

TRB APPROVES TOLL COLLECTION FOR CALAX SUBSECTION 3

NEW

CALAX TOLL FEES

Effective August 9, 2026

	Greenfield to Governor's Drive	Silang (Aguinaldo) to Governor's Drive
CLASS 1	P117.00	P35.00
CLASS 2	P234.00	P70.00
CLASS 3	P351.00	P106.00

After providing toll-free access for three (3) months, the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) has approved the start of toll collection for the Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX) Subsection 3, covering Silang (Aguinaldo) to Governor's Drive in General Trias, effective August 9, 2026.

Since its opening on May 4, 2026, the new segment has provided free passage to almost 9,000 motorists daily, offering a more convenient and efficient travel option for residents, workers, students, and businesses in Cavite.

The 7.88-kilometer CALAX Subsection 3 was built to provide a faster alternative route for commuters and businesses, bypassing heavily congested local roads along Cavite's growing industrial and residential corridors.

Starting August 9, motorists using the CALAX Subsection 3 from Silang (Aguinaldo) Interchange to Governor's Drive will be charged the following rates: P35 for Class 1, P70 for Class 2, and P106 for Class 3 vehicles.

Meanwhile, the following toll rates will apply for motorists traveling from Governor's Drive in General Trias, Cavite, and going straight to Greenfield in Laguna: P117 for Class 1, P234 for Class 2, and P351 for Class 3 vehicles.

The opening of CALAX Subsection 3 brings the operational length of CALAX to 26 kilometers, starting from the Greenfield-Mamplasan Entry in Biñan, Laguna. Once fully completed, the entire expressway network is projected to serve up to 65,000 vehicles per day, strengthening regional connectivity and supporting the movement of people, goods, and services across Cavite, Laguna, and Southern Metro Manila.

CALAX is a vital infrastructure project designed to reduce travel time, ease traffic congestion on major local roads, and support economic growth in one of the country's fastest-growing regions.

MPT SOUTH

MANAGEMENT CORPORATION

CALAX CAVITEX

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MEKENI BRINGS FILIPINO FLAVOR AND INNOVATION TO WOFEX 2026



MANILA, Philippines — Homegrown Filipino food brand Mekeni Food Corporation strengthened its commitment to bringing quality Filipino-made products closer to consumers and business partners as it participated in the recently concluded World Food Expo (WOFEX) 2026 at the World Trade Center Manila.

Held from July 29 to August 1, WOFEX 2026 brought together food manufacturers, distributors, retailers, foodservice professionals, and industry stakeholders, providing a platform for brands to showcase their products and connect with potential business partners.

Mekeni made its presence felt throughout the four-day exhibition, featuring its diverse portfolio of well-loved products designed for Filipino families and foodservice businesses.

Among the products highlighted at the Mekeni booth were its growing sausage portfolio, including the Mekeni Specials 4Cheese Sausage, Hungarian Sausage with Cheese, and Breakfast Sausage, offering consumers a variety of flavors and options for everyday meals and occasions.

Beyond product showcasing, the event also provided Mekeni an opportunity to engage directly with consumers, retailers, distributors, and industry partners, reinforcing the company's position as a homegrown Filipino brand with a growing presence in both domestic and international markets.

"WOFEX gives us a valuable opportunity to connect with our consumers and partners while showcasing the quality, innovation, and Filipino pride that continue to define Mekeni," said Pruds Garcia, Mekeni President.

The company's participation also reflects its continuing efforts to expand its market presence, strengthen business partnerships, and introduce its products to more consumers through meaningful industry engagements.

As Mekeni celebrates its 40th year, its participation in WOFEX 2026 forms part of the company's broader anniversary journey under the theme "May Kwento sa Bawat Timpla," celebrating four decades of stories, flavors,

EST. 1986

Mekeni

A FAMILY BRAND

Mekeni

FOOD CORPORATION

businesses, and communities while continuing to tell its story through food.

