

PH HOSTS 1ST INT'L OLYMPIAD ON NUCLEAR SCIENCE; YOUNG SCIENTISTS & ENGINEERS CONVERGE



Months of eager anticipation and preparation culminated for the 54 junior and senior secondary students from the Asia-Pacific region as the first International Nuclear Science Olympiad (INSO) commenced with an opening ceremony on 01 August 2024, at the SMX Convention Center Clark in Pampanga.

With the Philippines as the host country, the first INSO is organized by the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Nuclear Research Institute (DOST-PNRI), with support from the International Atomic Energy Agency.

“The primary objective of the first INSO hosted by the Philippines is to showcase the country’s commitment to advancing nuclear education and fostering international cooperation in the peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology (S&T),” said Dr. Carlo A. Arcilla, Director of DOST-PNRI and Chair of the 1st INSO Steering Committee.

He also stated that the initiative aims to foster international collaborations in nuclear science, showcase Filipino researchers globally, and enhance the teaching of nuclear concepts in educational institutions.

In his keynote address, DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum, Jr. highlighted the competition as a platform for exchanging ideas, building friendships, and inspiring the next generation of nuclear scientists and engineers. He also emphasized the role of nuclear and radiation applications in national development and explained how INSO’s objectives promote human well-being, wealth creation, wealth protection, and sustainability.

“The First International Nuclear Science Olympiad, now opening here in the Philippines, makes us the first country to showcase our local nuclear science and technology experts to the global community for the development of the Olympiad’s theoretical and experimental problems and solutions and supervising the competition,” Sec. Solidum added.

Meanwhile, Dr. Maya Al Azri, INSO Steering Committee Chair, and Marina Binti Mishar, Section Head of the IAEA Division for Asia-Pacific, both underscored the crucial role of nuclear science in addressing global challenges such as energy sustainability, environmental protection, medical advancements, and food security. They also noted that the younger generation will be key in leading the responsible use of nuclear S&T in the future.

Other speakers who graced the event with their messages included Dr. Leila P. Areola, Director of the Bureau of Learning Delivery at the Department of Education (DepEd); Dr. Alumanda M. Dela Rosa, President of the Philippine Nuclear Science Foundation (PNSF); and Mr. Isaijah Taylor, Chief Executive Officer of Valar Atomic. Along with the 54 participants and 31 team leaders, the opening ceremony was attended by a diverse group of distinguished guests, including officials from the Philippine government, representatives from international agencies and embassies, observers from three countries—Japan, Syria, and Indonesia, and partners from private nuclear-related organizations.

The first INSO

This newly established global initiative in nuclear science education envisions becoming an annual international competition for students under 20 years old.

INSO also seeks to inspire participants to pursue careers in nuclear S&T.

With four to five participants each, the 14 competing countries of the first INSO are Bahrain, Iran, Jordan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates.

The competition will involve a two-day assessment, featuring both theoretical and experimental components in nuclear science.

To provide participants with insights into both nuclear S&T’s role in the country and the local culture and history, Sec. Solidum Jr. shared that the participants will also tour heritage houses and key nuclear sites like the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant and Philippine Research Reactor. They will also engage in a socio-cultural gathering with local schools.

The event is co-organized by DOST, DepEd, the DOST-National Research Council of the Philippines, and PNSF. /PR

FIRST HALAL KITCHEN IN THE COUNTRY TO OPEN IN MINDANAO

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Regional Office No.11 (DOST-XI), in partnership with the Philippine Women’s College (PWC) in Davao City, is set to launch the first Halal Kitchen in the country, which will serve as an innovation, research center, and demonstration site for Halal industry.

According to Mayan Jane J. Inni, Assistant Regional Director for DOST-XI, the agency saw that there is still a gap in promoting Halal and tourism, despite the past initiatives they have conducted like the Halal Verification and Laboratory and the research and development (R&D) component, where they also partnered with different higher education institutions (HEIs) and state universities and colleges (SUCs).

“The problem is we have very few halal-certified hotels and restaurants here in Davao. Recognizing that Davao is the potential hub or location for events like this in Mindanao and the Southern part of the country becomes a limitation for us. So that’s why through this partnership, we established the halal kitchen facility at PWC to provide the innovation and research center for the industry to know more and learn more and to adapt Halal and the provision of services especially for tourism and education,” Inni said.

According to Dr. Aristotle P. Carandang, Dean of PWC, halal is a multi-billion industry and is now being looked at as a potential income-generating sector of the Philippines.

“Well definitely, it will cater to the rest of the Philippines. But as to whether it’s the first in the Philippines, I think it is because DOST is pioneering efforts to promote and provide answers to the problems of halal sectors. We started with the R&D, with the laboratory, and now with services. So, I think that’s true that the Davao Region Halal kitchen is the novel and the first in the Philippines”, Inni said.

“This year, I’m happy because it’s going to be operational, and we’re just going to do some government registration work, and the training for trainers is already being lined up and this is now under my watch”, Dr. Carandang said. He added that the halal training and instruction services will also be included in the PWC’s curriculum to capacitate more professionals, especially tourism students.

Once operational, the DOST-XI will provide experts and resource speakers for the requests for orientation and training.

The facility was inaugurated in August 2023, for the installation of equipment needed for the training. It was funded by the DOST-XI and the DOST-Philippine Council for Industry, Energy, and Emerging Technology Research and Development.

The facility was introduced to the participants of the Science Journo Ako (SJA), a science journalism seminar-workshop conducted in Davao City on 10-11 July

2024, organized by the DOST-Science and Technology Information Institute.

The activity was attended by 54 junior and senior high school students and teachers from 15 schools in the Davao region. /PR



CAGAYAN DE ORO TO HOST THE 2024 NATIONAL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION WEEK (NSTW) CELEBRATION ON NOVEMBER 27-DECEMBER 01

A year ago, the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) brought the biggest annual Science and Technology (S&T) celebration outside Metro Manila for the first time, with Iloilo City as the venue. Stemming from this significant success, Cagayan De Oro will be hosting the 2024 National Science, Technology, and Innovation Week (NSTW) celebration from November 27, 2024 to December 1, 2024 at the Limketkai Center.

The DOST, along with its partner institutions and stakeholders, will feature different forums, activities, and interactive exhibits relevant to the residents of Cagayan de Oro City and the entire Mindanao Island.

