

**TOWN in FOCUS**

El Niño team reconstituted, response strategy expansion eyed p.5



VOLUME XXXIX No. 45 Mayo 15-21, 2023 P6.00

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# PMC welcomes newly minted Marines



Photo file from Facebook

TERNATE, Cavite – The Philippine Marine Corps welcomed a new batch of Marines composed of 165 males and 6 females of the Marine Basic Course Classes Nr 491st, 492nd, and 493rd in a graduation ceremony held at the Basic School Grandstand, Marine Base Gregorio Lim on May 12, 2023. MGen Arturo G Rojas PN(M), Commandant Philippine Marine Corps, presided over the event as a guest of honor and speaker. He congratulated the graduates and told them, “You have earned the title of Marines. You have demonstrated the attitude, strength, and discipline

required to be called a Marine – the representative of the best in soldiery. Continue to better yourselves and your warfighting abilities, and always pray. As you enter the operational area, this is your most potent weapon. Trust the Lord God Almighty and He will keep His promises.” Through the rigorous training and exercise designed by the Philippine Marine Corps Force Development Center’s Basic School, candidate soldiers undertake the 6-month Marine Basic Course to develop a deep appreciation for the organization, competency, and military *continue to page 3*

## FREE LEGAL ADVICE AT LATE BIRTH REGISTRATION SA MALAGASANG 2-B!

SA IKATLONG linggo ng buwan, bibisitahin ng libreng legal advice at late birth registration ng Pamahalaang Lungsod ng Imus ang Mandarin Homes Covered Court, Brgy. Malagasang 2-B sa darating na Biyernes, Mayo 19, 2023, sa ganap na 9:00 AM.

Para sa Free Legal Advice, dalhin ang mga dokumento o legal papers na may kaugnayan sa inyong nais ipakonsulta.

Para naman sa Late Birth Registration, dalhin ang mga sumusunod:

- Kung ipinanganak sa Imus, Cavite:
- Negative result mula sa Philippine Statistics Authority

- Baptismal Certificate ng aplikante
- Medical record
- Affidavit of two witnesses
- Marriage contract ng mga magulang
- Cedula ng mga magulang sa taong 2023
- Voter’s affidavit ng aplikante
- School record (Form 137) o anumang dokumentong nagpapatunay na ipinanganak sa Imus, Cavite ang aplikante
- Barangay Certification na nakasaad ang lugar ng kapanganakan
- Para sa mga ipinanganak sa ibang bayan o lungsod:
- Negative result mula sa Philippine Statistics Authority

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## PBBM okays implementation of RCEP tariff commitments

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos

MANILA – President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. has approved the implementation of the Philippines’ tariff commitments under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP).

Marcos signed Executive Order (EO) 25 on May 7, approving the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) Board’s recommendation to operationalize the country’s schedule of tariff commitments under RCEP.

“There is a need to modify the rates of import duty on certain imported articles in order to faithfully comply with the Philippine Schedule of Tariff Commitments under the RCEP Agreement,” he said in EO 25.

Republic Act 10863, or the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, provides that the President, upon the NEDA’s recommendation, shall modify import duties, including any necessary change in classification and other import restrictions, as required or appropriate, to carry

out and promote foreign trade with other countries.

Under EO 25, all originating goods of RCEP member countries that are subject to tariff differentials shall be levied the prescribed rates of duty, subject to the submission of a Proof of Origin and compliance with all applicable requirements under the agreement.

The order covers those that “are entered into or withdrawn from warehouses or free zones in the Philippines for

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## NCR Covid-19 positivity rate slightly rises to 25.4%

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor

MANILA – The positivity rate or the number of people testing positive for the coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) in the National Capital Region (NCR) has reached 25.4 percent as of May 13.

In a tweet on Sunday night, OCTA Research Group fellow Dr. Guido David said the figure was a slight increase from the region’s positivity rate of 22.7 percent from May 1 to 6.

“High positivity rates seen in Bataan (20.2 percent), Batangas (33.7 percent), Benguet (20.3 percent), Bulacan (25.2 percent), Camarines Sur

(46.5 percent), Cavite (36.9 percent), Isabela (36.6 percent), Laguna (29.9 percent), Oriental Mindoro (29.5 percent), Pampanga (24.8 percent), Quezon (42.7 percent), and Rizal (44.4 percent),” he said.

The positivity rates in the Visayas and Mindanao regions were low except for Aklan with 56.9 percent and Leyte with 21 percent.

Earlier, the Department of Health told the public to focus on measures that would protect oneself against Covid-19, such as wearing face masks, getting vaccinated, and receiving booster doses as cases rise. (PNA)



WAITING FOR ORDERS. A delivery rider sits beside a Covid-19-themed wall graffiti of a man wearing a face mask while waiting for orders from customers at Teacher’s Village in Quezon City in this photo dated April 18, 2023. The Covid-19 positivity rate in the National Capital Region has reached 25.4 percent as of May 13, 2023. (PNA photo by Joan Bondoc)



Philippine National Police Chief General Benjamin Acorda Jr. (PNA file photo)

## Zubiri.....

Zubiri said. ASEAN Wages

To allay fears that a wage hike increase would drive foreign investments away, he laid out minimum wage figures in the Southeast Asian region, citing that Indonesia's minimum wage is equivalent to P842.00 a day; Malaysia's is P854.00 a day; and Singapore's is P2,486.00 a day.

Only Vietnam has a lower minimum wage, equivalent to P511 a day, but Zubiri emphasized that their cost of living, under the Communist Party of Vietnam, is more affordable compared to the Philippines.

"Wala po silang kaltas sa PAG-IBIG, sa PhilHealth, sa SSS. Dito, ang naiwan sa ating mga kababayan mula P570.00 ay P525.00 na take-home. Pang-Metro Manila lang yan. Hindi pa natin pinag-uusapan sa Bukidnon, sa Mindanao."

In Northern Mindanao, the minimum wage is at P390.00

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for non-agricultural, and P378.00 for agricultural. In the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, which has the lowest wages in the country, it is at P316.00 for non-agricultural, and P306.00 for agricultural. Business Sector

"I would like to remind everybody that we already reached a 7.6 percent GDP growth rate, one of our highest since 1976," said Zubiri.