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PAGPAPALAKAS SA INDUSTRIYA NG UBE SA PAMAMAGITAN NG MGA PAGSASANAY, SUPORTADO NG DA-ATI CALABARZON

Turn on page 3

SILANG MUSHROOMS GAIN PROMINENCE AFTER PBBM NOD

Turn on page 2



STATUS OF AVAILABLE STOCKPILE IN 78 ACTIVE WAREHOUSE ACROSS CALABARZON as of August 06, 2026

BACONG FILIPINAS FAMILY FOOD PACK

227,216

Family Food Packs (FFP)

DSWD NON-FOOD KIT

11,119

Non-Food Items (NFI)

BACONG FILIPINAS READY-TO-EAT FOOD

11,630

Ready-to-Eat Food Packs (RTEF)

PhP 3,000,000

STANDBY FUNDS

DSWD CALABARZON RELIEF ASSISTANCE ON STANDBY AMID HABAGAT THREATS

BATANGAS CITY (PIA) — The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Field Office IV-A has assured the public of its readiness to provide immediate humanitarian

assistance as Tropical Depression Maymay and the enhanced southwest monsoon (habagat) continue to pose potential threats across the Calabarzon region.

As of Aug. 6, 2026, the DSWD Field Office IV-A has prepositioned 227,216 family food packs valued at P148.27 million, 11,630 ready-to-eat food packs worth P8.88 million, and 11,119 non-food items

amounting to P21.57 million in 78 strategically located warehouses across the region.

The agency also main-
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ALFONSO LGU ASSURES INCLUSIVE RICE AID FOLLOWING STATE OF CALAMITY DECLARATION

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SSS, CFO STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIP TO EXPAND SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR OVERSEAS FILIPINOS

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SAPILITANG PAG-OFW WAKASAN — CAYETANO

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DEVELOPMENT MUST NEVER COME AT THE COST OF OUR FUTURE

The proposed Pax Silica project has become one of the most talked-about development initiatives in the country. Promising investments, high-value industries, quality jobs, and technological advancement, the project has been presented as a step toward positioning the Philippines as a key player in the global semiconductor and artificial intelligence supply chain.

Economic progress is a goal every nation should pursue. New industries can create employment, attract investors, and stimulate local economies. These opportunities deserve careful consideration, especially as the country seeks to remain competitive in an increasingly technology-driven world.

Yet development should never be measured by economic gains alone.

Projects of this magnitude inevitably raise legitimate questions about their long-term effects on the environment and nearby communities. Concerns over water re-

sources, energy demand, land use, and ecological sustainability have been raised by environmental groups and local stakeholders. At the same time, government agencies have assured the public that environmental laws will be strictly observed, that environmental impact assessments are underway, and that community welfare will remain a priority.

These differing perspectives highlight one important reality: public trust depends on transparency.

Communities that may be affected deserve complete and accurate information. Environmental impact studies should be publicly available, consultations must be genuine rather than procedural, and safeguards should be independently monitored. Large-scale development cannot succeed if it leaves residents uncertain about its consequences.

The environment is not an obstacle to development—it is the foundation upon which

sustainable development depends. Once forests, watersheds, or natural ecosystems are degraded, restoring them often becomes far more difficult and costly than protecting them in the first place.

The challenge before government and project proponents is clear: prove that economic growth and environmental stewardship can go hand in hand. The Filipino people should not be forced to choose between jobs and clean water, between investment and ecological protection.

Progress is meaningful only when it improves lives without compromising the welfare of future generations. If the Pax Silica project is to become a symbol of national progress, it must first earn the confidence of the very communities it seeks to serve through openness, accountability, and an unwavering commitment to protecting both people and the environment.

-Ang Kabitenya

DSWD...

tains P3 million in stand-by funds to facilitate the immediate procurement of additional relief supplies and other essential resources should the need arise.

The prepositioning of relief supplies forms part of the DSWD's disaster preparedness measures to ensure that food and non-food assistance can be immediately deployed to affected communities.

"By strategically positioning relief resources across the region, the agency aims to reduce response time and strengthen support for local government units during emergencies,"

the agency said in a statement.

DSWD CALABARZON said these resources are readily available to augment the response efforts of LGUs in delivering timely assistance to communities that may be affected by Typhoon Maymay and the southwest monsoon. The Field Office also continues to validate reports from LGUs and disaster response partners to assess emerging needs and facilitate the immediate delivery of assistance should weather conditions worsen.

As of the latest monitoring, no significant weather-related incidents or affected families have been reported in the region. However, the Field Office continues to closely monitor weather developments and maintain close coordination with LGUs and other response agencies to ensure prompt and efficient disaster response.

The agency urged the public to remain vigilant, monitor official weather advisories, and follow the guidance of local authorities as heavy rains and flooding remain possible in some areas due to the combined effects of the tropical depression and the enhanced southwest monsoon.

