebels, 19 are Militia ng Bayan members and 359 are rebels' supporters.

"This is through the efforts of our soldiers with the full support and cooperation of the local government units (LGUs) and the people in Central Luzon. The recent development is a big blow to the NPA terrorist group," he said.

Costelo asked the military troops to continuously collaborate with concerned government agencies and other civil society organizations for the necessary interventions and other assistance under the Enhanced Comprehensive Local Integration Program (E-CLIP) for surrenderers to become productive citizens.

He particularly cited the case of the recent surrender of alias "Robin", a supply officer under Platoon Uno of Komiteng Larangang Guerrilla (KLG) Sierra Madre, who is entitled to receive PHP15,000 initial assistance, PHP50,000 livelihood assistance and firearms remuneration of PHP100,000 for surrendering two M16 rifles.

"He is also entitled, if qualified, to avail of benefits being offered by government agencies such as the National Housing Authority, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Justice and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). In addition, LGUs also have incentives in store for NPA surrenderers," Costelo said.

Maj. Gen. Lenard T. Agustin, commander of Army's 7th Infantry Division, said he is very proud of the military troops who made the immense volume of surrenderers possible.

"I am urging all the remaining NPAs, underground mass organizations as well as its supporters to return to the fold of the law and in response, we will do our duties to reintegrate them to mainstream of society and live peaceful and productive lives. In doing so, they could contribute in attaining peace and development in Central Luzon," Agustin said. (PNA)

Search for 13 Bataan fishermen continues

LIMAY, Bataan -- The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) said on Friday it has yet to locate the 13 missing fishermen from Mariveles town here as it issued a "Notice to Mariners" in the country to keep a lookout.

Commander Airlan Lapitan of the PCG-Bataan Provincial Station said the search is continuous for the 12 crewmen and the skipper of fishing boat Three Sisters - 2 that sank off the vicinity of Reed

to Epetito was so far the only one rescued.

Lapitan said two PCG boats are on standby in the area and its vicinities continuing the search.

He said PCG issued a Notice to Mariners to intensify the search for the missing crew members.

"The alert involves fishing boats and sea vessels, including international vessels, once docked in Philippine ports," Lapitan said.

Meanwhile, the fami-

Bank in Palawan due to strong waves.

The boat that left Barangay Sisiman in Mariveles last October 28 was about to return home after fishing when caught by rough seas at dawn of November 6.

Of the crewmen, only Angeli-

Robredo lauds drug rehab facility in Dinalupihan

DINALUPIHAN, Bataan -- Vice President Maria Leonor "Leni" Robredo lauded Thursday the Bahay Pagbabago Community-based Reformation Center in Dinalupihan as it marks its third anniversary.

Robredo, who co-chairs the Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-Illegal Drugs, referred illegal drugs as illness of the society needed to be addressed by the community.

"Ang pinag-uukulan natin ng panahon ngayon ay iparamdam sa bawat Pilipino na problema nating lahat ito para tulong-tulong tayo sa paghanap ng solusyon (What we are trying to do today is make every Filipino feel that this is a problem to all of us so we could all unite to find a solution)," Robredo said during the Bahay Pagbabago third anniversary celebration held at Bulwagan ng Bayan.

She also praised the municipal government of Dinalupihan, national government agencies, civil society organizations, faith-based and volunteer groups for uniting to combat illegal drugs in the province.

"Hindi ito problema lamang ng pulis, hindi problema lamang ng local government unit, hindi ito problema lamang ng barangay, pinakita niyo po dito sa Dinalupihan na ang impossible ay maaring maging possible pag tayo nagtulong tulong (This is not just a problem of the police, not just a problem of the local government unit, not just a problem of the barangay. You showed here in Dinalupihan that the impossible would be possible if we all help each other)," Robredo furthered.



Dinalupihan Mayor Gila Garcia welcomes Vice President Leni Robredo as she arrived Thursday at the Bulwagan ng Bayan to grace the third anniversary celebration of Bahay Pagbabago Community-based Reformation Center. (Mar Jay Delas Alas/PIA 3)

Dinalupihan Mayor Maria Angela "Gila" Garcia said the facility has already produced 957 graduates of drug dependents from the 23 batches in its 30-day comprehensive family and values-oriented program.

"Bahay Pagbabago has taught reformists to know themselves better, to make them closer God and to make them realize the importance of their family because we believe that illegal drugs will destroy our children and the next generation," Garcia stressed.

Bahay Pagbabago is a community-based rehabilitation facility conceptualized by erstwhile Bataan Police Provincial Director and current Acting Police Regional Director Police Brigadier General Rhodel Sermonia in response to the challenges of demand reduction, reformation and social reintegration for illegal drugs personalities. (CLJD/MJSD-PIA 3)

6K Central Luzon cops deployed for SEA Games

CAMP OLIVAS, Pampanga—More than 6,000 police personnel in Central Luzon tasked to ensure peace and security during the staging of the 30th Southeast Asian (SEA) Games from November 30 to December 11 were deployed on Tuesday to the different venues in the region.

The send-off ceremony was held at the Challenger's Field, Air Force City, Clark Field and led by Lt. Gen. Archie Gamboa, Officer-In-Charge, Philippine National Police.

Brig. Gen. Rhodel Sermonia, acting regional director of the Police Regional Office-3 and commander of Task Group Central Luzon, asked his men and women on the ground to do their

work with utmost diligence and due regard for public safety.

He also assured that they are ready to ensure the safety and security of the delegates and other spectators who will witness the sporting events in the biennial meet.

"In all, around 11,000 security response troops and

force multipliers are ready to secure the delegates and spectators to attain our goal of 'zero incident' during the duration of the SEA Games," Sermonia said.

Military personnel and other security providers will be alongside the police in ensuring peace and safety at the different sports venues.

Sermonia said the "no-fly zone" and "no sail zone" will be implemented in these areas.

He added that while all security preparations are covered by Task Group Central Luzon, full support and cooperation of the public are necessary.

"We appeal to the public to report suspicious activity to prevent any eventualities or unfortunate incidents," he said. (PNA)

Wage board reviews 'kasambahay' pay in Central Luzon

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga -- The Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board in Central Luzon (RTWPB-3) is reviewing the wages being received by the "kasambahay" or household service

workers in the region.

Ma. Zenaida A. Campita, regional director of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and chairperson of RTWPB Central Luzon, said the board initiated a review of the wage order which was issued two years ago, taking into consideration the prevailing socio-economic condition in the region.

"The Board is currently reviewing the wage order for kasambahays in the region so that we can determine whether or not there is a need to increase or update the minimum wage of our household service workers, considering their needs and the capacity to pay of employers," Campita said.