"Pero ang inflation rate natin at the start of the year was 8.7 percent. Bumaba lang po ng 6.6 percent, pero hindi po bumaba diyan ang presyo ng pagkain, kuryente, at tubig. Ang bumaba diyan ay presyo ng iba't ibang industrial products gaya ng cabilla at semento. Hindi naman yan makakain ng mamamayang Pilipino."

Zubiri also reasoned that since many businesses have recouped from the pandemic and are back to making pre-pandemic income, it is now time to share

their income with their workers.

"Napaka-controversial na mag-file ng wage hike," he acknowledged, disclosing that he has received many concerned calls and opposition from business groups. "Pero ang dami na ring nagawa ng Senado para sa ating business sector."

In 2021, Congress passed the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises Act (CREATE Act), which brought down Corporate Income Tax from 30 percent to 25 percent. Zubiri also detailed how the Senate blocked the Department of Finance's proposal to double the dividends tax, after the passage of CREATE.

"Those were pro-business measures. Ngayon ang akala po namin, dahil may mas malaki po kayong income, sana ay maibahagi niyo po ito sa ating mga kababayan. It's about time that we share. Tinulungan po namin ang business sector with pro-business legislation. Ngayon itaas naman po natin ang sweldo." (PIA-NCR)

contributions for pensions.

"Pwede naman po sana ayusin natin ang pagkokolekta ng buwis. Maaaring may pagkukulang pa. Siguraduhin natin na walang mapunta sa korapsyon (We can fix the collection of taxes. Maybe there is deficiency there). I urge the BIR [Bureau of Internal Revenue], the Bureau of Customs to collect taxes and customs duty properly and more efficiently. Eliminating corruption in the government should be enough to cover for the pension requirement," Go said.

"We can also impose higher taxes on luxury goods. Mayayaman naman po ang bumibili diyan. Pwede po nating i-increase ang (Those who buy those are rich. We can increase the) SIN Tax. With this, we can also protect the health of our people," he added.

The filed measures have been referred to a technical working group and discussions will continue after President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. delivers his second State of the Nation Address on the last Monday of July.

"I do not want to rush things. There is no room for mistake here. If this committee commits a mistake, either we go for the MUPs, we go for the government, we have to strike a balance. This needs to be acceptable to everybody," said Estrada, the committee chairperson. (PNA)

## Cops rescue 17 Malaysians from poor working conditions

By Christopher Lloyd Caliwan

MANILA – Policemen rescued 17 Malaysian nationals from their poor working conditions at Klaire One Corp. in Kawit, Cavite, the Philippine National Police (PNP) said Saturday.

In a statement, PNP Chief General Benjamin Acorda Jr. said the joint operation was conducted at 10:30 p.m. Friday by the Police Regional Intelligence Division 4-A (Calabarzon), and the Royal Malaysian Police, with the assistance of the Provincial Intelligence Unit, Cavite Police, and Kawit Municipal Police, in coordination with the Directorate for Intelligence.

The rescued Malaysian workers sought assistance from authorities due to their poor working conditions at the job site and have expressed the desire to resign from the company.

They were identified as Steve Sim Vui Leong, Kong Seeng Hock, Lai Yen Fan, Tiu Yong Yong, Tommy Wong Chiong Ming, Jane Liang Siew Jiun, Chua Wei Tung, Ang Kian Long, Antonio Alex Samuel, Stephen Pang Ying

Kwong, Simon Chee Yung Fock, Stephanie Sim Do Do, William Law Hing Liong, Bong Ju Fong, Algyen David, Yaw You Ming, and Jalan Rambai Paya Terubong.

The rescued Malaysian nationals were turned over to Supt. Norazman Hassan Basari, Police Attache of the Malaysian Police, on Saturday morning.

Acorda said the PNP's successful joint operation with the Royal Malaysian Police is a testament to the importance of cross-border cooperation in addressing issues related to human rights and the protection of vulnerable individuals.

He emphasized the PNP's commitment to upholding human rights and promoting the welfare of all individuals within the Philippine jurisdiction, regardless of nationality.

"The PNP remains steadfast in our duty to uphold the rule of law and protect the rights of every individual within our jurisdiction, including foreign nationals," Acorda said. "We will continue to work closely with our foreign counterparts to ensure the safety and well-being of everyone within our borders." (PNA)

## ASEAN...

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"The fleet review that we have witnessed today was indeed a pleasure to behold. More than the thrilling sights and sounds that delighted our senses, we are immensely elated for being able to bring together two PN and seven vessels from other ASEAN navies," he added.

Galvez also said that even countries with no standing navies like Cambodia, Myanmar and Lao People's Democratic Republic sent their observers to the event -- a laudable gesture of unity and solidarity to the ASEAN community.

"We are confident that this year's AFR, conducted alongside the 2nd ASEAN Multilateral Naval Exercise, will further foster interoperability and cooperation among ASEAN member states in the conduct of responsible maritime security operations," he stressed.

Galvez also emphasized that this activity was not a show of force, but rather a showcase of the ASEAN centrality and to show the oneness and unity of the different countries.

He added that the ASEAN navies come together to promote rule-based and safe maritime operations with our brothers and family of like-minded nations.

"If all the armed forces are talking to each other, we can prevent war from happening because we are talking about peace and understanding, and we are reaching out to everybody," Galvez said. "To the Team Philippine Navy, congratulations and carry on! I commend you for graciously hosting the AFR 2023. Indeed, what a way to cap your 125th anniversary two weeks from now... to all our

sailors and marines, I and the One Defense- AFP Team-Philippines wish you fair winds, clear skies, and following seas always," he concluded.

PH Fleet conducts first-ever PFDEX

In a related development, the Philippine Fleet (PF) showcased its modern naval platforms and desired future capabilities of the PN at the first-ever Philippine Fleet Defense Expo (PFDEX) 2023 at the Naval Base Heracleo Alano, Sangley Point, Cavite City Thursday.

PFDEX 2023 will run from Thursday to Saturday and is open to all enthusiasts and interested individuals.

This event, in partnership with EXPOASIA as the event organizer, is part of the prelude activities for the 125th PN anniversary later this month. It gathers maritime and naval defense industries in an exhibition area to showcase their products and technology developments.