From Page 1

SILANG...

SILANG, Cavite (PIA) — Receiving a seal of approval from President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. himself, Silang town is slowly gaining prominence for producing commercial-scale enoki mushrooms that provide local na ekonomiya.

During recent his visit at Tan's Farm, Mayor Ted Carranza lauded the Salad Time processing facility as the country's first commercial-scale enoki mushroom production facility. Owned by Basic Necessity, Inc., the facility showcases agricultural innovation in the municipality.

"Isa itong patunay na patuloy na kinikilala ang [bayan ng] Silang bilang sentro ng ino-

basyon sa agrikultura at magandang lugar para sa pamumuhunan. Sa bawat proyektong dumarating sa ating bayan, mas maraming oportunidad sa trabaho at mas lumalakas ang ating lokal na ekonomiya."

Spanning eight (8) hectares, this modernized facility is also cited as a center for agricultural innovation in Silang.

To recall, during his 2026 State of the Na-

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PHILHEALTH JOINS FORUM ON
ADVANCED CANCER TREATMENT AND
CAR-T THERAPY

MANILA — The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) participated in the CAR-T in Focus forum held on July 28, 2026, at the Makati Medical Center Auditorium, bringing together healthcare professionals and stakeholders to discuss emerging developments in precision medicine and cancer treatment.

Organized by the Philippine College of Hematology and Transfusion Medicine (PCHTM), MyESPEAK, and IASO Biotechnology, the forum focused on the latest developments in CAR-T cell therapy, a form of cancer treatment that uses a patient's own immune cells to help fight certain types of cancer.

The event provided a platform for healthcare experts to exchange insights on the use of CAR-T therapy in clinical practice, as well as the challenges involved in making advanced cancer treatments more accessible to Filipino patients.

PhilHealth's participation underscored its efforts to engage with medical experts and industry stakeholders as it explores ways to expand health insurance benefit packages and support access to innovative treatments.

Through continued collaboration and dialogue with the healthcare sector, PhilHealth aims to help bring emerging medical technologies and advanced cancer care closer to more Filipinos, particularly patients who may benefit from these specialized treatments.



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REALIZING DREAMS IN TINAPA'S SMOKE



Sheryl Jamillo from Mabita, Laguna, stands proudly beside her freshly processed smoked fish (tinapa), ready for the market.

In Nanguma, Mabita, Laguna, one woman is busy preserving fish with flavors to produce products she will later sell in her town.

Sheryl Jamillo, now 46, is a mother of nine children and was a full-time housewife. For her, managing a household is not easy. But relying solely on her husband's income made it even more challenging.

Faced with limited options, Sheryl took the courage to go beyond balancing the demands of family life to find a source of income. But having only reached her first year of high school, she found it hard to find a job that would also allow her to juggle her responsibilities as a mother. So, from everything she could offer, she tried starting a business. She started buying smoked fish (tinapa) and reselling it in their town.

In 2016, after being invited by her friend, Sheryl became a client of CARD, Inc. (A Microfinance NGO). Through the financial services she can avail herself of as a client, her business mindset also transforms.

Instead of just reselling smoked fish, Sheryl decided to learn how to process it herself. Using her first loan from CARD, Inc., she began setting up her own tinapa processing business. She embraced the hard work of sourcing good-quality raw fish, cleaning it, and mastering the art of flavoring and smoking. Over time, she was able to produce tinapa on her own.

Because Sheryl now processes her own tinapa, she was also able to elevate its taste, ensuring it's all perfectly golden and flavorful. Customers have started recognizing her product and coming back for more. Aside from enhancing the flavor, Sheryl also puts effort into improving her tinapa's appearance so it appeals to the appetite and attracts customers. "Kasi kung masarap nga siya, eh kung mukha namang madungis, hindi rin siya kaagad bibilhin (Because even if it tastes good, customers still won't

buy it if it doesn't look presentable)," she said. For her, a good product needs to look just as good as it tastes. For almost ten years, Sheryl has utilized CARD, Inc.'s loan services, including educational loans for her children's enrollment and studies, especially her fourth child, who is now entering college. She also availed of a housing loan to build their house in Brgy. Nanguma. Challenges also came to her business, especially when sales were slow and when fish were expensive. In times like these, Sheryl can sustain it by taking additional loans to help her smoked fish business recover. Saving with the microfinance institution also helps her ensure she has something to withdraw in times of scarcity.