Under Wage Order R.B. III DW 01 issued in 2017, the minimum wage for the kasambahay in chartered cities and first-class municipalities in the region is PHP4,000 while the minimum wage in other municipalities is PHP3,500.

As part of the review, Campita said the board will conduct a survey in selected cities and municipalities to collect substantial data that can be used by the wage board.

Campita said the survey, among others, aims to determine the number of household helpers who are receiving the minimum wage and those who are covered by social welfare benefits.

Under Republic Act 10361, or Batas Kasambahay, apart from

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SEAG cauldron, a work of art? Alan Peter Cayetano, a piece of work

By: Yen Makabenta (manilatimes.net)

First word

ALAN Peter Cayetano must think Filipinos will believe anything when he declares before the Senate that the P55-million cauldron for the Southeast Asian Games (SEAG) is "a work of art."

But there are some of us who do take art seriously (having studied and worked in the arts and the humanities) and who consider it a gross national deception when a high government official foists something as pedestrian as a cauldron on the nation as an aesthetic monument.

That the official who dared to do this is Alan Peter Cayetano will surprise no one. The man has perpetrated so many outrageous things in his career on our public

Editorial

life, that he figures to easily get away with this one.

But if, as he contends, the Southeast Asian Games (SEAG) cauldron is a work of art, the nation should in turn ponder the growing reality that the Speaker of the House of Representatives in Congress is a "real piece of work." And it may be seeing now only the tip of the iceberg.

The reality underneath could be sordid.

A real piece of work

"Piece of work" is an English idiom that has grown in popularity in contemporary times to describe people of low character, dishonest and unpleasant.

According to the Grammarist, "piece of work is a phrase that dates back to Shakespearean times. It has taken on an idiomatic meaning in addition to its literal meaning.

The literal meaning of the term a piece of work is a work produced through someone's efforts. However, a piece of work is also used as an idiom to describe someone who is unpleasant, dishonest, hard to deal with, of low character. When used in this fashion, a piece of work is a derogatory phrase. The term is found in Shakespeare's Hamlet: "What a piece of work is a man, how noble in reason, how infinite in faculties..." In this case, the term is used literally.

Around the turn of the 20th century, the term was used in Britain to describe someone hard to deal with or of low character in the phrase "a nasty piece of work." The term migrated to the United States, where by the 1970s it was used without the modifier "nasty," and simply evolved into the idiom a piece of work or sometimes, a real piece of work

The idiom fits Alan Peter to a T.

He has parlayed his half Filipino-half American lineage and training in law into a career in national politics, and he has managed to reach as high as the Senate and the House speakership.

No local politician has arguably done more outrageous things in our public life than Cayetano has, and yet has stuck in the nation's gut without being vomited out.

Cayetano introduced the idea of term-sharing in the election of House Speaker in Congress, setting aside the traditional way of selecting the congressional leadership, so he could maneuver to gain election as the first among the term sharers.

In the May 2016 elections, Cayetano led his family in a crooked scheme to keep all top elective positions in Taguig-Pateros within the family.

Despite losing his vice presidential bid as the running mate of Rodrigo Duterte, Cayetano has craftily milked this connection to extract political favors and assignments.

He got himself appointed as Secretary of Foreign Affairs under Duterte.

He secured the chairmanship of the organizing committee for the 2019 SEAG, and then placed his own foundation in position to profit from the games.

P55-million cauldron

To the credit of Senate minority leader Sen. Franklin Drilon, he is the one who exposed the scandalous construction of a P 55-million cauldron for the SEAG in new Clark City, which in turn is leading to the exposure of a much bigger financial scandal in the sports extravaganza.

Drilon has vowed to lead a Senate investigation on SEAG immediately after the conclusion of the games on December 10.

For now, there can be no investigation or inquiry, because the games must go on as planned, and because the Philippines is committed to host the 30th SEAG and turn it into the biggest regional games ever.

The exposure of the anomalous and irregularities will come later. But there will be no hiding the stink that lies at the heart of the financing and organization of the 2019 SEAG.

The extravagant million-dollar cauldron is ironically the least scandalous in the entire SEAG saga.

P7.5-billion fund diversion

The first anomaly is how Cayetano, who has never been involved in any sport, got himself appointed as chairman of the organizing committee for the 2019 SEAG.

The second anomaly is how Cayetano, as then foreign affairs secretary, effected the unconscionable diversion of the P7.5 billion budget for the Philippines hosting of the 2019 SEAG to the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA).

Cayetano requested the fund transfer when he was still the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, and in his capacity as designated chairman of the organizing committee for the 2019 SEAG in the country.

The foreign affairs department has absolutely nothing to do with the SEAG event, or Philippine participation in the competition, other than documentation of foreign participants, officials and visitors.

Hosting and organization of the SEAG is principally the business and responsibility of the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC).

Rectification of the mess was quick upon exposure of the fund diversion. →



KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Dayuhang namumuhunan,
yumayaman; katutubong
Pilipino, naghihirap

BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO



INSPIRASYON SA BUHAY: "... Binibigyan ko kayo ngayon ng pagpipilian: buhay o kamatayan; kasaganaan o kahirapan; kapag sinunod ninyo ang mga utos na ibinibigay ko sa inyo ngayon mula kay Yahweh na inyong Diyos... pagpapalain niya kayo... Ngunit kapag tumalikod kayo at ayaw nang makinig sa kanya, sa halip ay nanglingkod sa ibang mga diyos, ngayon pa'y sinasabi ko sa inyong malilipol kayo'..." (Deuteronomio 30:15-18, Bibliya).

-000-

"AGAGUI'Y ATATENG" NG PANGASINAN: MERON PA BA NITO? "Agagui'y atatang". Kung kayo ay panggalatok, o taga Pangasinan na ang salita ay panggalatok, alam ninyo kung ano ang ibig sabihin ng "agagui'y atatang". Kung hindi kayo panggalatok, medyo malabong maunawaan ninyo kung ano ang ibig sabihin nito. Pero, ito ay salitang nagbabadya ng pagkakaisa, pagkakaunawaan, at pagtutulungan ng isang buong pamilya.

Ang kahulugan ng "agagui'y atatang" sa wikang Pilipino ay "magkakapatid, mag-aama". Ayon sa namayapa kong ama, si G. Melanio Pauco Mauricio Sr., isang tubong Tarlac pero nakakapagsalita at nakakaunawa ng panggalatok, ginagamit ang salitang "agagui'y atatang" upang isalarawan ang magkakapatid at mag-aamang panggalatok na sama-samang bumibiyaha sa iba't ibang bayan ng Pangasinan (o kahit na sa mga kalapit na lalawigan) at nagtitinda ng kung ano-anong mga gamit pambahay na yari sa kawayan o sa kahoy.