Carrying the theme “Siyensya, Teknolohiya, at Inobasyon: Kabalikatan sa Matatag, Maginhawa, at Panatag na Kinabukasan” and with the sub-theme “Providing Solutions and Opening Opportunities in the Green Economy,” the five-day celebration will focus on advancing and promoting waste management practices towards a circular economy and accelerate the deployment of renewable energy technologies to benefit business and communities.

“Bringing the biggest annual science, technology, and innovation (STI) celebration to Cagayan de Oro City will definitely benefit not just Cagayan de Oro but the entire Mindanao Island. Local industry stakeholders will have the opportunity to learn how various research and development (R&D) outputs and scientific and technical services can further strengthen the quality of their products and services, as well as make them sustainable by advancing green economy practices,” said DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr.

A series of Regional Science, Technology, and Innovation Week (RSTW) celebrations in various provinces across the country has been ongoing since April 2024, starting in Tagbilaran City, Bohol, and will continue until the second week of November in Davao City.

Pursuant to Proclamation 780 in 2019, NSTW celebration was moved to fourth week of November of every year to ensure maximum participation from schools, students, stakeholders, the business sector, and the public during the week-long celebration, aligning with the academic calendar of most universities, schools, and educational institutions.

The annual NSTW serves as the venue to showcase innovative technologies, inventions, and programs and services of the DOST that address the department’s thrust under its four strategic pillars, namely: promotion of human well-being, wealth creation, wealth protection, and sustainability. In the process of developing new technologies through extensive research and development, the DOST remains at the forefront of providing solutions and opening opportunities for the Filipinos.

For more information and updates regarding the 2024 NSTW celebration, please follow the official NSTW Facebook page and website or send your inquiries to nstwpromotions@gmail.com. (30)/PR



For we walk by faith, not by sight

2 Corinthians 5:7

ISSN: 3028-0044

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OUTPOURING SUPPORT BOLSTERS OIL SPILL RESPONSE IN CAVITE



5 FOREIGNERS, 24 FILIPINOS ARRESTED IN CAVITE SCAM HUB



END OF THE LINE. Some of the 29 foreign and Filipino nationals arrested in an online scam hub raid in Kawit, Cavite are presented to the media by the National Bureau of Investigation at its Quezon City office on Tuesday (Aug. 13, 2024). Twenty-four Filipinos, three Chinese and two Malaysians were found working in four houses in Grand Centennial Homes, where they operate romance, investment, crypto and impersonation scams. (Photo courtesy of NBI)

MANILA – The National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) reported on Tuesday the arrest of five foreign nationals operating an online scam hub in a Cavite suburb.

The NBI Cybercrime Division arrested Chinese Shang Guan Jian Bao, Guan Pei Hong and Masi Yi, and Malaysians Jenny Tan Sue Tzen and MKong Yee Xin during a raid in

Kawit on Aug. 9, according to a news release. Twenty-four Filipino workers were also apprehended.

The illegal operation, spread in four residential houses at Grand Centennial Homes, used computers and other electronic devices for romance, investment, crypto and impersonation scams, and credential stuffing (using

stolen usernames and passwords). “(The) workstations are said to be operated and manned by Filipinos under the direct control and supervision of foreign nationals,” the NBI said.

Also uncovered was a “scam showroom” with counterfeit luxury items and high-end products displayed to deceive potential victims.



MARCOS EYES NUCLEAR ENERGY TIE-UP WITH UAE POWER FIRM

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PHILHEALTH REGISTRATION AT ORIENTATION PARA SA 1,000 BAGONG MIYEMBRO NG 4PS SA BACOR, PINANGUNAHAN NI MAYOR STRIKE B. REVILLA

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“BLINDNESS: EDUCATION AND AWARENESS” PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY IN GEN. TRIAS

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OUTPOURING...

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Trece Martires City – The ongoing response to the recent oil spill affecting Cavite has received significant reinforcement through the generous donations from local government units, national agencies and private partners ensuring and sustaining the efficient and effective cleanup of the affected areas in Cavite. On August 5, Cleanway Environmental Management Solutions Inc. has extended its support by donating 50 drums with covers, specifically designed to serve as containers for wastes contaminated with oil collected along the shorelines of Cavite during the cleanups of the Office of the Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer, DENR-Cavite, and the Philippine Coast Guard. The substantial donation is expected to play a crucial role in

safely storing and transporting contaminated materials, minimizing the environmental impact, and speeding up the overall cleanup process. The company also signified readiness to provide more containers whenever need. Adding to this, All Waste Services from Santo Tomas, Batangas, also stepped forward with donation of 12 drums on August 6. Their swift response reflects the strong community spirit and cooperation across regions, highlighting the importance of collective efforts in addressing environmental emergencies. In other response activities, the Provincial Government of Cavite (PGC) has also completed the hauling of the 25,000 relief packages provided by the DSWD Regional Office IV-A through Dr. Regional Director, Dr.

Barry R. Chua. Hauling was competed faster through the manpower augmentation of the 93 Army Reservist courtesy of the Reserve Command, Philippine Army thru BGen Samuel B. Manzano PA, RESCOM Deputy Commander. The PNP Provincial Office also extended their manpower support through Provincial Director PCol Eleuterio M Ricardo, Jr. deploying 25 PNP personnel to assist in the hauling activities, together with PNP-Maritime personnel. PGC officials expressed their deep gratitude for these donations. The timely support from both the private sector and neighboring local government units underscores the collaborative approach needed to tackle such crises./CPIO

MARCOS...

MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. is hoping that the Philippines could land a partnership with the Emirates Nuclear Energy Corp. (ENEC) as the government looks to add nuclear energy into the country's energy mix. In a courtesy call in Malacañang Monday, Marcos told Mohamed Al Hammadi, chairman and chief executive officer of ENEC, of the government's openness to explore the possible use of nuclear energy for power generation. "This is a subject that we have been talking about for a long time. And especially after the pandemic, I'm trying to figure out what are the needs of the government," Marcos told Hammadi. "And this had become a very high priority topic. I hope we can find ways to help each other in this," he added. On June 27-29, First

Lady Liza Araneta Marcos, along with Pangasinan Rep. Mark Cojuangco, Special Envoy to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Kathryn Yu-Pimentel, Special Envoy to China for Trade, Investments and Tourism Benito Techico, Maharlika Investment Corp. president Rafael Consing Jr., and Ambassador Alfonso Ver to the UAE visited the Arab country and met with ENEC officials. During the meeting, Cojuangco and Hammadi reported to the First Lady that they had sent an invitation to the President to join the International Declaration to Triple Nuclear Energy –2024 Objectives at the United Nations General