Considered as the first of its kind in the AFP, the PFDEX also features lectures/symposium from industry experts, and gives a glimpse of the Navy's upcoming assets like submarines, offshore patrol vessels, unmanned systems, naval weapons and combat systems, cyber and electronic warfare, ISR systems, naval aviation, force protection, logistical systems, and support systems.

This activity highlights the Navy's stepped-up efforts to bolster its capabilities in maritime defense while also providing an enabling platform for the defense and security sector to expand networks and explore opportunities for collaboration with policymakers and industry leaders. (PNA)

## DND....

Jr. told the Senate Committee on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation on Monday.

While the DND and AFP recognizes the financial implications and fully supports measures to address the current MUP pension system issues, Galvez appealed to senators to heavily consider the morale and welfare of the soldiers.

"At present, mere discussions of proposals relating to retirement benefits, most especially the imposition of a pensionable age, has already affected the morale and caused uneasiness not only from within the active ranks of the AFP, but even from our veterans and retirees," he said.

The Senate panel opened discussion on Senate Bill Nos. (SBN) 284 and 1421 filed by Senators Jinggoy Estrada and Ramon Revilla Jr., respectively. SBN 284 seeks to establish a unified system for separation, retirement and pension of MUP and create the Military and Uniform Personnel Retirement Fund Authority.

Meanwhile, Revilla's SBN 1421 seeks to boost MUP's pension system by creating the Military and Uniformed Personnel Insurance Fund amending Sections 3 and 24 of Republic Act No. 8291 or the

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Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) Act.

Sections 3 and 24 states compulsory membership in the GSIS and life insurance, respectively, except for members of the AFP and Philippine National Police.

According to data presented by National Treasurer Rosalia de Leon, the unfunded liabilities of the MUP pension system currently amounts to around PHP9.6 trillion or 53.4 percent of the 2020 gross domestic product (GDP).

The economic managers expect this to balloon further in the succeeding years.

For Senator Ronald Dela Rosa, who is also an MUP retiree, the illustration "paints a very grim picture," saying MUP's pension fund cannot possibly cause a fiscal collapse.

"Mahirap kasi 'yung ganon eh. Parang kinapalabas natin dito na yung MUP ang dahilan kung bakit tayo magkakaroon ng fiscal collapse. Klaruhin natin 'yan kung tama ba 'yan na comparison (That's hard to accept. It seems like we are portraying MUP as the cause why we could have a fiscal collapse. Let's clear if that comparison is accurate)," dela Rosa said.

Senator Christopher Go also urged economic managers to find other ways or sources of funds, instead of requiring active MUP to pay for mandatory

## DOTr seeks private sector support to finance transport projects

MANILA – The Department of Transportation (DOTr) is seeking the financing support of the private sector for the construction and implementation of transport projects and programs.

DOTr Secretary Jaime Bautista said that with limited public funds to bankroll such projects, the government could tap the assistance of the private sector.

“There are many government projects that need private sector’s support because the government has limited funds,” Bautista said at the Makati Business Club (MBC) forum titled “F2F with Cab Secs session” on Wednesday.

He identified big-ticket transport projects in the rail, aviation and road sectors where Public-Private Partnership (PPP) can be implemented.

He cited the proposed EDSA Busway privatization as one possible PPP effort, as well as the construction of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) in Cebu and Davao.

“We ask the private sector to support the privatization of the EDSA Busway,” Bautista said.

Bautista said the DOTr aviation projects in the pipeline

include the improvement of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport, adding other airports in the greater capital for possible PPP proponents such as in Clark, Bulacan and Sangley in Cavite.

“We need additional airports to serve aviation requirements in Luzon,” he said.

The transport chief said that the PPP will also be a huge lift for ongoing railway projects such as the North-South Commuter Railway, Metro Manila Subway Project, MRT-7, LRT-1 Cavite Extension Project and South Long Haul Project.

During the session, Bautista also shared his insights and experience working as a public servant.

“When you work with government you have to work not only 20 hours but almost 24 hours. There will always be supporters and detractors but at the end of the day what is important is you did your best, you work professionally with honesty and integrity, and with that, you should be proud of yourself,” Bautista said.

The session is part of MBC’s ongoing efforts to further strengthen public and private dialogue through connecting its members with the country’s key economic managers from the national government. (PNA)

## PMC...

prohess. Completing this course signals a more challenging but fulfilling career path in the Marine Corps.

MGen Rojas also praised the graduates’ proud parents and family: “This day would not have been possible without your love and support. Thank you for allowing your children to be a part of a prominent family, the Marine Corps family. As a result,

from page 1

you are also a member of this family.”

MGen Rojas commended the Marine Corps Force Development Center led by Superintendent Col Gregorio B Hernandez Jr PN(M)(GSC) for their unwavering dedication in producing a fine breed of Marines.

The graduates will be deployed in the operational areas in various parts of the country.

## Free...

- Marriage contract ng mga magulang
- Cedula ng mga magulang sa taong 2023
- Baptismal Certificate ng aplikante
- Affidavit of two witnesses
- Voter’s affidavit ng aplikante
- Affidavit para sa out-of-town late registration
- Barangay Certification na nakasaad ang lugar ng kapanganakan
- School record (Form 137)
- Medical record

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Bukas din ang tanggapan ng Imus City Legal Office para magbigay ng libreng legal advice tuwing Lunes hanggang Huwebes, 8:00 AM hanggang 12:00 NN. Tumatanggap din ang Imus City Civil Registrar’s Office ng mga aplikasyon para sa late birth registration tuwing Lunes hanggang Biyernes, 8:00 AM hanggang 5:00 PM.

Matatagpuan ang kanilang mga opisina sa Imus City Government Center, Imus Blvd., Brgy. Malagasang 1-G, City of Imus, Cavite.



**PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORT.** Transportation Sec. Jaime Bautista speaks before businessmen at the Makati Business Club forum on Wednesday (May 10, 2023). He said that with limited public funds to bankroll such projects, the government could tap the assistance of the private sector. (Photo courtesy of DOTr)

## PBBM....

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consumption or introduction to the customs territory.”