Gamit ang sari-sarili nilang mga kariton na hila-hila ng kanilang mga kalabaw sa kanilang paglilibot at pagtitinda. Laging parang piknik sa tuwing sila ay mag-aalmusal, manananghalian, o maghahapunan, kasi sama-sama silang nagluluto ng kanilang kakainin at pagsasalu-saluhan, saan mang lugar sila abutan.

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MAIPAGMAMALAKING UGALI, DI NA LAMANG NG MGA PANGGALATOK, KUNDI NG MGA PILIPINO: Sa aking tingin, ang estilo ng buhay ng mga "agagui'y atatang" (o magkakapatid at mag-aama na sama-samang nangangalakal sa iba't ibang bayan gamit ang kanilang mga kariton at mga kalabaw sa kanilang paglalakbay) ay isang bagay na maipagmamalaki di na lamang ng mga Pangasinense o ng mga panggalatok, kundi ng buong Pilipinas.

Ipinapakita nito ang paggalang at pagmamahal ng magkakapatid sa kanilang ama o mga magulang, dahil sinusunod nila ang mga ito sa sama-sama nilang paghahanap-buhay. Nakikita din ito ang paggalang at pagmamahal nila

sa isa't isa, sapagkat nagtutulungan sila sa paghahanap ng kanilang ikabubuhay, sa marangal na paraan. Maliwanag na walang alitan na namamagitan sa kanila, at mapayapa at masaya silang nagkakasama-sama.

Ang problema lang, tila kokonti na lamang ang gumagawa pa ng ganitong

Responsible executive branch officials moved with dispatch to correct the situation. It was shortly announced that the P7.5 billion budget for the SEAG would be transferred soonest from the coffers of the DFA to those of the PSC.

Cayetano and

Cont. on page 7

sama-samang paghahanap-buhay ng magkakapatid at mag-aama, kundi man tuluyan na nga yatang nakalimutan na ito. Kasi naman, yung mga bagay na pupuwede sana nilang ikalakal o ipagbili sa mga nasa bahay-bahay ay madali ng mabibili sa mga malls na nakatayo na sa maraming lugar sa Pangasinan at mga kalapit na lugar. Ang problema lang, ang mga malls na ito ay kadalasang pag-aari na ng mga dayuhan.

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DAYUHANG MAMUMUHUNAN, YUMAYAMAN; KATUTUBONG PILIPINO, NAGHIHIKAHOS: Sa totoo lang, pati na din yung mga maliliit na tindahan o mga maliliit na sari-sari store sa mga kanayunan ay nangangawala o nagsasarado na din. Puwersado silang itigil na ang kanilang mga maliliit na pinagkakakitaan dahil napakalapit na ng mga malls o mga department stores na pag-aari madalas ng mga dayuhang mamumuhunan (na nagnenegosyo dito matapos silang magkamit ng Filipino citizenship, o nakakakuha ng mga Pilipinong magiging dummy nila).

Bakit nangyayari na ito? Sa totoo lang, ibinabala ang ganitong mga pagkawala ng mga hanapbuhay o pagkakakitaan ng mga katutubong Pilipino. Sinabi sa babala na mababasa sa Deuteronomio 28:15 at 43-44, na ang mga dayuhang makikitira sa atin ay yayaman ng yayaman samantalang tayo naman ay maghihirap ng maghihirap sa ating sariling bayan. Mga dayuhan ang magpapa-utang sa atin, at, sila pa ang magiging pinuno natin sa ating bayang sinilangan.

Ang ganitong mga pangyayari ay sumpang ibinibigay ng Diyos. At ibinibigay ng Diyos ang ganitong sumpa dahil ang mga tao ay hindi nakikinig sa Kaniyang Salita sa Bibliya, at hindi na sumusunod sa Kaniyang mga utos. Ang nakakatakot dito, walang katapusan ang sumpang

Cont. on page 5

Magsumbong sa Weekender!

>Meron ba kayong issue na matagal nang pinabot sa mga liderato natin ngunit di kayo pinapasin?

>Meron ba kayong sumbong ngunit di niyo alam kung paano at kung kanino ito ipaabot?

Mag text lang sa 09175069123

(Globe) or 0932-907-9810 (Sun),

mag e-mail sa

tarlacweekender@yahoo.com, o

di kaya ay mag PM sa

ating Facebook account

na Tarlac Weekender!



• Poultry Building Design Scam
• Effective Fly Control (part 2)
BY: FREDDIE FARRES



Hopefully in the near future, this columnist can write about better poultry building designs. The reason I cannot expound on them at the moment is since some of these new building designs are currently still being tested and evaluated; therefore let's get back back to fly control.

Based on my understanding, let me just share a little information from a layman. Let me make it clear that I am not an expert on the subject and the information contained here is based on a layman's first hand experience.

The current fly control methods being used by poultry growers are supposed to function as larvicide (very common is the use of cyromazine, as they say are all made in China). With this cyromazine is a mixture of limestone which is spread at the flooring (right underneath the plastic slats) of the tunnel vent poultry building. Add to this fly control measures are the usual fly glue that are placed on twine and hanged-spread throughout the building. The idea is for the flies to stick to the fly glue.

Aside from this, there is also the adulticides/insecticides (safe for poultry) that also function to kill existing adult flies.

Aside from this fly controls that are meant to control the propagation of flies there are also supporting methods being used by poultries that may help prevent flies from leaving the poultry buildings. Some may construct anterooms right at certain usual entries to the building, some may even install air doors, some would even install screens at the exhaust fans, all of these measures are meant to keep the flies (in check) inside the building.

Unfortunately, as observed, during the harvest period when at times there is pressure to conduct the harvest as fast as possible and a couple of harvest doors may be kept open at a time, it has been observed that the existing flies could fly out of the building specially if the harvest begins late afternoon when the temperature is still hot, although usually the harvest begins at early evenings it has been observed that due to the cooler evening temperature, →

not many flies get to leave the building.

After the harvest, the whole building would again be sprayed with adulticide and even fogged with a fogging machine and after which the dung accumulated under the plastic slats would be placed in sacks for various methods of disposal.

It has also been observed that it is during this period that the flies that have been living underneath the slats, would be agitated and may again fly out of the building when the building doors are open. Right after all the dung has been brought out of the building, another application-spraying of adulticide and fogging is conducted to fully eradicate the flies prior to the dry and wet cleaning of the building and the plastic slats.

Having written all this, the only sensible question to be asked is, what can the poultry do at the onset so as not to help in the propagation of flies at levels that may at times be a nuisance to the community?