Assembly (UNGA) this September. The First Lady said she would take this up with the President, adding the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) is currently consolidating inputs from concerned agencies regarding the Philippines' possible participation. The International Declaration to Triple Nuclear Energy calls for the tripling of global nuclear energy capacity by 2050. Last May, representatives from the Board of Investments met with UAE companies to discuss possible investment opportunities in the Philippines, particularly those relating to clean energy. (PNA)



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The Evolving Landscape of the 4Ps in the Philippines

The Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) has been a cornerstone of the Philippine government's poverty alleviation strategy for over a decade. Established under the Aquino administration and continued by successive governments, the program has provided conditional cash transfers to millions of Filipino families, primarily aiming to improve health, education, and nutrition among the poorest sectors of society. As the program evolves and faces new challenges, it is crucial to reflect on its impact, the criticisms it has garnered, and the opportunities for improvement. The Impact of 4Ps The 4Ps program has been instrumental in lifting many Filipino families out of extreme poverty. By conditioning cash transfers on school attendance and regular health check-ups, the program has encouraged investments in human capital—specifically, the education and health of children. According to government data, millions of children have stayed in school longer and are healthier as a result of this program. For many families, the financial support provided by the 4Ps has been a lifeline, helping them to meet basic needs and break the cycle of poverty. Furthermore, the World Bank and other international organizations have lauded the program as one of the more successful conditional cash transfer programs globally. It has also served as a model for other countries looking to implement similar poverty alleviation strategies. Criticisms and Challenges

Despite its successes, the 4Ps program has not been without criticism. One of the most significant concerns is the program's sustainability and long-term impact. Critics argue that while the program provides immediate relief, it does not necessarily lead to sustainable economic empowerment. Many beneficiaries remain dependent on the cash transfers, and there is limited evidence to suggest that the program has led to significant long-term income generation. There are also concerns about the accuracy and fairness of the beneficiary selection process. Reports of inclusion and exclusion errors have raised questions about whether the program is truly reaching the poorest of the poor. Some families who are in dire need may be left out due to bureaucratic inefficiencies, while others who do not qualify might still receive benefits.

Moreover, there is the issue of political manipulation. In some areas, the program has been used as a political tool, with benefits allegedly being withheld from those who do not support certain political figures. This undermines the program's credibility and its intended purpose of serving as an impartial poverty alleviation tool. Opportunities for Improvement To address these challenges, several measures can be considered to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of the 4Ps program. First, there is a need for improved targeting and data management. By leveraging technology and regularly updating the database of beneficiaries, the government can ensure

that assistance reaches those who need it most. Second, the program should be coupled with initiatives that promote livelihood development. Providing beneficiaries with skills training, access to microfinance, and opportunities for entrepreneurship can help them transition from dependency to self-sufficiency. This would not only alleviate poverty but also stimulate local economies.

Third, greater transparency and accountability are essential. The government must ensure that the program is insulated from political interference, and there should be clear mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating its impact. Engaging civil society and local communities in the oversight process can help maintain the integrity of the 4Ps.

Conclusion The 4Ps program has been a significant step forward in the Philippines' fight against poverty. While it has brought tangible benefits to millions of Filipinos, its implementation is not without flaws. As the country moves forward, there is a need for continuous assessment and adaptation of the program to ensure that it not only provides immediate relief but also fosters long-term economic empowerment and social equity. The challenge lies in balancing immediate needs with sustainable development, ensuring that the 4Ps remains a powerful tool for poverty alleviation in the years to come. - Ang Kabitenya

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Wednesday Chronicle News Publishing Center is published weekly every Wednesday

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Leptospirosis cases up by 17%: DOH



NO ROOM. The National Kidney and Transplant Institute (NKTi) in Quezon City has converted its gym into an extension ward due to the deluge of patients afflicted with leptospirosis, as photographed on Aug. 9, 2024. The Department of Health said Tuesday (Aug. 13, 2024) that the number of reported leptospirosis cases nationwide has increased by 17 percent in the past two weeks. (PNA photo by Joan Bondoc)

MANILA – The Department of Health (DOH) said Tuesday the number of reported leptospirosis cases nationwide has increased by 17 percent in the past two weeks. A total of 255 new leptospirosis cases were logged from July 21 to Aug. 3 after the onslaught of Super Typhoon Carina and the enhanced southwest monsoon. The figure is higher than the 217 cases recorded from July 7 to 20. The total number of recorded leptospirosis cases nationwide from Jan. 1 to Aug. 3 has reached 2,115. "It may be lower by 23 percent compared to 2,757 cases reported in the same period last year, but DOH epidemiologists continue to be cautious in interpreting trends as there may be late reports," the DOH said in a news release. "Also, the incubation period of leptospirosis ranges from two to 30 days, with a clinically observed average of 7 to 14 days."

Earlier, the DOH told patients suffering from leptospirosis that the National Kidney Transplant Institute (NKTi) and San Lazaro Hospital are not the only hospitals capable of treating the bacterial blood infection contracted from contaminated flood water. READ: Staffing shortage plagues NKTi amid rising leptospirosis cases

The NKTi has converted its gymnasium into a ward to accommodate leptospirosis cases seeking treatment. In an interview on Tuesday, University of the Philippines - Philippine General Hospital (UP-PGH) Director Gerardo Legaspi said the PGH began receiving leptospirosis cases last week.

"Araw-araw mayroong 24 dialysis na ginagawa for these patients (Every day, 24 dialysis [sessions] are conducted for these patients)," he said. "Medyo mataas ang mortality rate, kasi ang mahirap sa leptospirosis nagsisimula sa lagnat at sakit ng katawan so marami sa mga pasiyente binabalewala ito. Kapag nagsha-shut down na kidney, apektado na бага, liver dun lang tatakbo sa ospital (The mortality rate is quite high because leptospirosis starts with fever and body pains, which many patients ignore. Only when the patient's kidney begins to shut down, with the lungs and liver already affected, are they rushed to the hospital)," he added.

Last week, the DOH urged patients with leptospirosis to seek treatment in hospitals other than the NKTi, which is short of staff. In a public advisory, the DOH said it was assessing the clinical, epidemiologic, and logistics situation "to effectively respond to the rise in leptospirosis cases." (PNA)

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DSWD committed to enhance programs to combat poverty



MANILA – As one of the partners in whole-of-government approach to fight poverty, the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) is committed to implement President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s instruction to improve its existing programs for the poor, Secretary Rex Gatchalian said on Monday.