“The Tariff Commission may be requested to issue advance rulings on tariff classification of goods to confirm the applicable rates of duty of particular goods subject of this Order, consistent with Section 1100 of RA No. 10863,” EO 25 said.

Originating goods subject to tariff differentials shall be eligible for preferential tariff treatment applicable to the originating goods of the exporting Party, provided that the exporting Party is the RCEP country of origin.

“If the exporting Party of the originating goods is not established to be the RCEP country of origin, the Party that contributed the highest value of originating materials used in the production of those goods in the exporting Party shall be deemed the RCEP country of origin,” the order read.

“The originating goods shall be eligible for preferential

tariff treatment applicable to the originating goods of the RCEP country of origin.”

According to EO 25, the Philippines may allow an importer to make a claim for preferential tariff treatment at the highest rate of customs duty that the Philippines applies to the same originating goods, including those from any parties contributing originating materials used in the production of such goods, provided that the importer can prove such claim.

Nothing in EO 25 shall preclude the Philippine government from invoking its right of recourse to all trade remedy measures provided for in its laws, the RCEP Agreement, and other relevant international agreements, to ensure the prevention of import surges or unfair trade practices.

EO 25 takes effect on June 2 after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

The RCEP aims

to establish a modern, comprehensive, high-quality, and mutually beneficial economic partnership framework; liberalize and facilitate trade in goods and services through the elimination of tariff and non-tariff barriers, as well as restrictions and discriminatory measures; and create a liberal, facilitative, and competitive investment environment.

The RCEP participating countries are composed of the 10 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) member nations and its free trade agreement partners, except India, which pulled out its participation from the agreement.

ASEAN+1 partners that are part of the RCEP include Australia, New Zealand, China, Japan, and South Korea.

The Senate concurred in the RCEP ratification on Feb. 21, 2023, two years after the RCEP participating countries concluded the negotiations in November 2020.

The Philippines was the last among 15 countries to ratify the agreement. (PNA)

## Taiwan NGO taps Cavite agri-coop for nutrition drive

By Jing Villamente

A CAVITE’S province-based agricultural cooperative is now a partner of a Taiwan non-government organization giving nutritional help to children and mothers here in the country.

The Tres Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Farmers Association Inc. will now regularly supply The Taiwan Fund for Children and Families with the required agricultural products for their child care program, which aims to improve maternal, infant and child nutrition in the Philippines.

James Arthur T. Dubongco, Cavite Provincial Agrarian Reform Program Officer II, said this was a result of the marketing agreement facilitated by the Department of Agrarian Reform-Cavite and signed between Danilo Arnes,

President of the Tres ARBs Farmers Association Inc., and Kai Li Chang, TFCF Philippines Branch Director.

TFCF is an international non-governmental organization that provides support to vulnerable children and their families, which has its main headquarters in Taichung, Taiwan and its corresponding Philippine branch in Mandaluyong.

TFCF has been established in Mongolia, Kyrgyzstan, Swaziland, Vietnam, Cambodia, Jordan and the Philippines, providing various welfare services and programs with the local government units to help poor children, youth and families.

Dubongco said the project was implemented to support the government’s commitment and responsibility of ensuring ready markets for the agricultural products of

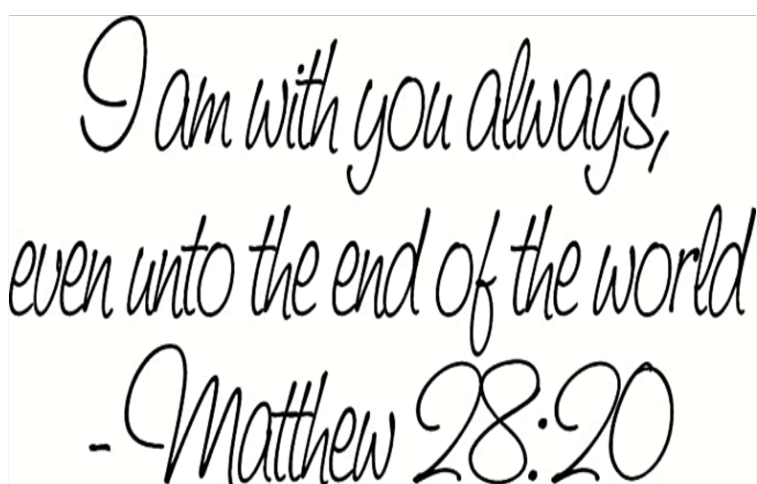
agrarian reform beneficiaries. The project is aligned with the national goal of President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. to improve the lives of the farmers, he added.

Based on the agreement, the association will supply the TFCF with harvested agricultural products such root crops, fruits and vegetables.

“This partnership has assured the ARBs of the association of a steady market for their products and opened opportunities to further expose their products to other target buyers,” said Dubongco.

Arnes thanked the TFCF for the marketing agreement that was made possible through the DAR.

“The TFCF will get a supply of fresh vegetables at a reasonable price, which will eventually make the earnings of the association and its ARB members bigger,” Arnes said.



*Sinag*  
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## EDITORIAL

### A mother's love

“For Filipinos, in and out of the country, the song Sa Ugoy ng Duyan (music by Lucio San Pedro and lyrics by Levi Celerio) is a beautiful and classic homegrown lullaby that perfectly captures the love between a mother and a child.

Sa Ugoy Ng Duyan

Sana'y di nagmaliw ang dati kong araw  
Nang munti pang bata sa piling ni nanay  
Nais kong maulit ang awit ni inang mahal  
Awit ng pag-ibig habang ako'y nasa duyan

Sana'y di nagmaliw ang dati kong araw  
Nang munti pang bata sa piling ni nanay  
Nais kong maulit ang awit ni inang mahal  
Awit ng pag-ibig habang ako'y nasa duyan

[Refrain:]

Sa aking pagtulog na labis ang himbing  
Ang bantay ko'y tala, ang tanod ko'y bituin  
Sa piling ni nanay, langit ay buhay  
Puso kong may dusa sabik sa ugoy ng duyan  
Sana'y di nagmaliw ang dati kong araw  
Nang munti pang bata sa piling ni nanay  
Nais kong maulit ang awit ni inang mahal  
Awit ng pag-ibig habang ako'y nasa duyan

Sa aking pagtulog na labis ang himbing  
Ang bantay ko'y tala, ang tanod ko'y bituin  
Sa piling ni nanay, langit ay buhay  
Puso kong may dusa sabik sa ugoy ng duyan  
Nais kong matulog sa dating duyan ko, inay  
O! Inay

Each year, we celebrate Mother's Day on the second Sunday of May for the unconditional love and the support we get or have gotten from our first teachers, our biggest fans, and oftentimes our true friends — our respective mothers.