Today, loyal customers continue to buy her smoked fish. Some store owners in the market also order wholesale from her. One loyal customer buys from her to resell the product abroad.

For all of this, Sheryl's advice is simply patience and discipline. "Tiyaga lang (Just stay patient)," she said. "Tapos kapag mahirap ang panahon ng negosyo, e di konting tipid (And when business isn't doing well, it's best to cut back some expenses)."

Just like the smoke curling upward from her tinapa, Sheryl started with a simple goal: to earn a living for her family. But more than surviving, she stepped up, thrived despite the market challenges, and learned to dream.

Sheryl plans to keep growing the business she built so one day, she can pass it down to her children.



NOTICE
AMENDMENT TO EXTRA-JUDICIAL
SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF ROSALIE MACHADO
FALLARIA

Notice is hereby given that the heirs of the late **ROSALIE MACHADO FALLARIA**, namely ERWIN UMBAN FALLARIA, MA. EROSALYN MACHADO FALLARIA, KIER JOHN LLOYD MACHADO FALLARIA, MARY ERIKA NICOLE FALLARIA MUROS, and minor ERWIN MACHADO FALLARIA JR., represented by his father and legal guardian ERWIN UMBAN FALLARIA, executed an Amendment to Extrajudicial Settlement of Estate covering a parcel of land under TCT No. 057-2021051990, containing 88 square meters, situated in Brgy. Anabu II, Imus, Cavite.

Under the Amendment, the minor ERWIN MACHADO FALLARIA JR. retains his full undivided legal share in the property, while MA. EROSALYN MACHADO FALLARIA, KIER JOHN LLOYD MACHADO FALLARIA, and MARY ERIKA NICOLE FALLARIA MUROS cede, transfer and convey their respective shares and interests in favor of ERWIN UMBAN FALLARIA and ERWIN MACHADO FALLARIA JR. Said Extra-Judicial Settlement of Estate was executed and acknowledged before ATTY. GREY KRISTOFF F. ARANAS, Notary Public, under PTR No. 3047577 Doc. No. 490; Page No. 99; Book No. XVI; Series of 2026.

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PR| DTI, DOLE, (OPG-OPPEM) AND ROBINSONS PLACE DASMARIÑAS HOLD SUPPLY CHAIN AND LOGISTICS JOB FAIR WITH MSME TRADE FAIR IN CAVITE



Dasmariñas City, Cavite | August 4, 2026 – Echoing Trade Secretary Ma. Cristina A. Roque’s vision that “logistics is not just about moving goods, but moving dreams,” the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), through its Supply Chain and Logistics Group (SCLG), in partnership with the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) – Bureau of Local Employment, Office of the Provincial Governor – Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPG-OPPEM) and Robinsons Place Dasmariñas, successfully conducted the Supply Chain and Logistics Job Fair 2026 at Robinsons Place Dasmariñas. Held alongside the event was an MSME Trade Fair organized by the DTI Cavite Provincial Office, creating a one-stop platform that connected job seekers with employers while promoting locally made products from Cavite’s micro, small, and medium enterprises.

The event highlighted the growing importance of the supply chain and logistics sector as a key driver of economic growth, employment generation, and business competitiveness. Job seekers were given access to employment opportunities from participating logistics, supply chain, and manufacturing companies namely:

1. 2GO Group Inc.
2. A-Movement Corporation
3. A.P. Moller – Maersk
4. Airspeed International Corporation
5. Archen Technologies, Inc.
6. ASPAC International Inc.
7. DHL Express Philippines Inc.
8. DSV Contract Logistics, Inc.
9. Eagle Cement Corporation
10. F2 Logistics Philippines Inc.
11. Fast Services Corporation
12. Flash Express PH
13. Ginebra San Miguel, Inc.
14. Go21, Inc.
15. Gothong Southern Shipping Lines, Inc.
16. Hankyu Hanshin Express Philippines Inc.
17. Inland Corporation
18. JRS Business Corporation
19. Kintetsu World Express (Philippines) Inc.