In a Kapihan sa Manila Prince online show, Gatchalian talked about the ongoing initiatives and updates on the agency's programs and services to mitigate stunting and hunger, upskilling social workers and paraprofessionals, and reaching out families and individuals in street situations (FISS), among others.

"Tama nga po kayo na hindi naman DSWD lang ang may responsibilidad sa paglaban sa kahirapan. Sabi nga ng ating Pangulo, ang instruction nya, whole-of-government-approach. Kung hindi nga whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach kasama ang private sector. Pero pag pag-uusapan ang DSWD, gusto ko i-highlight yung instruction ng ating Pangulo, Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. sa DSWD, i-improve yung mga existing natin mga programa (You are correct that it's not only the DSWD which has the responsibility to fight poverty. Like what our President said, his instruction, whole-of-government approach. If not whole-of-government, whole-of-society approach, including the private sector. But to speak about DSWD, I want to highlight the instruction of our President, Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to DSWD --to improve our existing programs)," Gatchalian said. Additional 4Ps grants

Gatchalian said the agency will continue improving the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps) especially that the program has been effective in its goal of breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty through the exit of households that are now self-sufficient. "Pero syempre, hindi tayo natutuwa na kung ano lang yun nandyan. Gusto ng ating Pangulo, i-improve yung mga hakbang para ma-improve natin yung 4Ps program (But of course, we are not happy with what is there only. Our President wants to improve the plans so that we can improve the 4Ps program)," he said.

Gatchalian said one of the 4Ps enhancements is the "First 1000-day grant" which will provide supplementary cash grants amounting to about PHP350 per month for female beneficiaries who are pregnant and nursing mothers to further improve the health and nutrition of their children during the critical first 1,000 days. The DSWD, he added, is also reengineering its system to automate and streamline the process of cash grants payouts of 4Ps beneficiaries. Investing in social workers and paraprofessionals

The DSWD Academy is one of the priority programs of the agency that offers learning opportunities for the development of the competencies of its partner stakeholders that are needed in the delivery of social welfare and development, as well as social protection programs and services. The Academy is envisioned as the center of excellence in Asia and Indo-Pacific regions that will provide a sustained high-level of social welfare and development practice for social workers, social welfare assistants, community development practitioners, and other para-

professionals. Gatchalian ensured that the FISS reached out under the agency's Oplan Pag-Abot Program are provided with necessary interventions.

"Pinupuntahan yan, kinukumbinsi na tumira sa aming temporary shelters at doon namin ginagawa ang necessary na intervention (They go there, convince them to live in our temporary shelters and there we do the necessary intervention)," he said.

He added one of the interventions is Balik Probinsya Program that has livelihood grants. Gatchalian also called on the public and the media to report cases of FISS to the DSWD. (PNA)

Medical and Dental Mission Marks CvSU CCAT Campus 54th Founding Anniversary



In celebration of the 54th Founding Anniversary of Cavite State University (CvSU) CCAT Campus in Tejeros Convention, Rosario, a Medical and Dental Mission was conducted on August 7, 2024. Under the theme "My Health, My Concern," the initiative focused on prioritizing the health and wellness of the CvSU community, with a total of 397 patients benefiting from the services provided.

Medical professionals from RHU-Rosario and General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital, along with dental specialists from the Rotary Club of Cavite Export Processing Zone (CEPZ), offered their expertise through services such as consultations, vital sign monitoring, dental cleaning, and fluoride application. Additionally, the Office of the Provincial Governor (OPG) staff provided prescription medicines, antibiotics, and multivitamins. To ensure fast healing and overall well-being for the community.

The event was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Cavite Medical Society, RHU-Rosario, Rotary Club of Cavite Export Processing Zone (CEPZ), CvSU faculty and volunteers, and the Provincial Government of Cavite.

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SM FOUNDATION EXTENDS HELP TO BATAAN COMMUNITY AMID OIL SPILL



A resident affected by the oil spill in Limay, Bataan receives a Kalinga Pack from a volunteer in SM City Bataan.

SM Foundation, in partnership with employee volunteers from SM City Bataan, distributed 300 Kalinga packs on August 9 to families affected by an oil spill in Barangay Lamao, Limay, Bataan.



SM City Bataan employee volunteers lead the distribution of 300 Kalinga Packs to the families affected by the oil spill in Bataan.

The aid distribution was carried out under Operation Tulong Express (OPTE), a social good program by SM Foundation in collaboration with SM Supermalls and SM Markets. The recent distribution in Limay focused on supporting affected families, providing essential supplies to help alleviate their immediate needs.

OPTE aims to provide rapid response during calamities and crises.

Since its establishment, OPTE has successfully distributed over 800,000 Kalinga Packs across the Philippines. /PR

SM CYBERMONTH LAUNCHES WITH A BANG

Cyberzone ignites gaming and tech frenzy

Cyberzone kicked off its highly anticipated SM Cybermonth with a bang recently at the Music Hall of SM Mall of Asia. The event was a massive celebration of gaming, technology, and pop culture, drawing thousands of attendees.



Gamers and tech enthusiasts converge at SM Mall of Asia for the launch of Cyberzone's SM Cybermonth, a celebration of gaming, tech, and pop culture.



(L-R): Esports star Akosi Dogie, Razer Gold Philippines Senior Product Evangelist Iren Ayla Binoya, gamer Een Mercado, SMART Assistant Vice President - Head of Strategic Accounts Christian So, and SM Supermalls' Executive Vice President Jonjon San Agustin

The event started with an electrifying Celebrity Showmatch featuring esports stars Razzie Binx and Akosi Dogie, setting the tone for the exciting events to follow. The launch also introduced a new hero video with the hashtag #GotITatCyberzone.



Esports celebrities Razzie Binx and Akosi Dogie

The Cyberzone Gaming Arena was the epicenter of the action, hosting the Cyberzone Challenger Series with tournaments for popular games like Mobile Legends: Bang Bang (MLBB), Call of Duty: Mobile (CODM), Wild Rift, Tetris, Genshin Impact, and Tekken 8. To complement the gaming experience, the latest tech gadgets and products available in Cyberzone were showcased as part of the Tech Fair and Great Gadget Sale.