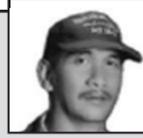
The good news, and I would like to believe is that there is now a better remedy or perhaps we can call it a solution is (this is according to source/s, I have not personally tested it, but I will very soon).

The first is for the tunnel vent poultry to make do without the (milyones worth) na plastic slats and to spread throughout the building the carbonized rice hull (ipa na inuling). Just simply that, as plain and simple as that. Currently, tinatapon lang ang ipa, now it can be a residual income for the farmer (uling lang nila at i-supply sa poultry). As I understand, once the chicken dung hits the carbonized husk together with the normal action of the chicken's feet thereby mixing the dung with the carbonized rice hull, the result is the flies will no longer get to breed at this particular medium (mababa na ang ph level), ergo, a largely reduced fly propagation.

As a follow through to this, a weekly application of carbonized rice hull should be applied to the building. This method has also been validated to me by a farm employee who has worked at Saudi Arabia and accordingly, this is a method they use and has been shown to produce little or hardly any flies, thereby making it an affective fly control. For the right quantity (number of sacks per building, etc), you can get in touch with me. Aside from this, the usual fly glue placed in twine should still be done together with the occasional spraying of adulticide if necessary.

MAGKASANGGA TAYO

• Panahon na para ipursigi ang SOLAR POWER!!! (Part 3)
• ERC Resolution No. 06 S. 2019



BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO

Sa dahilang tinatamad ang inyong lingkod na mag-sulat hinggil sa iba't ibang aspeto na ating hinaharap at panibagong adbokasiya ng ating grupo (Linis Gobyerno - www.linisgobyerno.org) na itulak sa madla ang paggamit ng libreng enerhiya at ito ang enerhiya mula sa araw (solar), nais ko munang i-share ang ilan sa mga mahahalagang punto sa aking mga dear readers ang hinggil sa ERC Resolution No. 06 Series of 2019

(A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE AMENDMENTS TO THE RULES ENABLING THE NET-METERING PROGRAM FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY). Makikita at downloadable ang kabuuan ng Resolution na ito sa ERC website (www.erc.gov.ph).

Sa puntong ito ay nais ko munang tumbukin ang probisyon na kung sakaling pahihirapan kayo ng inyong DU (Distribution Utility katulad ng Tarelco 1, Tarleco 2 at Tarlac Electric Inc.) sa pagpapayag na magpakabit o mag-interconnect sa kanilang sistema sa inyong sistema ng solar power, eto ang sabi ng Resolusyon. Kung sabagay huwag ninyong isipin na isa akong nilalang na pinanganak lang kahapon o yun sinasabi na (naive ika nga), at lalong lalo nang hindi ko ina-underestimate ang mga DU (Kooperatiba daw ang mga iba sa kanila, Hi! Hi! Hi!) na yan at alam naman natin na nag-uumapaw ang kwalta sa kanilang tenga. NALPAS!!!

ARTICLE IV - PENALTIES AND OTHER PROVISIONS

Section 24. Penalties.

Failure or unjust refusal of the DU to undertake or implement Net Metering shall be subject to the penalties and other impositions as provided for under Rule 12 Section 36 (a)(2) of the Rules and Regulation Implementing Republic Act No. 9513.

Violation of any provision of these Rules shall also be subject to the imposition of fines and penalties in accordance with the "Guidelines to Govern the Imposition of Administrative Sanctions in the Form of Fines and Penalties Pursuant to Section 46 of the Act" Promulgated by the ERC on May 17, 2002, as amended by Resolution No. 03, Series of 2009, entitled "Resolution Amending the Guidelines to Govern the Imposition of Administrative Sanctions in the Form of Fines and Penalties Pursuant to Section 46 of Republic Act No. 9136", dated February 23, 2009, including any subsequent amendments thereto.

RA 9513 - Renewable Energy Act

Section 36. Penalty Clause. - Any person who willfully commits any of the prohibited acts enumerated under this Act, shall be imposed with the penalties provided herein. Any person, who willfully aids or abets the commission of a crime prohibited herein or who causes the commission of any such act by another shall be liable in the same manner as the principal.

In the case of association, partnership or corporations, the penalty shall be imposed on the partner, president, chief operating officer, chief executive officer, directors or officers responsible for the violation.

The commission of any prohibited acts provided for under Section 35, upon conviction thereof, shall suffer the penalty

of imprisonment of from one (1) year to five (5) years, or a fine ranging from a minimum of One Hundred Thousand Pesos (P100,000.00) to One Hundred Million Pesos (P100,000,000.00), or twice the amount of damages caused for non-compliance, whichever is higher, or both upon the discretion of the court.

The DOE is further empowered to impose administrative fines and penalties for any violation of the provisions of this Act, its IRR and other issuances relative to this Act.

This is without prejudice to the penalties provided for under existing environmental regulations prescribed by the DENR and/or any other concerned government agency.

HATAW NA KAIBIGAN

The Best Talaga ang TARELCO 1 (Part 3)



BY: ROLDAN RAMOS

Sa puntong ito ay minabuti na muna natin na siyasin ng bahagya lamang ang mga bagay bagay na naka deklarar sa mga napakagandang mga deklarasyon na nilalaman ng The TARELCO 1 26 th Annual General Membership Assembly (tingnan ang larawan ng brochure o pamphlet):

Sa ngayon ay hindi ko masasabi kung hanggang kailan mag wawakas ang serye ng kolum ko na ito sapagkat napakarami ko pang mga katanungan at konsultasyon na isasagawa sa ating mga CPA Consultants nang sa ganoon ay ating maunawaan ng malinaw ang tunay na naging performance ng Tarelco 1. Mababasa ninyo sa ibaba na nakalagay na na sa Php 10M+ lamang ang naging net income ng Tarelco 1. Ito kaya ay kapani-paniwala? Tama kaya ang pinaglaanan ng kanilang mga gastusin at budget?

Bakit kaya kinailangan na habaan ang termino ng mga kasalukuyan Director, marahil ay wala ng ibang mga kwalipikado na maging Director kung hindi sila →

Kakampi Mo Ang Batas from page 4

ito hanggang hindi tayo nalilipol, nawawasak, o di kaya ay nawawala sa ating sariling bayan. Nakow! May magagawa ba tayo dito? Tawag po kayo sa mga numerong nasa ibaba nito, o magpadala kayo ng mensahe sa aking email address o Messenger, na makikita din dito!

-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.

lamang, atbp.

Ilan lamang ito sa mga napakararimng katanungan na sa mga darating ng panahon ay siguradong tayong lahat ay malilininawan.