For Filipinos, in and out of the country, the song Sa Ugoy ng Duyan (music by Lucio San Pedro and lyrics by Levi Celerio) is a beautiful and classic homegrown lullaby that perfectly captures the love between a mother and a child.

San Pedro composed the piece during the World War 2 Japanese occupation of the Philippines, inspired by the melody that his mother, Soledad Diestro, hummed in putting him to sleep as a boy.

Completing the melancholic melody would be Celerio who, as fate would have it according to accounts, found himself joining San Pedro aboard the SS Gordon in a stopover in Honolulu, Hawaii on a trip back to Manila in 1947.

Coming from the Juilliard School of Music in New York City, San Pedro would embark on his first and, as it turned out, greatest collaboration with Celerio in finishing the song Sa Ugoy ng Duyan as we know it today rendered by such artists like Lea Salonga.

Celerio's lyrics are powerful in their simplicity in speaking to the deep bond that exists between mothers and their children.

There's so much yearning in the singer's wish to never forget a childhood filled with a mother's memories, of wanting to hear the mother sing again and again.

Sleep — a luxury in today's fast-paced world marked by a rat race that has never been as frenetic — becomes heavenly and sublime, peaceful and quiet under the stars when touched off by a mother's lullaby.

In the line, “Puso kong may dusa sabik sa ugoy ng duyan,” we are reminded that hardships become bearable when there's a mother or a mother's memories to guide us.

Sa Ugoy ng Duyan reminds us of the love and comfort that mothers provide their children, a song that all people, Filipino or not, could relate to no matter what age or background one has.

As we honored mothers yesterday, let us make it more meaningful by making it a continuing celebration of their lives and their contributions in our chartering our own paths.

Let Mother's Day be every day.



# KAPIRASONG Kritika

Ni Teo S. Marasigan

## Nasa Halili ang Pagsisisi

### PART 1

#### SA TELEBISYON

Kagabi, napanood naming magkakaibigan ang live na panayam sa nanay ng kontrobersyal na si Hayden Kho sa TV Patrol World. Hindi siya nakakuha ng simpatya. Bukod sa lumabas na bagong yaman (nouveau riche) ang pamilyang Kho at handang gamitin ni Gng. Kho ang Diyos, partikular ang hawak niyang krus at Bibliya, para banatan ang mga naglalantad sa anak niya — si Katrina Halili mismo, sina Lolit Solis at Sen. Bong Revilla — lumabas na wala siyang pagkilala sa pagkakamali ng anak niya.

Masagwa ang pagkakainterbyu nina Karen Davila at Julius Babao, parang gusto lang pigain ang bago at pasabog na sasabihin ni Gng. Kho. Ni hindi man lang tinanong kung ano ang pagtingin niya sa pag-video ng anak niya sa pakikipagtalik sa iba't ibang babae nang lingid sa kaalaman ng mga ito, sa panahong magkarelasyon sila ni Dra. Vicki Belo. Baka lang, ha: Kung naitanong ito, baka nabalanse man lang ang gigil ni Gng. Kho.

Pero nakakapagtaka na rin nga ang mga sinasabi ng mga kakampi ni Hayden. Bagamat inamin na ni Atty. Lorna Kapunan na isang “sexual deviant” at “pervert” ang kliyente niya, lumabas siya sa telebisyon para sabihing binigyan ni Katrina ng droga si Hayden. Bago lumabas si Gng. Kho, sinabi naman ni Dra. Belo na hindi dapat makipagrelasyon ang isang babae sa may karelasyon na. Tapos ngayon, ang mga pasabog ni Gng. Kho.

Ano ang taktika nila? Ikalat ang “kasalanan” sa balangkas ng pagsisiwalat ng katotohanan tungkol sa isyu? Sino

bang humahawak ng publisidad pabor kay Hayden? Si Hayden mismo? Kung sinuman, isang payo lang: Tigilan na ninyo. Una, nagiging kaduda-duda kung totoong nagsisisi si Hayden sa maling nagawa niya. Pangalawa, napakasagwa: Sinisisi nila ang mga babaeng pangunahing biktima sa nangyari. At ikatlo, hindi tanga ang mga manood para hindi masapul ang iba pang mali sa isyu.

Pagkatapos ng TV Patrol, naghihiyawan ang mga kaibigan ko na ilipat sa Saksi dahil sigurado kaming sasagot — live! — ang di-patatalong si Lolit Solis. Bigo kami noong una dahil hindi si Lolit ang nasa ere pagkalipat namin. Pero gagap ng mga kaibigan ko ang midya at publisidad sa bansa. Hindi nagtagal, ayan na, si Lolita — tinitira si Gng. Kho. Maikli at matalas ang sagot niya, siya naman ang taga-midya. Nakakabagabag: “Papa Mike” ang tawag niya kay Mike Enriquez at “Nanay Lolit” ang tawag sa kanya ni Mike.

#### SA DYARYO

Nakahawak ako ng kopya ng Philippine Daily Inquirer, 23 Mayo 2009, Sabado.

(1) Kahit sa isyu ng mga sex video nina Hayden Kho at Katrina Halili, gustong magpapogi ng rehimen. Nahindik (appalled) daw si Gng. Arroyo sa sex videos. Inutusan daw niya ang Optical Media Board na paigtingin ang “kampanya laban sa pornograpiya sa pormang video.” Ito ang klase ng direktiba na wala naman talagang kwenta. Matagal nang dapat ginagawa ng OMB iyan, pero ito pa rin ang panahong pinakamadali para sa karaniwang tao na bumili ng naglipanang pornograpiya sa video.