A highlight of the event was the Meet-and-Greet with the MLBB Women's Invitational World Cup Champion, Smart Omega Empress, in partnership with SMART. For card game and pop culture enthusiasts, the Cyberzone Hobby Corner in collaboration with Lodus was a major draw. A Cosplay Competition, co-organized with Toycon PH, added to the dynamic atmosphere.

Cyberzone, in partnership with SM Cares, SMART, and PLDT Home, reinforces its commitment to sustainability by deploying e-waste collection bins in the Gaming Arena during the three-day SM Cybermonth Launch. This initiative, launched in June 2024, with bins now in over 65 Cyberzone branches and all SM Supermalls nationwide, aligns with the SM Waste-Free Future campaign, proving that fun and environmental responsibility can go hand-in-hand.



WEDNESDAY CHRONICLE MPT SOUTH DELIVERS VITAL RELIEF TO COMMUNITIES IMPACTED BY TYPHOON CARINA

In a compassionate display of corporate social responsibility, Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPT South), a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), sprang into action to provide critical aid to communities devastated by the wrath of Typhoon Carina that hit Metro Manila and Cavite. On August 5 and 6, 2024, MPT South delivered a total of 600 relief packages to affected host communities, including Brgy. Pulvorista and Aplaya in Kawit, Brgy. Talaba II in Bacoor, Brgy. Tambo, Don Galo, and San Dionisio in Parañaque, and Barangay 201 in Pasay City. Recognizing the profound impact of the storm, MPT South also shared 100 relief packages with its valued partners, the Philippine Navy and the Alliance of Concerned Transport Organization (ACTO), underscoring the company's commitment to supporting a wide network of stakeholders. "We hope these relief packages will help families and communities see that there is always hope, even in these trying times," said Arlette V. Capistrano, Vice President for Communication and Stakeholder Management at MPT South. "It is essential that we support each other in any way we can." This swift and compassionate response from MPT South demonstrates the company's unwavering commitment to its corporate mission and responsibility to support its host communities, especially in times of crisis. MPT South, together with the people who revolve around it, embodies the strong sense of 'Bayanihan' – a uniquely Filipino spirit of community, cooperation, and mutual aid – and is dedicated to sharing this spirit with those in greatest need. MPT South is a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the infrastructure arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC). Aside from the CALAX and CAVITEX network of toll roads, MPTC's domestic portfolio includes the concessions for the North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), the NLEX Connector Road, the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SC-TEX) and the Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in Cebu. /PR



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BLINDNESS...

On August 2, 2024, the Pavilion Hall at the Senior Citizen Office in the City of General Trias, buzzed with activity as it played host to a significant event titled "Blindness: Education and Awareness."

Organized by the Office of the Provincial Governor - Office of the Provincial Persons with Disability Affairs Officer (OPG-OP-PDAO) in collaboration with the City Government of General Trias, the program was held in celebration of White Cane Safety Day. White Cane Safety Day is an important event dedicated to recognizing the achievements and independence of people who are blind or visually impaired. It serves as a reminder of the significance of the white cane as a tool for mobility and independence, promoting the rights and capabilities of blind individuals.

The program commenced with a warm welcome from Ms. Rebecca Generoso, the City Social Welfare and Development Officer of General Trias City. She greeted the beneficiaries and guests with heartfelt words, expressing gratitude for their attendance and emphasizing

tendance and emphasizing the importance of unity and support in fostering an inclusive society.

Following the welcome remarks, Mr. Ariel Mugol, Officer-In-Charge of the Persons with Disability Affairs Office (PDAO) of General Trias City, took the stage. Mr. Mugol delivered a stirring speech filled with inspiration and encouragement for the blind community. He underscored the power of resilience and the importance of providing equal opportunities for persons with disabilities to thrive. The program featured an enlightening session led by Ms. Carolina C. Sam, the Chief Operating Officer of ATRIEV IT Center, who is an inspiring figure within the blind community. Ms. Sam captivated the audience with her remarkable journey, sharing her personal experiences, hardships, and achievements despite her blindness. Her story of perseverance and triumph over life's obstacles resonated deeply with everyone present, serving as a beacon of hope and motivation.

Ms. Sam also discussed the critical role of the white cane in the lives of

blind individuals. She emphasized how the white cane not only serves as a mobility aid but also as a symbol of independence and empowerment, allowing blind individuals to navigate the world with confidence and dignity. The program concluded on a high note with the distribution of white canes to 30 deserving beneficiaries from various cities and municipalities of Cavite. This gesture symbolized the commitment of the organizers to support and uplift the blind community, providing them with essential tools to enhance their mobility and independence.

The "Blindness: Education and Awareness" event was a resounding success, leaving a lasting impact on all attendees. It underscored the importance of education, awareness, and community support in promoting the rights and well-being of blind individuals. Through inspiring talks, meaningful discussions, and the generous distribution of white canes, the event highlighted the collective effort needed to create a more inclusive and accessible society for all. /CPIO

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PHILHEALTH...

Naganap noong ika-12 ng Agosto 2024, ang PhilHealth Registration at Orientation para sa 1,000 bagong miyembro ng 4Ps sa Bacoor. Ang nasabing aktibidad ay program ng PhilHealth sa pakikipagtulungan ng City Government ng Bacoor sa pangunguna ni Mayor Strike B. Revilla, at CSWD. Layunin ng programa

ang magkaroon ng libreng membership sa PhilHealth at konsulta matapos ma-register ang mga bagong miyembro ng 4Ps sa Bacoor. Ito ay bahagi ng patuloy na pagsisikap ng lokal na pamahalaan katuwang ang PhilHealth na siguruhin ang kalusugan at kabutihan ng serbisyo para sa mga Bacooreño. Pinangunahan ni Ms.

Ma. Obelia Fontanilla, ang Chief Social Insurance Officer ng PhilHealth Dasma, ang mga kinatawan ng PhilHealth sa nasabing aktibidad. Sa pamamagitan ng ganitong mga inisyatibo, patuloy na nagsusumikap ang Lungsod ng Bacoor na alagaan ang kalusugan at kabuhayan ng bawat mamamayan. /CBIO

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ANCIENT HEALING KNOWLEDGE, METHODS & PRODUCTS for WELLNESS

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JAIL...

MANILA – A party-list lawmaker on Monday sought to restore the original budget proposal of the Department of Agriculture (DA) for 2025 amounting to PHP513.8 billion.

During the budget briefing of the House Committee on Appropriations, AGRI Party-list Rep. Wilbert Lee called for an increase in the DA's budget from the PHP200.2 billion proposed by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for next year.