Inyong makikita ang larawan ng pamphlet na ginamit noong general assembly meeting. Maganda ang pagka-imprensa at kalidad ng pamphlet, ngunit sana ay risonable at hindi katawa-tawa o kagulat-gulat ang halaga ng pag-imprensa nito. Ating aalamin.

26th Annual General Membership Assembly

TARLAC I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017
(In Philippine Currency)

	2018	2017
REVENUE		
Pass Through Revenues		
Generation Charges	P 1,529,249,448	P 1,274,841,718
Transmission Charges	207,518,575	178,846,163
System Loss Charges	114,876,918	168,839,412
Total Pass through charges	1,851,644,941	1,622,527,283
Coop Revenues		
Distribution Charges	189,579,418	89,398,421
Supply Charges	102,409,906	160,268,579
Metering Charges	83,619,131	115,532,948
Other Unbundled Charges	52,139,001	14,341,489
Total Coop Revenues	427,747,456	379,539,417
ENERGY SALES	2,279,392,397	2,002,066,700
COST OF SERVICE	(1,904,776,967)	(1,582,835,273)
GROSS PROFIT	374,615,430	419,231,427
OTHER ELECTRIC REVENUE	28,693,115	26,124,713
DISTRIBUTION COST	(219,380,160)	(213,294,665)
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	(117,872,089)	(161,588,838)
OPERATING INCOME	66,056,296	70,472,637
NON-OPERATING INCOME	49,627,570	32,810,002
DEPRECIATION EXPENSES	(66,192,709)	(57,475,996)
FINANCE COST	(11,159,182)	(14,847,931)
NON-OPERATING EXPENSES	(27,661,851)	(19,431,202)
NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR	P 10,670,323	P 11,527,510

"Sustaining the Strategic Partnership of the NEA-ECs-MCOs Towards Rural Development and Nation-Building."

26th Annual General Membership Assembly

TARLAC I ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017

	2018	2017
ASSETS		
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Property, plant and equipment	P 714,394,216	P 710,361,809
Construction works in progress	97,291,420	48,290,808
Restricted funds	244,128,126	138,977,612
Other non-current assets	280,717,257	266,217,257
	1,336,531,019	1,163,877,486
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	478,754,831	623,453,089
Trade and other receivables	471,970,388	362,687,750
Inventories	41,963,530	40,782,542
Other current assets	85,829,867	43,671,764
	1,078,518,635	1,070,595,147
TOTAL ASSETS	P 2,415,049,654	P 2,234,472,632
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
EQUITY		
Members' contributions	P 1,034,515	P 1,002,650
Donated capital	326,974,670	276,948,201
Miscellaneous contributed capital	918,185,325	835,611,679
Cumulative earnings	256,013,676	177,566,217
	1,502,208,186	1,291,126,746
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES:		
Long-term borrowings	190,280,508	234,063,418
Consumers deposits	169,746,863	156,035,941
Deferred credits	113,191,180	96,578,217
	473,218,571	486,677,577
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Trade and other payables	428,664,716	446,841,165
Current portion on long-term borrowings	10,958,182	9,827,143
	439,622,898	456,668,308
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	P 2,415,049,654	P 2,234,472,632

"Sustaining the Strategic Partnership of the NEA-ECs-MCOs Towards Rural Development and Nation-Building."

The TARELCO I 26th Annual General Membership Assembly

Sustaining the Strategic Partnership of the NEA-ECs-MCOs Towards Rural Development & Nation-Building

NOVEMBER 8



Troll armies, a growth industry in the Philippines, may soon be coming to an election near you

By SHASHANK BENGALI, EVAN HALPER (latimes.com)

MANILA, Philippines — As public anger mounted last year over delayed plans to shake up the Philippines' outage-plagued telecommunications sector, angry comments and one-star ratings flooded a government-run Facebook page.

When employees suspected online trolls, President Rodrigo Duterte's digital mastermind offered a solution.

"I'll handle this," said Nic Gabunada, the architect of the social media strategy that powered Duterte's 2016 election victory, according to a government employee who managed the Facebook page.

Pro-Duterte comments soon poured onto the page, with users defending the president's handling of the situation or blaming the problems on the previous administration. Many of the new commenters had only basic profile information on their pages, which featured mostly generic posts with religious or pro-government messages.

"It was Nic," said the employee, who was interviewed on the condition her name not be used for fear of retribution. "The fact that he had a troll army was known by everyone, but not openly talked about."

In the Philippines, candidates and government officials routinely pay vast cyber-troll armies that create multiple fake social media accounts to smear opponents and prop themselves up.

It's all part of the online propaganda wars shaking politics in the country. And it could soon be coming to the U.S., according to election officials and disinformation scholars who are watching closely. They warn that the Philippine epidemic probably will spread here, given Filipinos' proficiency in English, facility with social media and the lure of money from campaigns looking for a new way to get an edge over the competition.

Already, U.S. operatives in both parties have made early efforts at using trolls for political gain. Rogue progressives stealthily launched fake social media campaigns against Roy Moore, the GOP nominee for Senate in Alabama, during a 2017 special election. Their

campaign aimed to confuse voters into thinking Moore supported banning alcohol and that Russian bots were working on his behalf.

The New York Times revealed the plot, along with an earlier, aborted plan developed by a firm run by former Israeli intelligence agents to engage dozens of paid trolls in swaying delegates to Donald Trump during the 2016 GOP convention. The plan was requested by a senior Trump campaign official but was not carried out.

"The presence of a large for-hire market looking at all the disinformation online that you can buy and people are selling is quite disturbing," Camille Francois, the chief innovation officer of Graphika, a firm that helps tech companies and government investigators find and confront online disinformation, said at a Federal Election Commission symposium in September.

"What these troll farms are reporting is a growth of global business.... What do we do about that?"

Manila, alone, has hundreds of active troll farms. The shadowy networks act as weapons that, for the right price, can build artificial buzz around a product, a celebrity — or a political figure.

Those troll techniques "will be used more and more," said Malou N. Tiquia, chief executive of the Manila political strategy consultancy Publicus Asia. "When Facebook said it won't ban political ads, that was already a signal to everyone that anything goes."

U.S. regulators have barely begun to consider the mounting threat, and Silicon Valley has shown itself lacking the tools and will to effectively confront it. Tech firms are making little headway stamping out the scourge where it has emerged so far, even after Facebook in March removed from its platform 200 pages for "inauthentic" activity and took the rare step of identifying Gabunada's network as the culprit.

The Filipino digital propagandist has denied trafficking in misinformation and did not respond to texts seeking comment about his work for the Duterte administration.

Such moves by Facebook

are doing little to slow the trolls.