Sabi pa raw ni Press Secretary Cerge Remonde — na pinuna nang minsan nina Prop. Luis V. Teodoro at Dr. Carol

Pagaduan-Arullo — “Parehong babae at ina si Presidente Arroyo. Nababahala at nakikisimpatya siya nang husto sa ilang babaeng naging biktima sa isyung ito.” Ano ang malupit na leksyon para kina Gng. Editha Burgos, Concepcion Empeño, Erlinda Cadapan at iba pang ina at asawa ng mga desaperasidong dinukot sa ilalim ng rehimen ng Arroyo na ni hindi man lang nakarinig ng pagkahindik, pagkabahala at simpatya ng pangulo? Baka kailangan nilang gumawa ng sex video?

Sumabit pa ang Malakanyang, patunay na ipokrito talaga ito: “Sinabi ni Remonde na napanood na ng staff niya ang video at na-entertain sila nito.” Ano kaya ang magandang salin ng “entertain”? Naligayahan? Nasiyahan? Parang nanood lang ng Bubble Gang, ah.

(2) Sabi ni Sen. Joker Arroyo, “nag-aala Ninoy” si Sen. Manny Villar sa hindi pagdalo sa paglitis sa kanya ng Senado. Bagamat mukhang tagibang nga ang mga alituntunin ng Senado sa paglitis kay Villar, masyado naman ang ihambing siya kay Ninoy. Hindi naman nakataya ang buhay niya — o nakataya nga ba dahil buhay niya ang maging presidente ng bansa? — at mayroon namang midya. Bukod pa diyan, kaso ng katiwalian ang nakahapag laban sa kanya, kaya interes ng taumbayan na malaman ang totoo.

(3) Makabuluhan: Ayon sa Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, kumikita ang tatlong pinakamalaking kumpanya ng langis — o “Big Three” — sa bansa ng P164 Milyon kada araw. Pagkatapos, gusto nilang magpasalamat tayo sa mga programa ng corporate social responsibility nila. Hindi lang irresponsable ang kumita nang ganito, kundi kriminal.

# TOWN in FOCUS

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## El Niño team reconstituted, response strategy expansion eyed

By Ruth Abbey Gita-Carlos

MANILA – The Marcos administration has reconstituted the task force that will respond to the looming El Niño, Malacañang announced on Saturday.

The reconstituted task force will be led by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) with other member agencies, Presidential Communications Office Secretary Cheloy Garafil said in a statement, citing Department of National Defense chief Carlito Galvez Jr.'s three-page report submitted to

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.

"The team is tasked to implement measures to mitigate the impact of El Niño on the country's economy, natural resources, environment, climate change, disaster response, and peace and order," Garafil said.

The task force and existing protocols for the El Niño task force were revived, in response to Marcos' directive to implement a "whole-of-government" and "whole-of-nation" approach to prepare for the possible impact of the extensive dry spell.

Based on the report

submitted to Marcos, concerned government agencies have agreed to continue the existing structure of the El Niño Task Force as stated under Executive Order (EO) 16 signed in 2001.

Under EO 16, the task force is mandated to formulate a comprehensive disaster preparedness and rehabilitation plan for El Niño, monitor the implementation of the plan, and conduct a massive public information campaign.

The EO also directs all government agencies and local government units to extend full support for the El Niño task force. Expanded roadmap

Garafil said the

current Expanded Roadmap for Addressing the Impact of El Niño (E-RAIN) would also be updated and enhanced.

"An issuance of a resolution indicating the adoption of the existing E-RAIN framework is recommended, and if needed, a creation of a Technical Working Group is also suggested," she said.

To address the 2015-2016 El Niño episode, the administration of then president Benigno Aquino III crafted RAIN, which focused on ensuring food security, health, energy security, and safety in 67 impacted provinces, plus Metro Manila.

Galvez, in his report, emphasized that the reconstituted El Niño team has agreed to update and improve the E-RAIN, specifically the areas of concern, such as food security, water security, energy security, health, and public safety.

He said the monitoring of resources, recommendations of concerned agencies, and strategies employed by the previous administrations should be taken as inputs to enhance the E-RAIN framework.

Garafil said local officials would work closely with other government offices and gather the necessary data that would be consolidated by the National Economic and Development Authority.

Private sectors and other organizations must be involved with adopting the "whole-of-nation" approach, she added.

As part of government efforts to address the possible impact of El Niño, Garafil said Galvez would visit Cagayan Valley to personally assess the situation in the region, being one of the most likely affected by the dry spell.

Last month, Marcos ordered government agencies to prepare for the possible impact of the El Niño phenomenon, which is expected to hit the country in the last quarter of 2023 or the first quarter of 2024.

Marcos also instructed various agencies to ensure "protocol-based and scientific" long-term solutions to the impending problem and come up with a campaign to generate public awareness on water and energy conservation.

According to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), the probability of the occurrence of El Niño is 80 percent for June, July, and August, and 86 percent for November, December, and January although the country may experience heavy rainfall events before its impact. (PNA)

## CAVITEVIEW

### More to Aklan than Boracay, Nito industry blooms



The different products and designs made out of nito vines. (SQP/PIA-Aklan/Photo courtesy of DTI-Aklan and KCTV)

By Sheila Patoza

THE province of Aklan, aside from tourism – Boracay in particular, is also known for its world class craftsmanship and ingenuity using indigenous raw materials such as abaca and piña fiber. In fact, Aklan is famous for producing piña cloth, hence the name Piña Fiber Capital of the Philippines.

However, just like the many beautiful places within the province that are yet to be discovered, there is such art and handicraft in Aklan lesser known to most Filipinos and even foreign markets.

The underrated Nito weaving is also one of a kind handicraft in the province. It might not be as famous as piña and abaca weaving, but surely reveals the artistry and creativity of the Aklanons.

Nito vine or *Lygodium circinatum*, the main materials used in the weaving, is a plant belonging to the fern family that grows abundantly in many parts

of the country. Clinging to trees and rocks, nito as a vine grows as a secondary forest cover mostly in low and medium altitudes.

Nito vine is native in the province which are found usually in Altavas, Balet, Libacao, Madalag, Buruanga and in other forest areas in Aklan. Because of the availability of the raw materials, weavers in said towns engaged in such kind of weaving to become their main source of livelihood.

Nito industry in Aklan is thriving and is already gradually getting attention. Beside from nito's durability, the unique and creative touch of Aklanons are shown in the designs of the products, from placemats, bags, food trays, hats, coin purse, lamp shades, jars, among others.