"Priority ba natin talaga ang agrikultura? Seryoso ba tayo dito? Dahil ang nabasa ko, sinabi ni [DA] Secretary [Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr.], PHP513 billion ang request niya. Ngayon, nakita ko PHP200 billion lang ang binigay. Ang laki ng difference. Pano natin pabababain ang presyo ng pagkain kung kulang ang inilaan na pondo para sa agrikultura? (Is agriculture really our priority? Are we serious about this? Because what I've read is that the Secretary said PHP513 billion was his request. Now, what I've seen is that only PHP200 billion was given. That is a huge difference. How are we supposed to lower food prices if we have insufficient funds for agriculture?)," Lee said.

Lee said a higher budgetary allocation is necessary to increase agricultural productivity and lower food prices. "Dapat ibigay yung ni-request ng ahensya, at gasusin nang tama para maramdaman agad ng mamamayan (We should grant the request of the agency and spend it right so that it can be felt by the citizens)," Lee said. Lee's call was echoed by some lawmakers, including Isabela Rep. Antonio Albano, Camarines Sur Rep. Luis Raymund Villafuerte Jr., and TGP Party-list Rep. Jose Teves Jr., among others.

"Kailangan nating suportahan ang budget ng Department of Agriculture (We need to support the budget of the Department of Agriculture)," Teves said. Lee vowed to work closely with the DA submit his proposed amendments to increase the agency's capital outlay for next year. "May pondo ang gobyerno... Ano pa ang hinihintay natin? Murang pagkain, mataas na produksyon, gawin na natin (The government has funds... What are we waiting for? Cheaper food, higher productivity, let's do it)," Lee said.

Toward a Masaganang Bagong Pilipinas Laurel, meanwhile, underscored the need for substantial investments in agriculture in order to deliver on the Marcos administration's promise of a "Masaganang Bagong Pilipinas" (A Prosperous New Philippines).

This program focuses on expanding agri-fisheries areas for increased production, modernizing agri and fishery production systems, and developing and improving post-harvest systems and infrastructures, among others.

Laurel said the agri-fishery sector is crucial for increasing food availability, reducing food insecurity, and alleviating malnutrition. "It holds the promise of breaking the cycle of conflict and poverty, we must enhance Philippine agriculture to make it more productive, competitive, and resilient to support our growing population and build prosperous rural communities," he said. Laurel noted that the DA's budget for 2025 amounting to PHP200.2 billion would fund essential interventions for agricultural modernization, as well as increase productivity, global competitiveness, and resilience against disasters, climate change and pandemics.

Laurel said the agency's budget is part of a national plan aimed at addressing rising prices, reducing poverty and ensuring that "every Filipino benefits from economic growth." "We have prepared this budget with careful consideration of its importance to the President's governance reforms and initiatives. We are committed to managing it with transparency and efficiency. We aspire for a prosperous, stable, and comfortable life for our farmers and fishers," he said.

Marikina Rep. Stella Luz

Quimbo, senior vice chair of the House Appropriations Committee, said the DA plays a crucial role in ensuring the country's food security, thus the need to provide sufficient funding and support for the agriculture sector.

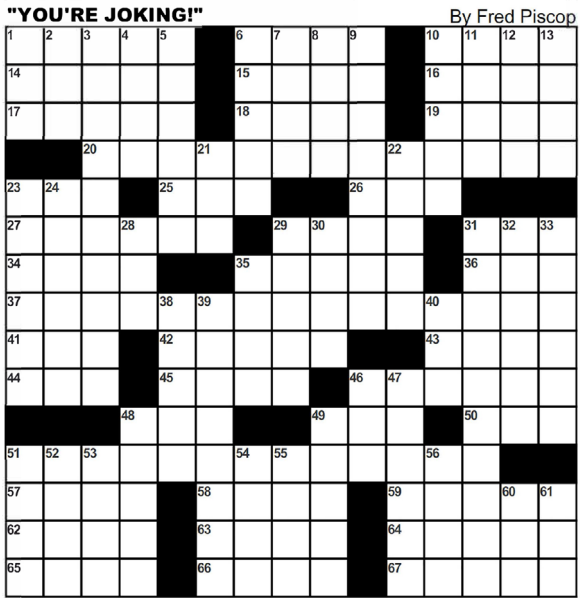
"Ang ating mga magsasaka at mangingisda ang pundasyon ng seguridad sa pagkain ng bansa. Sila ang nagdadala ng pagkain sa mesa ng bawat pamilyang Pilipino. Tungkulin natin na tiyakin na ang kanilang pagsisikap ay kinikilala at sapat na sinusuportahan (Our farmers and fisherfolk are the foundation of food security in the country. They bring food to the table of every Filipino family. It is our duty to make sure that their efforts are acknowledge and aptly supported)," Quimbo said.

Quimbo recognized the interventions made by the DA, particularly the loans granted to farmers released through the Expanded Rice Credit Assistance under the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (ER-CA-RCEF).

State-run Land Bank of the Philippines earlier said the total loans reached PHP2.5 billion as of April 30, 2024, benefitting more than 15,400 rice farmers and 270 cooperatives with more than 21,300 member-beneficiaries.

Quimbo said the DA should strengthen programs aimed at providing insurance coverage for crops, livestock, and fisheries to guarantee the protection of the agriculture sector in the face of climate change and natural disasters.

"Ang tagumpay ng agrikultura ay tagumpay ng bawat Pilipino. Kailangan nating tiyakin na ang bawat hakbang ay nagdudulot ng konkretong suporta para sa ating mga magsasaka at mangingisda para sa kaunlaran ng bansa (The success of the agriculture sector is the success of every Filipino. We need to ensure that every step we make provides concrete support for our farmers and fisherfolk for the development of the nation)," she said. (PNA)