Filipinos spend so much time online — they average a staggering 10 hours a day, according to industry data — and disinformation has spiraled so quickly that Katie Harbath, Facebook public policy director for global elections, branded it "patient zero in the global disinformation epidemic" during a 2018 talk in Berlin.

"The propaganda looks really organic and it often doesn't trip any of the flags" that alert tech companies, said Jonathan Ong, a professor of global digital media at University of Massachusetts Amherst whose research has taken him inside Filipino troll farms.

"The best strategists know how not to get caught."

Political campaigns contract out their digital efforts to consultants, who in turn pay up to \$1,000 per month to college students and recent graduates who are charged with launching multiple fake Facebook pages designed to look like they were created by actual voters or grass-roots groups.

"It is so easy to be enlisted in these jobs," Ong said. His recent study on the industry includes an interview with one paid troll who fell into the work when the chief of staff of the political campaign she was working on ordered everyone to start creating fake accounts and posting on them.

Others have fleeting loyalties politically but are attracted to the cash. Consultants running troll farms have been known to switch sides in the middle of an election.

"The alliances are very shifty," Ong said. "Strategists will switch in the middle of a campaign to join who they think will be the winner. They will betray their client. It happened in the last election."

Most often, the operations are run through contractors separate from the actual campaigns so the candidate has no fingerprints on the weapon. And the trolls often don't trigger attention from tech platforms because they know how to avoid detection. The algorithms that tech companies use to detect phony accounts tend to focus on dozens of commenters posting the same message

Solar power sets new electricity record supplying a quarter of UK demand

By: Ian Johnston (independent.co.uk)

Solar surpasses output from nuclear power stations for first time.

Solar panels have set a new record for electricity generation, providing nearly a quarter of the demand.

As much of Britain basked in warm and sunny weather, solar produced some 8.7 gigawatts at midday on Friday, representing 24.3 per cent of the electricity being used at the time.

The previous record was set on 10 May when 8.48GW was generated by solar, which tends to peak at about lunchtime.

Duncan Burt, who is in charge of National Grid's control room operations, where they match supply and demand, said: "We now have significant volumes of renewable energy on the system and as this trend continues, our ability to forecast these patterns is becoming more and more important.

"We have an expert team of forecasters who monitor a range of data, to forecast just how much electricity will be needed over a set period.

"We have planned for these changes to the energy landscape and have the tools available to ensure we can balance supply and demand"

Paul Barwell, chief executive of the Solar Trade Association, said this was the first time that solar has generated more electricity than nuclear with only gas supplying more.

"This is a colossal achievement ... and sends a very positive message to the UK that solar has a strong place in the decarbonisation of the UK energy sector," he said.

Environmentalists also welcomed the news, saying it showed how important the sector was becoming to the UK economy.

around the same time, or users with a stock photo on their profile page. The trolls don't do these things.

"You can look like legitimate Facebook users to trick the [company's] artificial intelligence," said Ross Tapsell, a researcher at Australian National University who documented the surge of paid troll activity in the Philippine province of Cebu.

Some trolls, he said, get offered a rate of \$1 per social media post. In some cases operatives contract the work out to troll farms in far-off places, including Saudi Arabia.

"We have only scratched the surface of what a lot of this involved," he said.

The government employee who last year watched what she believed were trolls swarm to the defense of Duterte on Facebook said her suspicions were confirmed when her boss later talked openly at a meeting about Gabunada's troll operations. She also met colleagues who had visited an office building in metropolitan Manila that housed the

Hannah Martin, Greenpeace UK's head of energy, said: "Britain has just hit another milestone in its effort to harness the increasingly cheaper energy coming from the sun.

"Today's new record is a reminder of what the UK could achieve if our Government reversed its cuts to support for solar and backed the clean technologies that could provide jobs, business opportunities and plentiful clean energy for decades to come.

"All around the world, solar power keeps beating new records as costs come down and power generation goes up.

"In the US, more people were employed in generating electricity from solar last year than from coal, oil and gas combined.

"Britain cannot afford to miss out on the economic and environmental rewards of this energy revolution."

And Gareth Redmond-King, head of energy and climate at WWF, said: "As we enjoy the sun, it's great to learn that the UK just hit a new high for solar power generation.

"Each record set by renewable power generation is another welcome milestone towards a cleaner, greener future for the UK. "Solar power and other renewables are getting cheaper and more efficient as we install more of it. And it doesn't just power our homes, but also our economy, with almost a quarter of a million people now working in the low-carbon energy sector.

"Whoever forms the next Government after the election must prioritise a plan for reducing emissions from all sectors — electrifying our transport, and working towards more efficient homes and buildings — with 8 out of 10 British people in favour of clean energy, it is not only what the country needs, but is also what it wants."

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Approved and used by reputable doctors in the Philippines. Available in leading drugstores. Ask your doctor about it.

MANILA – President Rodrigo Duterte has decided to push through with the rice importation amid harvest season, after hearing the explanation of Department of Agriculture (DA) Secretary William Dar, Malacañang said on Friday.

The lifting of suspension order on the importation of rice came following Duterte's meeting with Dar, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III, and Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea at Malacañang Palace on Wednesday night.

"Baka nakita niya na hindi pa kailangan (Perhaps, he sees that there is no need for it)," Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo told Palace reporters when asked why Duterte lifted his suspension order on rice imports in the country.

"Siguro napaliwanag ni Secretary Dar kung ano ang mas magandang gawin. Siguro ganoon ang lumalabas kasi initially ang order niya, suspension (Perhaps, Secretary Dar was able to provide better options. Perhaps, that's what happened because initially, he ordered the suspension)," he

added.

Duterte on Tuesday declared a temporary ban on rice importation to pave the way for the harvest for local rice from late September to mid-December.

But on Thursday, Dar announced that the importation of the staple will continue, in line with the implementation of Republic Act (RA) 11203 or the Rice Tariffication Law which liberalizes the importation of the staple.

Instead of suspending the entry of imported rice, Duterte sought the imposition of "stricter" measures, Panelo said.

"They (DA) will just be strict on the requirements for the importation," he said.

"Baka mas strikto ngayon kasi kapag ni-liberalize mo, hindi ka masyadong strikto hindi ba dahil open ang importation mo (It will be stricter now because if you liberalize rice imports, you are not that strict because you are open to importation). This time, they will be very strict on that," Panelo added.

Continued support

Panelo guaranteed that local farmers would continue getting support from the Duterte government to address the issue of plunging farmgate prices of palay (unhusked rice) as a result of the implementation of RA 11203.

He said Duterte has directed the purchase of more rice from local farmers.

"What the President is going to do now is to help the farmers by subsidizing and buying rice from them," the Palace official said.