The Department of Trade and Industry – Aklan (DTI) further promotes Nito industry by offering trainings to Aklanons to hone their skills in nito weaving, particularly in areas where nito vine is abundant.

One of the recipients

of such training is Francia Escote from Barangay Habana, Buruanga. Escote is now the owner of Franz Handicraft in the said town.

She expressed her gratitude to DTI for the trainings and skills she acquired. She pursued nito weaving until she

was able to master her skills producing many designs out of nito.

"Bale ang materyales nga nito ja lang man sa Habana makuha. May ina man na gasuplay sa akon di. Ginabaligya nila. Nalipay man ako ay indi na ako mabudlayan pa. (The nito material is just here in Habana. There are some that sell their nito vines to me. I'm happy that it is now convenient for us to get the materials)," Francia said.

Barangay Captain Jesus Flores of Barangay Habana confirmed the abundance of nito in their place and he is very thankful for such blessing. He likewise thanked the government, particularly DTI, that provided trainings to his constituents. The DTI trainings has produced nito weavers and entrepreneurs the like of Escote who not only persevered in the Nito industry but also provided jobs and livelihoods to Buruanganons.

"Kami sa barangay council, gasuporta gid kami para sa nito weaving, ag ha-um kami nga magbulig (We in the

barangay council supports the nito weaving, and we are ready to help)," the barangay chief assured.

Analiza Agoho, is one of those who have jobs due to the Nito industry in Buruanga. With her acquired skills, she is now one of the best weavers of Franz Handicraft. Despite being a solo parent, she is able to provide for her child, thanks to the blooming Nito industry in Buruanga!

Aside from providing jobs to her fellow Buruanganons, Francia likewise actively participates to the different programs and trainings of DTI especially the Kapatid Mentor Me, wherein she now acts as the mentor, helping others to acquire skills in Nito weaving and to produce more weavers of this kind.

This is to ensure that Nito weaving will not be a forgotten handicraft of Aklan. It is high time that Nito weaving takes the spotlight as another industry to look ahead to for Aklan, by local and foreign markets. (AAL/SQP/PIA Aklan)



Ms. Francia Escote, owner of Franz Handicraft in Buruanga, Aklan, presents the different finished products made of nito. (SQP/PIA-Aklan/Photo Courtesy of DTI-Aklan and KCTV)

## Guidelines for implementing first-time jobseekers law signed

By Ma. Teresa Montemayor

MANILA – The joint operational guidelines for the law waiving government fees and charges in the issuance of documents required in employment application of first-time jobseekers has been signed over the weekend.

In a news release issued Monday, the Civil Service Commission said the guidelines for Republic Act No. 11261 or the First Time Jobseekers Assistance Act was also signed by the heads of other government agencies.

“The ceremonial signing activity is the culmination of the collective and collaborative effort of the member agencies in implementing the benefits provided by the law for fresh graduates, out-of-school-youth, and part-time students towards improving the quality of our national workforce,” CSC chairperson Karlo Nograles said.

RA 11261 was signed by President Rodrigo Duterte on April 10, 2019 and became effective on May 23, 2019.

Under the law, no fees or charges will be collected by government agencies from any first-time jobseekers who are requesting for common pre-employment documents.

They must be Filipino citizens and are actively looking for employment, regardless of their age and are residents of the barangay issuing the barangay certification.

Jobseekers applying for jobs in the government may secure a certificate of eligibility (COE) for free.

The COE is a CSC-issued document that determines whether an applicant is qualified to apply for career service positions.

In compliance with the law, the CSC issued Resolution No. 2000363 on Feb. 21, 2020, which provides one original and one authenticated copy of the COE for free to first-time job applicants who passed the career service professional and subprofessional examination.

Free copies are also provided to qualified individuals with special eligibility under special laws and CSC issuances.

A jobseeker who had applied for a COE in the past but has not yet been employed may still be granted free copies of COE if found still eligible for the benefits provided by the law.

Civil service eligibles may secure their COE from the CSC regional office where they took the examination, with the additional copies subject to existing fees of PHP100 per COE and PHP50 per authenticated copy.

A total of 630,846 pre-employment documents have been issued to first-time jobseekers from the time the law was signed in 2019 up to Dec. 31, 2022.

The law’s implementation resulted in an estimated waiver of PHP83.2 million in government fees. (PNA)

### EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE (BANK DEPOSIT)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ROMEO P. SARMIENTO who died on January 6, 2023 at Ospital ng Tagaytay, Cavite, leaving a bank deposit at Philippine National Bank Savings with Account Number 243910134281 amounting to Php460, 172.22 has been extrajudicially settled by their heirs as per Doc. No. 243, Page No. 50; Book No.; 7; Series of 2023, Notary Public Atty. Fe Editha Hernandez-Oronic.

Ang Cavitenonewsweekly  
May 02, 08 & 15, 2023

### DEED OF EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE (with waiver of rights)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late spouses PELAGIO R. VIRAY and LYDIA R. VIRAY who died intestate on April 29, 2017, and August 29, 2021, in Cavite City, leaving a parcel of land covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. T-363583 located at Barrio of Burolo, Mum. Of Dasmariñas, Prov. of Cavite, Island of Luzon and CASH DEPOSIT Under Account No. 0311-1440-14, and Under Account No. 0311-1412 with Land Bank of the Philippines, Caridad, Cavite City Branch, and Pension and Death Benefits under AFSLAI Account No. 64000107569821 and Account No. 61000201405695, and pension under PVAO Account No. 64001200154940 and Account No. 61000201405695, and a refund of capital contributions and share in the income dividends to Account No. 03-013731 at ACDI Multi-Purpose Cooperative of any amount due and owing under the name of the late LYDIA R. VIRAY has been extrajudicially settled by their heirs as per Doc. No. 278; Page No. 57; Book No. II; Series of 2023; Notary Public Atty. Danilo P. Pelagio.

Ang Cavitenonewsweekly  
May 02, 08 & 15, 2023

Republic of the Philippines  
Fourth Judicial Region  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT  
City of Bacoor  
Email: [rtebcrocc@judiciary.gov.ph](mailto:rtebcrocc@judiciary.gov.ph)  
Telephone No. 09273707489

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND  
(otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund),  
Mortgagee.