- ireedailycrossword.com
ACROSS
- 1) Elbows, but not knees
 - 6) Thicke from Canada
 - 10) Thin nail
 - 14) Says with certainty
 - 15) Like early LPs
 - 16) Licentious sort
 - 17) "Shushi!"
 - 18) Cool off, dog-style
 - 19) Pull down, so to speak
 - 20) Big time for a practical joker
 - 23) "Nonsense!"
 - 25) Put away, in a way
 - 26) Like a triathlete
 - 27) Things to strive for
 - 29) Chrysler's parent company
 - 31) Org. with a noted journal
 - 34) Fit well together
 - 35) Swarming pest
 - 36) Purge
 - 37) Group that recorded "The Joker," 1973
 - 41) Letter after zeta
 - 42) William who founded CBS
 - 43) Irish Rose's man
 - 44) Didn't budge
 - 45) Delta buildup
 - 46) Hallucination, e.g.
 - 48) Our sun
 - 49) Rock's Jon _ Jovi
 - 50) Common conjunction
 - 51) The Joker player in "Batman," 1989
 - 57) Muscular woe
 - 58) Widow of Jordan's King Hussein
 - 59) Son of Henry Ford
 - 62) Make suds
 - 63) Out of the ballpark
 - 64) Ebbets Field great
 - 65) Gets firm
 - 66) Flexible Flyer, e.g.
 - 67) Clay pigeon launchers
- DOWN
- 1) Lobbyists' org.
 - 2) An ex of Frank
 - 3) Hill slot
 - 4) Begin a fall
 - 5) Star-related
 - 6) More than adequate
 - 7) Don't lift a finger
 - 8) Cornerstone word
 - 9) Too young
 - 10) Brittany seaport
 - 11) Word in Hope/Crosby titles
 - 12) Pervasive glow
 - 13) Reject as false
 - 21) " _ a boy!"
 - 22) Engine displacement unit
 - 23) Cleanses with water
 - 24) "Queen of American folk music"
 - 28) Off-road buggy, for short
 - 29) Steakhouse order
 - 30) At one's leisure
 - 31) Arm of the Indian Ocean
 - 32) Lowly assistant
 - 33) 1 or 2, in 1 + 2
 - 35) Pepper pulverizer
 - 38) Computer printer name
 - 39) Campaign office output
 - 40) Psych majors' degs.
 - 46) Tennessee athlete, for short
 - 47) What a caret signifies
 - 48) Puts spin on
 - 49) Used an auger
 - 51) The "ones" in one-twins
 - 52) Zoning unit, perhaps
 - 53) Guitar great Atkins
 - 54) Hard to rattle
 - 55) Use a whetstone on
 - 56) River of Silesia
 - 60) Kreskin's gift, supposedly
 - 61) "_ Miz"

CITY OF BACORR NEWS

BACORR CICTC MEMBERS MEETING: ADVANCING DIGITAL INITIATIVES



August 13, 2024 - In a strategic move towards advancing digital initiatives, the City Government of Bacoor recently hosted the BACORR CICTC MEMBERS MEETING. Organized by the E-Governance Department and Management Information System (E-GOV/MIS), the meeting brought together key stakeholders from the Bacoor City Information & Communications Technology Council (CICTC).

The meeting led by Mayor Strike B. Revilla and Mr. Lodgene Asuncion, the head of E-GOV/MIS. Participants from various organizations such as DICT Cavite, DOST Cavite, DepEd Bacoor City, Bacoor Chambers of Commerce, PLDT, PNP, TESDA Cavite, CavSU, STI, St. Dominic, and UPHS Dalta-Molino, along with representatives from the City Government of Bacoor, actively engaged in discussions.

The agenda of the meeting included coordination for the Regional ICT Council summit plan and program scheduled for August 23, 2024, hosted by the City of Bacoor, the presentation of the Bacoor Digital City Roadmap, and the election of officers for the Bacoor ICT Council.

Following the election, Hon. Strike B. Revilla was appointed as the Chairperson, with Dean Alvin Jason Virata of Saint Dominic as the President, Pastor Reglos Arguelles Jr. as the Vice President for Talent Development, Mr. Lodgene Asuncion as the Vice President for Public Sector, Katrina Sanchez as the Secretariat, Mr. Jason Atienza as the Treasurer, and Ms. Arlyn Del Prado as the Auditor.

Libreng Legal Consultation, at Notarial Services

Sa darating na Sabado, August 17, 2023, mula 7:00 AM, magkakaroon po tayo ng PISTANG SAN LORENZO 2024 sa Tatang Carlos Event Place, Westville Homes, Barangay Ligas 2 Bacoor City.

Sa okasyong ito, magkakaroon po tayo ng Legal Aid Clinic, libreng legal consultation, at notarial services. Ito ay para sa ating mga kababayan na nangangailangan ng tulong legal.

Nawa'y maging makabuluhan at makatulong ang

pagdiriwang na ito sa ating komunidad. Salamat po at magkita-kita tayo sa Sabado! Mabuhay ang Barangay Ligas 2! Mabuhay ang Bacoor City! Maraming salamat po!



Last week's solution:



Cavite Career Caravan in Kawit



The Provincial Government of Quezon, led by Mr. Romano Franco C. Talaga, Executive Assistant II, and Mr. Alberto S. Bay Jr., conducted a benchmarking activity at the Provincial Government of Cavite on August 6, 2024, at the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Session Hall, Legislative Building, Trece Martires City. Their visit aimed to improve the LGUs operational practices and quality management system.

Mr. Alvin S. Mojica Provincial Administrator for Community Affairs and former PGC Quality Management Representative (QMR) proudly welcomed the delegates. In his speech, he highlighted the meticulous processes and collaborative efforts that propelled the PGC to achieve the ISO Certification, emphasizing the commitment to excellence and quality management that define the province's governance.

The PGC team led by the current QMR, Ms. Michelle F. Alcid helpfully assisted the visitors as they go through the benchmarking itinerary where detailed presentations, office tours, and interactive discussions centered on Cavite's quality management practices and the different ISO 9001:2015 certified process.

Joining the program were the Documents and Records Management Committee led by Mr. Jovani Cuadra, the Training and Education Committee led by Ms. Maria Fe Satsatin, the Workplace Committee thru Ms. Luzviminda Amparo and Mr. Walter Pereña, the Planning Committee led by Engr. Lorna Leyran, Internal Quality Audit Management Team led by Ms. Anne Minette Dastas, and Feedback Management Committee thru Ms. Karen Espiritu.

The event's highlight was the opportunity for the delegates to have a one-on-one discussion with their counterparts from the PGC. The activity ensured that each team focused on discussion and collaborative planning tailored to their specific areas of expertise.

PGC's QMS team hopes that the insights gained from the visit to province will be instrumental in guiding the delegation from Quezon in improving their QMS and operational efficiency./CPIO

516 Imuseños receive Vital Healthcare Services in a Successful Medical Mission

On August 8, 2024, a successful medical mission was held in Barangay Anabu II-C, Imus City, benefiting 516 residents with vital healthcare services. The initiative was led by Congressman Adrian Jay Advincula, City Mayor Alex L. Advincula, Vice Mayor Homer Saquilayan, and their respective councils, alongside the Barangay Chairperson in Cluster IV, in collaboration with medical professionals from The Medical Center Imus and General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital (GEAMH).