20. LBC Express, Inc.
21. Magnolia Inc.
22. Mercury Drug Corporation
23. One Roadway Trucking Services, Inc.
24. Petrofuel Logistics Inc.
25. Philippine Spring Water Resources Inc.
26. PTC Agency and Transport, Inc.
27. Purefoods-Hormel Corporation
28. Robinsons Supermarket Corporation
29. San Miguel Brewery, Inc.
30. San Miguel Yamamura Packaging Corporation

31. SMC Multi-Services Inc.
Simultaneous with the job fair, Cavite’s MSMEs showcased their locally made products to mall-goers, job applicants, and potential buyers. The trade fair featured a diverse selection of products from Cavite-based MSMEs, demonstrating the province’s innovation, craftsmanship, and entrepreneurial excellence.

Leading the event was Department of Trade and Industry Supply Chain and Logistics Group Undersecretary Mary Jean Pacheco, who underscored the government’s commitment to strengthening the country’s supply chain ecosystem by creating more employment opportunities, fostering industry partnerships, and enhancing the capabilities of Filipino enterprises.

Joining the event was DTI CALABARZON Regional Director Marissa C. Argente, who emphasized the significance of integrating the job fair and MSME trade fair as a strategic initiative that supports both employment and entrepreneurship while creating greater market opportunities for MSMEs across the region.

Also present was Mr. Keith Richard Albino, Senior Labor and Employment Officer of DOLE Cavite, who recognized and expressed appreciation to the participating companies for their invaluable support and commitment to providing employment opportunities for Filipino job seekers. Likewise, Engr. Demetrio C. Villanueva III, Labor and Employment Officer I of the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) Cavite, acknowledged the collaborative efforts and contributions of the partner government agencies, participating companies, and stakeholders whose support contributed to the successful conduct of the job fair.

The successful collaboration between DTI, DOLE, OPG-OPPEM, Robinsons Place Dasmariñas, participating employers, and local MSMEs demonstrated the value of public-private partnerships in promoting inclusive economic development. By bringing together employment services and enterprise promotion in one venue, the event contributed to the government’s continuing efforts to create jobs, strengthen supply chain resilience, and empower local businesses.



PNP PROBES FATAL CAVITE RESORT SHOOTING INVOLVING COPS



MANILA – Philippine National Police (PNP) chief Gen. Jose Melencio Nartatez Jr. ordered a thorough probe into a shooting incident in Cavite province that resulted in the killing two people, including a police officer.

The shooting occurred at about 1:30 a.m. Wednesday in a resort in Maragondon town, where another police officer was injured while the suspect, also a police officer, was arrested and is now under the custody of the local police.

Nartatez said the circumstances surrounding the incident are still being established.

“Police officers are expected to exercise discipline, restraint, and sound judgment at all times, whether on or off duty. The PNP will not prejudge the case, but neither will it tolerate any violation of the law or PNP rules and regulations. We will follow the evidence, respect due process, and take the appropriate action based on the findings of the investigation,” Nartatez said in a statement.

An initial police report showed all four individuals were “under the influence of liquor” and were about to leave the resort in Barangay San Miguel A when the incident happened.

Cops identified the suspect as a 35-year-old police corporal assigned to the Trece Martires City police while the victims, were a civilian, a police staff sergeant assigned to the Magallanes police, and another police corporal assigned to the Ternate police.

Cavite Provincial Police Office public information chief Lt. Sarah Jane Drio said the civilian and the police staff sergeant were pronounced dead at the hospital.

Meanwhile, recovered from the suspect were a Glock 17 9mm pistol with a magazine from the suspect; and a Berreta 9mm pistol with a magazine from one of the victims.

Cavite police chief Col. Ariel Red said the Maragondon chief of police was relieved from his post following the incident and was placed under the Cavite Police Personnel Holding and Accounting Section, pending investigation.

“The incident is being taken seriously and the investigation will be conducted thoroughly, objectively and in accordance with existing laws, rules and regulations,” Red said in a phone interview. (PNA)

PAGPAPALAKAS...

Bilang pagsuporta sa pagsusulong ng pamahalaan na mas paunlarin ang industriya ng ube at makatugon sa lumalaking demand, patuloy na pinalalakas ng Department of Agriculture - Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI) CALABARZON ang paghatid ng makabagong kaalaman at teknolohiya sa produksyon at pagproseso ng ube.

“Maganda at malaki ang potensyal ng ube. Patok na patok ito bilang sangkap sa iba’t ibang pagkain, at patuloy ang pagtaas ng demand— hindi lamang locally kundit pati na rin globally. Ito ay isang malinaw na oportunidad para sa ating mga magsasaka, agripreneurs, at iba pang stakeholders sa industriya ng ube,” ani Dr. Rolando V. Maningas, RAgr, Center Director ng DA-ATI CALABARZON.