"Because of the rice importation, pangang wala nang bumibili sa kanila kasi mas mura. Sabi ni Presidente, kahit malugi ang gobyerno, bibilhin na lang namon sa inyo (Because of the rice importation, some opted not to buy staple from them. The President said the government would buy rice from local farmers, despite the possibility that it might suffer losses)," he added.

In a speech in Taguig City Thursday, Duterte said it is better to have a warehouse filled with excess rice than a shortage, as long as his administration is able to help local farmers.

Dar said Duterte already directed the National Food Authority (NFA) to raise the country's emergency buffer stock from 15 to 30 days by buying more unmilled rice from farmers.

The NFA will accelerate the turnover of its inventory by buying more palay and selling more regular milled rice at an average of 20,000 50-kilogram bags of rice per day.

A total of PHP3 billion will also be allocated for cash transfer extension that will benefit 600,000 farmers tilling one-half to two hectares of rice land every year. (PNA)

Gov't officials... from page 2

ing tour of the 20,000-seater Athletics Stadium, a world-class Olympics stadium with a nine-lane 400-meter track and field oval, and a six-lane warm-up track.

Meanwhile, Tugade said the DOTr, through the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), has opened applications for special permits of point-to-point buses to travel across the venues of the SEA Games, to assist in the mobility of participants and delegates.

He said that special routes will be opened to accommodate seamless transition between event venues in Subic, Clark, and Metro Manila, which are valid for the whole duration of the SEA Games. (PNA)

Cayetano in the questionable multi-million-peso program.

"The scandal involves the gross overpricing of athletes' uniforms and collection of donations from private corporations when Phisgoc is funded by the government to the tune of P6 billion.

"You know how Phisgoc, which is headed by Cayetano as chairman, was able to justify the donations from the private sector?"

"They set up the Phisgoc Foundation, supposedly a nonprofit private entity.

"Phisgoc Foundation, which Cayetano also heads as chairman, collected close to a billion pesos from private companies, including San Miguel Corp. and the MVP Group.

"This is not to mention the P200 million that the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp., a government entity, gave to the Phisgoc Foundation.

"Phisgoc, the government entity, says the P6 billion set aside to fund the 30th SEA Games is intact.

"However, there is no accounting for the private donations amounting to, I repeat, close to a billion pesos.

"Cayetano was appointed by the POC as chairman of Phisgoc. He then created the Phisgoc Foundation without the knowledge of the POC.

"Cayetano went to Executive Secretary Medialdea to ask him to support the private Phisgoc Foundation.

"Medialdea, apparently without the President's knowledge, issued Memorandum Circular 56 ordering all government agencies and government-controlled corporations to support the Phisgoc Foundation.

"The circular, issued on Jan. 25, 2019 to take effect immediately, was signed by Medialdea, 'by authority of the President'."

Puregold to pay... from page 1

ly comply with this city's Market Code, specially the provision on stall rents and fees and prohibition on ambulant vendors to occupy market roads and pedestrian lanes.

trian lanes.

"Ang bagong kontrata ng lungsod sa Puregold ay tagumpay laban sa korapsyon. Imbes na iilan lamang ang nakikinabang sa mga ari-arian ng lungsod, ngayon lahat ng mamamayan makikinabang sa renta ng Puregold", added Angeles.

The feisty first-ever-lady mayor of this city also revealed that her administration is now coming up with pro-poor programs which are to be financed from Puregold's P810,000 per month lease, including relocation site and housing for the landless informal settlers.

According to Atty. Joselito Castro, this city's chief legal officer, from P810,000 a month, the rent of Puregold will be P1.455 Million per month on the 25th year and the city will earn more than P327 Million from the new 25-year lease contract as "against the Manalang-Ladarran contract of only P35 Million in 30 years".

Castro said, "this a classic case of corruption and insatiable greed. A perfect example on how public officials can connive with private interests in order to unjustly enrich themselves at the expense of their constituents. The Laddaran contracts (with Manalang) started as a lease for half of the downtown public market for P400,000 per month in 2011. But months later, the rent was reduced to P100,000. Apparently, those who signed the P400,000 (per month) lease contract wanted to earn more, so, it was transformed into a Develop-Operate-Transfer-Agreement (DOTA) to justify the drastic reduction of rental from P400K to P100k per month. Not contented with the reduction, pagbabang (signed) contract sa city treasurer's office (from the office of ex-mayor Manalang), naging 70 thousand per month na lang. The city legal officer discovered 2 versions of (signed) DOTA -isang 100K at isang 70k (Agreements)".

The accountant-lawyer Castro also said, "months after Laddaran bagged half of the downtown public market for 70k per month, she subleased it to Puregold for 700K per month. Or a whooping 630 thousand monthly profit. Laway lang ang puhunan. The City then helped the downtown market vendors to file a criminal case against Ace Manalang and Laddaran. The 2 were indicted and warrants of arrest were issued against them. Both posted bail. They are now being tried in Sandiganbayan. At the same time the city filed a civil case against Ace Manalang, Laddaran and Puregold (before Tarlac Regional Trial Court). We asked for the nullity of the DOTA. We are already on our fourth witness. Suddenly, with sheer determination, patience and God's grace, the city legal office was able to convince Laddaran to give up the Puregold contract in our favor. Thus, last Wednesday, we were able to recover control of the (market) area under Puregold contract and, hence, starting November 19, 2019, Puregold will pay the city the monthly rental of 810 thousand pesos. Instead of 70 thousand pesos".

In a related development, upon learning of this moves of Mayor Angeles, a Consultant of this paper Mr. Freddie Farres, commented that "how come there seems to be no mention by the City Legal officer and the Mayor regarding the participation of the former City Council Members during the time of the former Mayor Manalang, ang ibig bang sabihin ni Mayor Angeles at ni City Legal officer ay lahat ng mga ito ay isinagawa ni Mayor Manalang all on his own without the approval or at the very least knowledge of the former city councilors, ibig ba nilang sabihin na walang ka-alam alam idto ang mga miyembro ng konseho?" Farres said.

Wage Board reviews... from page 3

the standard minimum wages,

household service workers must be able to avail and enjoy other mandatory benefits such as the 13th month pay; five days service incentive leave; and one rest day per week.

They also have the right to avail the Solo Parent Leave (RA 8972); Special Leave Benefit for Woman under the Magna Carta for Women (RA 9710); and Violence against Women and their Children (VAWC) Leave (RA 9262).

"We encourage the public to participate in the survey. We need to get the position of the employers and kasambahays on wage increase so that the board will be guided in policy decision-making," she said.

Campita called on the public to attend the hearing on the adjustment of the wage rate of the household helpers on Dec. 5, 2019 at the DOLE Regional Office here.