The mission provided a wide range of medical services, including general check-ups, consultations, pneumococcal vaccination, PhilHealth registration, ECGs, X-rays, and laboratory tests such as urinalysis and blood tests, ensuring the community had access to quality healthcare. The local officials expressed their gratitude



for the continued support of the provincial government through Governor Jonvic Remulla and reaffirmed their commitment to sustaining such initiatives to improve the health and well-being of Imuseños.

The event was met with gratitude and appreciation from the residents, who welcomed the opportunity to receive much-needed medical attention in their own locality.

CAVITE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT RECIEVES NATIONAL HONOR FOR EXEMPLARY SUPPORT TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

The Provincial Government of Cavite, under the leadership of Governor Jonvic Remulla, was honored with the Special Unit Award for Local Government Unit - Provincial Government Level during the 123rd Police Service Anniversary at the PNP National Headquarters, Camp Crame, Quezon City, on August 8, 2024.

His Excellency, President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr., alongside DILG Secretary Atty. Benjamin C. Abalos, Jr., and PNP Chief Police General Rommel Francisco Marbil, conferred the award in recognition of the provincial government's unparalleled support to the Cavite Police Provincial Office and its personnel—a level of commitment that stands as a model across the nation.

Mr. Alvin S. Mojica, Provincial Administrator for Community Affairs of the Provincial Government of Cavite, accepted the award on behalf of Governor Remulla and the provincial government during a ceremony held at the PNP Auditorium. The prestigious recognition underscores the strong partnership between the Cavite provincial government and law enforcement agencies, reaffirming their shared dedication to ensuring the safety and security of Caviteños.



CASMEDC CONVENES FOR THE UPCOMING 2024 CAVITE MSMES BUSINESS CONFERENCE

The Cavite SME Development Council (CaSMEDC) holds its 3rd Quarter Meeting on August 13, 2024, at Café Amadeo, Brgy. Banaybanay, Amadeo, Cavite. The council, in partnership with the Department of Trade and Industry and Office of the Provincial Cooperative Development Officer (OPCDO), shall spearhead the implementation of the 2024 Cavite MSMES Business Conference to be held at SM City Rosario on September 25, 2024, with the theme: Forward-Onward: Unleashing MSMES Potential for Sustainable Innovation./DTI-CAVITE

Iniulat ng 2nd Infantry "Jungle Fighter" Division, Philippine Army na patuloy ang isinasagawa nilang local peace engagements, hanggang sa barangay level, upang mapanatili ang katahimikan at kapayapaan, at mapigilan ang insurhensiya.

Sa Kapihan sa Bagong Pilipinas nitong Agosto 13 na idinaos sa Camp General Mateo Capinpin sa Tanay, Rizal, ibinahagi nina 201st Infantry "Kabalikat" Brigade Commander BGEN Erwin Alea at 202nd Infantry "Unifier" Brigade Brigade Commander BGEN Cerilo Balaoro Jr ang ilan pang mga napagtagumpayang programa ng Philippine Army ukol sa pagprotekta sa mga komunidad.

Ilan sa mga napagtagumpayang programa ng 2nd Infantry Division ay:

- * Paghahanda ng 202nd Brigade sa turnover sa Philippine National Police (PNP) ng pamumuno sa usapin ng peace and security operations sa Calabarzon dahil sa mababang threat level ng insurhensiya.
- * Patuloy na pakikipag-ugnayan ng pamahalaan sa mga barangay y ukol sa sitwasyon ng kapayapaan sa kani-kanilang lugar bago maideklarang SIPS area.
- * Nasa 12 bayan sa lalawigan ng Rizal ang ginawaran na ng Stable Internal Peace and Security (SIPS) status ng Regional Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (RTF ELCAC).
- * Nasa 13 bayan na sa Laguna at Cavite ang ginawaran ng Stable Internal Peace and Security (SIPS) status mula sa RTF ELCAC. Kasama sa bilang na ito ang walong (8) bayan na sa Laguna at limang (5) bayan sa Cavite Province.
- * Patuloy ang isinasagawang community visitation ng 201st Infantry "Kabalikat" Brigade upang ipaalam sa mga komunidad ang sitwasyon ng kapayaan sa kanilang lugar upang nagkaroon ng kakayanan ang mga barangay na protektahan ang kanilang komunidad at ng sistematikong paraan ng pagbibigay impormasyon sa mga awtoridad ukol sa mga kahina-hinalang grupo.
- * Patuloy na pakikipag-ugnayan ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) sa Philippine National Police (PNP) upang masiguro ang seguridad ng mga barangay.
- * Pagbibigay pagkakataon sa mga dating rebelde na magbagong buhay at magbalik-loob sa lipunan sa tulong ng programang E-CLIP ng Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG).
- * Patuloy na pagsailalim sa reorientation ng mga sumukong miyembro ng mga Communist Terrorist Group (CTG) bago sila tulungan manumpa ng panunumbalik sa pamahalaan.
- * Nagsisilbing panimula ang local peace engagement tungo sa pangmatagalang kapayapaan sa mga bayan ng Antipolo at Rodriguez, Rizal, alinsunod sa proseso ng deklarasyon ng SIPS status.
- * Pagsasagawa ng information campaign ng Philippine Army sa mga kabataan sa mga paaralan at State Universities and Colleges (SUC) na nakatunon sa mga estratehiya ng recruitment ng CPP-NPA-NDF at mga legal front nito.
- * Patuloy ang pakikipag-ugnayan ng AFP sa sektor ng edukasyon kung saan nabigyang pansin ang gampanin ng mga guro sa pagbibigay-kaalaman sa mga mag-aaral.
- * Pagbibigay ng humanitarian assistance sa panahon ng sakuna tulad ng bagyo, pagbaha, atbp. Katuwang ang Office of Civil Defense at lokal na pamahalan, at pagbibigay suporta sa Search and Rescue operations at transportasyon sa mga nasalantang lugar.

Ang mga inisyatibo ng 2nd Infantry Jungle Fighter Division ay mahalaga para sa pagpapatatag ng seguridad at para sa pagbibigay ng suporta sa mga programang pang-kaunlaran sa iba't ibang bahagi ng bansa upang makamit ang payapa at ligtas na komunidad para sa Bagong Pilipinas./CPIO