Kaugnay nito, 33 Agricultural Extension Workers (AEWs) mula sa iba’t ibang bayan sa rehiyon ang sinanay sa Training on Ube (Purple Yam) Production, Post-harvest, Handling, and Processing, na isinagawa noong Hulyo 20-23, 2026, sa Ouan’s Worth Farm and Family Resort Corporation, isang Private Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Service Provider (PAF-ESP) ng ahensya sa Lucena City, Quezon.

Sa pamamagitan ng kanilang re-entry action plan na bahagi ng pagsasanay, magsisilbing daan ang mga AEW upang maibaba ang mga teknolohiya at kasanayan sa mga magsasaka ng ube sa kani-kanilang mga bayan tungo sa mas masaganang produksyon at mas mataas na kita.

Kabilang sa mga pamamaraang kanilang natutuhan at ibabahagi sa mga magsasaka ng ube ang soil testing, land preparation, wastong pagpili ng planting materials, pagpaparami, replanting, pamamahala sa mga sakit at peste, pag-ani, at postharvest handling and storage. Sa tulong ito ng mga tagapagsanay na sina Bb. Kimberly R. Reyes, RAgr (Provincial Agriculture Office - Quezon), Bb. Ma. Almira C. Silva (Mira’s Food and Agriventure, Inc.), at Bb. Sieralyn S. Sandoval, RAgr (DA-Regional Crop Protection Center IV-A).

Bahagi rin ng pagsasanay ang aktuwal na pagpoproseso ng ube at lakbay-aral sa BeeGood Agriventures OPC, isang Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) ng DA-ATI CALABARZON sa Tiaong, Quezon. Mula rito, natutuhan ng mga AEW ang wastong pagpaparami ng ube, gayundin ang tamang pagpili at paghahanda ng planting materials.

“Ako po ay naipadala dito sa training sa ube dahil sa amin po ay may isang barangay na exclusively ube ang itinatanim. Ang naging practice po doon sa amin ay ang traditional way. Ngunit sa training na ito, nalaman ko na may iba pa palang paraan ng cultural management upang makatipid sa gagamiting planting materials. Natutunan ko rin ang kahalagahan ng post-harvest dahil kadalasan, ang naging practice ay pagka-harvest, ilalagay na agad sa sako at diretso benta na. Ito po ‘yung mga ibabahagi at gagawin namin sa aming bayan pagbalik ko,” pahayag ni Andrian Paul William Luna, AEW mula sa Talisay, Batangas.

Bilang suporta sa propesyonalisasyon at pagpapatibay ng mga kaalaman at kasanayang pang-agrikultur, nakatanggap ang mga kalahok na rehistradong agrikultur ng 7.5 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) credit units mula sa pagsasanay.

Bukod dito, nauna na ring nagsagawa ang DA-ATI CALABARZON ng malawakang webinar sa produksyon at pamamahala ng ube sa pamamagitan ng regular na programa nitong Agricultural Technologies thru Internet at Home (ATI@Home) para sa Best Purple Harvest: Ube

Production and Management noong Abril 30, 2026. Nakibahagi sa webinar ang 848 na kalahok mula sa iba’t ibang sulok ng bansa, kung saan 700 rehistradong agrikultur ang nakatanggap ng 1.00 CPD credit unit.

Aktibo rin ang DA-ATI CALABARZON sa pamamahagi ng information, education, and communication (IEC) materials tungkol sa ube sa mga pagsasanay at Farmers’ Information and Technology Services (FITS) Centers at FITS Kiosks sa iba’t ibang bayan sa rehiyon upang mas gawing aksesible ang mga kaalaman at teknolohiya sa produksyon at pamamahala ng ube. Nakaplan na rin para sa susunod na taon ang iba pang mga pagsasanay na may kaugnayan sa industriya ng ube bilang patuloy na pakikiisa ng ahensya sa hangaring mapaunlad pa ang industriya.

“Patuloy nating pagtutungan ang pagpapalakas ng industriya ng ube sa pamamagitan ng inobasyon, pakikipagtutungan, pagbabahagi ng kaalaman, pagpapan-day ng kasanayan. Sa ganitong paraan, makapag-aambag tayo sa pag-unlad ng kabuhayan ng ating mga magsasaka at sa paglago ng sektor ng agrikultura,” ani Dr. Maningas.