She also encouraged household employers, domestic workers, barangay officials, homeowners' associations, private recruitment agencies and domestic workers' associations to attend the hearing.

"All interested parties who wish to submit their position paper or written comments regarding the minimum wage adjustment may file them with the board on or before the scheduled date of hearing," Campita added. (PNA)

Editorial

... from page 4

Medialdea

My columnist colleague Ramon Tulfo has written a column which discusses in detail how Cayetano was allegedly assisted by Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea in his scheme to turn the 2019 SEAG into a personal financial bonanza.

In his July 20, 2019 column ("There goes Cayetano as House speaker; also Medialdea"), Tulfo wrote:

"President Digong said there was corruption in the preparations for the holding of the 30th Southeast Asian Games to be held in the country in November this year.

Cayetano heads the Philippine Southeast Asian Organizing Committee (Phisgoc), which oversees the preparations for the games that are being hosted by the Philippines.

"But the scandal at Phisgoc, involving hundreds of millions of pesos, may change the President's mind about Cayetano.

"President Duterte may also change his mind about Executive Secretary Salvador 'Bingbong' Medialdea for his endorsement of and support for



Tarlac City Mayor Cristy Angeles is assisted by chief city legal officer Atty. Joselito Castro in signing the new lease contract of Puregold over half of the City Downtown Market. Under the contract, Puregold will pay directly the city P830,000 a month starting Nov. 19, 2019. This came after the city government cancelled the ex-mayor Manalang-Ladarran contract of only P70,000/month. The city will earn P327 Million in 25 years (compared to the Manalang-Ladarran contract where the city only earn 35 Million in 35 years. (Nelson Bolos)

PLASTECH Industrial Corporation
EXPORT QUALITY
 Europe China South East Asia Micronesia
Contact us:
 Liaison Office: Rm. 619 RPI 5TH Flr., Bank of the Philippine Islands Bldg.
 150, Plaza, Cervantes, Binondo Manila, Philippines
 Mobile: 0917-5588326 / 0922-8259114
 Tels. No.: (63 2) 241-7301 to 05 Fax No.: (63 2) 242-0969
 Email Address: picmo@plasteronline.com
 Website: http://www.plasteronline.com

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ATTENTION: HONORABLE MAYORS OF TARLAC PROVINCE, TAKE NOTE (FOR COMPLIANCE OF POULTRIES AND PIGGERIES) MGA KAGALANG-GALANG NA MAYORS, ANG HAMON NG LINIS GOBYERNO SA INYO, KAYA BA NINYO ANG MAGAGANDA AT TAMANG MGA PANUKALA NI MAYOR MODOMO?!!



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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.

Cont. on page 5

Tarlac hog

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.

gyan o papayagan na mag-renew ng kanilang business permits kung hindi sila mag-comply sa mga sumusunod: (1) Kelangan merong ECC at isinatupad ang mga nilalaman ng ECC, (2) kelangan na compliant sa pag-miyembro sa SSS, PAG-IBIG at PHILHEALTH para sa mga benepisyong mga empleyado, (3) kelangan ay tama ang deklarasyon ng mga buildings and improvements sa Assessor;s Office, (4) Kelangan ay may mga building permits and related permits na nag-mumula sa Engineering or Municipal Building Official, (5) Kelangan ay may-roon locational clearance (mula sa MPDO) and of course dapat rin ay may-roon land re-classification or land conversion, (6) kelangan ang mga empleyado ay may mga health cards. Kailangan din na may mga fly control measures and systems na sisiyasatin ng Municipal health officer. Ilan lamang ito sa mga dapat na gampanan ng mga kinaukulang poultries at piggeries. Ngunit, aming napansin na walang binangit si Mayor Modomo pagdating sa pagbibigay ng tamang pasahod at termino (bawal na daw ang ENDO) sa mga tauhan ng mga poultry at piggery. Bagama't ito ay nakakaskop sa Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), saludo kami sa 'yo Mayor Modomo, Mabuhay ka!!!

Kami sa Linis Gobyerno ay humahanga sa mga hakbangin na kailan lamang ay isinagawa ng butihing Mayor ng Santa Ignacia na si Hon. Nora Modomo. Nuong october 24, 2018 ay nagpatawag si Mayor Modomo ng meeting sa lahat ng Poultries at Piggeries sa Sta. Ignacia. Sa pulong na ginanap ay kasama niya ang kanyang mga concerned department heads and others. Kanyang nilinaw sa mga Poultry at Piggery owners na hindi sila bibi-

ATTENTION ALL CONCERNED MAYORS AND VICE MAYORS WITHIN TARLAC PROVINCE (Part 1)

Basahin ang ilang mga bagay-bagay na posibleng naging basehan ng pagka-grant ng ECC sa isang aplikante na Poultry o Piggery, bagama't kung tutusin ay hindi sila dapat na maisyuhan ng ECC (kung sila ay nag-misdeclare). Subalit ang ECC ay guidelines lamang kung saan nakasaad ang mga alituntunin na dapat ipasatupad nabigyan ng ECC. Ang mga sumusunod punto na ito ay aming na-isangguni sa mismong hepe (Chief) ng Permits and Licensing ng Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) na si Engr. Dennis Celestial, EMB, Region 3.

Napaka-importante na ang poultry at piggery na kumukuha ng ECC na sagutin ng tama at huwag mag mis-declare sa application forms. Halimbawa nito ay Current Land Use within 1-km radius at Actual Land Use within 1-km radius.

May mga instances na nabigyan ng ECC ang isang proyekto kahit na malapit ito sa isang paaralan. Bagama't puwedeng ma-kansela ang ECC na-issue because of misdeclaration, ay dapat maiwasan ito na mangyari.

Ang mga local governments ay dapat magmatyag para maisapatupad ang kanilang CLUP (zoning ordinance) ng tama.

LIVESTOCK ANIMAL INDUSTRY PROJECTS			
II. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE RISK MANAGEMENT PLAN			
Possible Environmental/Social Impacts	Baseline Environment	Preventive/Mitigating Measures	M
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost of preventive/mitigating as well as monitoring integrated	
LAND			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consistency with land use	Current land use w/in 1km radius (as per zoning ordinance): <input type="checkbox"/> Residential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial/ Institutional <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/ Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Protected Areas <input type="checkbox"/> Others, specify	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See attached proof of compatibility with land use <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Limit project activities to what is compatible to the land use <input type="checkbox"/> Others, specify	
	Actual land uses w/in 1km radius: <input type="checkbox"/> Residential <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial/ Institutional <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural/ Recreational <input type="checkbox"/> Protected Areas <input type="checkbox"/> Others, specify		