CAYETANO...

Gustong wakasan ni Senate Minority Leader Alan Peter Cayetano ang sapilitang pangin-gibang-bansa ng mga Pilipino na dulot ng kawalan ng disentang trabaho at sapat na sahod sa bansa.

Sa kanyang Kontra-SO-NA nitong Martes, July 28, 2026, hinikayat ng Minority Leader na magtakda ang pamahalaan ng malinaw at makatotohanang target para dito.

“Wala bang pwedeng magsabing in 2041 or in 2050 – iyong totoo ha, hindi bola – or in 10 years, wala nang Pilipino na OFW na napilitan lang mag-OFW dahil walang trabahong maganda sa Pilipinas?” wika ni Cayetano.

Nilinaw ng senador na hindi niya nais pigilan ang mga Pilipinong kung-sang gustong magtrabaho, mag-aral, o magpakadalubhasa sa ibang bansa.

Ang problema aniya, maraming OFW ang napipilitang lumayo sa kanilang pamilya dahil hindi sapat ang sahod sa Pilipinas.

Inihalimbawa ni Cayetano ang nakasap niyang Pilipinong chef sa Singapore na kumikita ng P70,000 hanggang P110,000 kada buwan.

Aniya, handa raw itong bumalik sa Pilipinas kahit kalahati lamang ng kanyang kasalukuyang sahod ang matanggap niya.

“Sir, kalahati lang. Kung P110,000 ang sweldo ko dito, kitain ko lang P55,000 sa Manila, OK na ako,” kwento ni Cayetano sa sinabi ng chef.

“So napilitan siyang mag-abroad. At pag tinanong mo kung bakit,

hindi para sa sarili niya, hindi para magka-iPhone siya, hindi para magka-kotse siya, kung hindi para makapag-aral iyong kanyang mga anak, para may bahay ang kanyang mga anak,” dugtong ng senador.

Punto ni Cayetano, kailangang lumikha ang bansa ng mga trabahong may living wage o sahod na sapat para sa pagkain, tirahan, edukasyon, at pagpapagamot ng isang pamilya.

Aniya, dapat maging bahagi ng “common vision” ng mga Pilipino, sa pangunguna ng pamahalaan, ang pagkakaroon ng maayos na pamumuhay ng mga manggagawa sa bansa na hindi kinakailangang lumayo sa pamilya.

“We have a minimum wage, we do not have a living wage that the Constitution envisioned,” aniya.

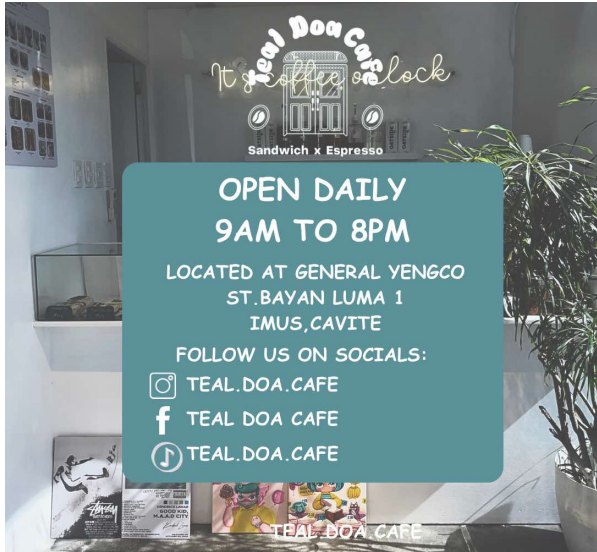
Noong nakaraang taon, inihain ni Cayetano ang Senate Bill No. 104 o Executive-Legislative Labor Commission Act of 2025 upang bumuo ng isang Labor Commission o LabCom na tututok sa living wage, underemployment, skills mismatch, informal workers, at paglikha ng dekalidad na trabaho.

Sa ilalim ng panukala, bubuo ang LabCom ng National Labor Roadmap kasama ang pamahalaan, mga manggagawa, business community, MSMEs, at migrant at informal workers.

“We’ve done it for education through ED-COM. Now let’s do it for labor,” giit ni Cayetano nang ihain niya ang panukala.###

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