-versus-

Foreclosure No. 2023-85  
For: Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of  
Real Estate Mortgage

ENRICO M. AGUSTIN married to MA. LYNNE T. AGUSTIN,

Mortgagors.

x-----x  
MA. CECILIA M. AGUSTIN married to  
RAUL ARTHUR H. SIBAYAN AND ARCHIMEDES  
M. AGUSTIN married to MA. LUZ S. AGUSTIN,  
Co-Mortgagors.

x-----x

#### NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135 as Amended by Act 4118 filed by the mortgagee, HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund), at The Petron Mega Plaza Bldg., No. 358 Sen Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, and against the mortgagors, ENRICO M. AGUSTIN married to MA. LYNNE T. AGUSTIN, at 114 Jasmine St., Bayanihan Village, Cainta, Rizal; MA. CECILIA M. AGUSTIN married to RAUL ARTHUR H. SIBAYAN AND ARCHIMEDES M. AGUSTIN married to MA. LUZ S. AGUSTIN as co-Mortgagor, to satisfy the mortgagee indebtedness which as of March 13, 2023, amounts to ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY TWO THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FIFTY PESOS & 46/100 (P1,782,950.46), Philippine Currency, inclusive of inclusive of interest, and penalty charges but exclusive of other fee incident to this foreclosure, the undersigned or her duly authorized representative will sell at the public auction on May 31, 2023 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, at the main entrance of the Hall of Justice of Bacoor City, Cavite, to the highest bidder for CASH and In Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit;

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-1264862

“A Parcel of Land (Lot 4 Blk. 1 of the subd. Plan, (LRC) Psd-119485, being a portion of Lot 5544, Imus Estate, LRC Rec. No. 8843), situated in the Bo. of Molino, Mun. of Bacoor, Province of Cavite, Is. of Luzon. X x x, Containing an area of ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY (180) SQ. METERS, more or less.”

“All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and date.”

“In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on June 7, 2023, without further notice.”

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

City of Bacoor, May 4, 2023.

(Sgd.) MELY C. HERMOSURA-VISTA  
Clerk of Court VI

By:  
(Sgd.) ROBERT JON A. DELA CRUZ  
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND  
(otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund)  
The Petron Mega Plaza Bldg., No. 358 Sen Gil Puyat Avenue,  
Makati City

ATTY. MELANIO A. BADENAS, JR.  
Rm. 209 Megaestate Bldg., No. 737 G. Araneta Ave., Tatalon,  
Quezon City

ENRICO M. AGUSTIN married to MA. LYNNE T. AGUSTIN  
MA. CECILIA M. AGUSTIN married to RAUL ARTHUR H. SIBAYAN  
ARCHIMEDES M. AGUSTIN married to MA. LUZ S. AGUSTIN  
114 Jasmine St., Bayanihan Village, Cainta, Rizal  
Lot 4 Block 1 Progressive Village 14 & 16, Molino, Bacoor,  
Cavite

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

Ang Cavitenonewsweekly  
May 08, 15 & 22, 2023

in the afternoon, whereby any interested persons may appear and show cause, if any, why the petition should not be granted.

Let this Order be published at the expense of the petitioner in a newspaper of general circulation which will be raffled by RTC Br. 90 City of Dasmariñas, Cavite, before the scheduled date of hearing at least once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks. The Clerk of Court of this Court is directed to include this Order in the raffle of notices of publication.

The Petitioner are also directed to furnished the Office of the Solicitor General and the Civil Registry of the City of Dasmariñas, Cavite with a copy of the petition and to show proof of compliance thereof.

SO ORDERED.

Dasmariñas City, Cavite, April 20, 2023.

(Sgd.) FRANCISCO VICTOR L. COLLADO, JR.  
Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

1. Atty. Frederick S. Levardo  
Counsel for the Petitioner  
No. 328 San Jose St., Carmona, Cavite

2. Office of the City Prosecutor  
DASCA Building, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

3. Office of the Local Civil Registrar  
Dasmariñas City, Cavite

4. Office of the Solicitor General  
134 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

5. Marites D. Bernal  
Lot 66 Blk. 9, Dasmariñas Royal, Paliparan 1,  
Dasmariñas City, Cavite

6. Office of the Clerk of Court  
2nd Flr., DASCA Building, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

Ang Cavitenonewsweekly  
May 08, 15 & 22, 2023

Republic of the Philippines  
Fourth Judicial Region  
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT  
Branch 90  
City of Dasmariñas, Cavite

IN RE: GUARDIANSHIP OF MINORS  
MARY ANTHONETTE D. BERNAL,  
DARION ANTHONY D. BERNAL AND  
ALYDIAH ELISE D. BERNAL AND FOR  
GRANT OF JUDICIAL LEAVE AND  
AUTHORITY TO SELL AND DISPOSE  
REAL PROPERTY COVERED BY  
TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO.  
057-2015003839,

SP. PROC. CASE NO. DC-1495-22

MARITES D. BERNAL,  
Petitioner.

x-----x

#### ORDER

This is a verified Petition for Guardianship of Minors, Anthonette D. Bernal, Darion Anthony D. Bernal and Alydiah Elise D. Bernal, filed on November 18, 2022 by the above-named Petitioner, through counsel, Atty. Frederick S. Levardo, for this Court that, after due notice, publication and hearing, judgment be rendered: 1) appointing petitioner, Marities D. Bernal, as the true and lawful guardian of the person and property of minors Mary Anthonette D. Bernal, Darion Anthony D. Bernal and Alydiah Elise D. Bernal; and 2) granting petitioner permission and authority to sell, transfer, cede, relinquish and convey the real property located at Brgy. Paliparan 1, City of Dasmariñas, Cavite covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 057-2015003839 with any perspective buyer/s and granting petitioner full authority to sign and execute a Deed of Absolute Sale, Deed of Conditional Sale and/or Contract to Sell and/or any and all other legal documents, papers and instruments necessary for the sale, transfer, cession, relinquishment and conveyance of the subject property.

Finding the petition to be sufficient in form and substance, the same is set for hearing on June 27, 2023 at 2:00

# Word Search Puzzle

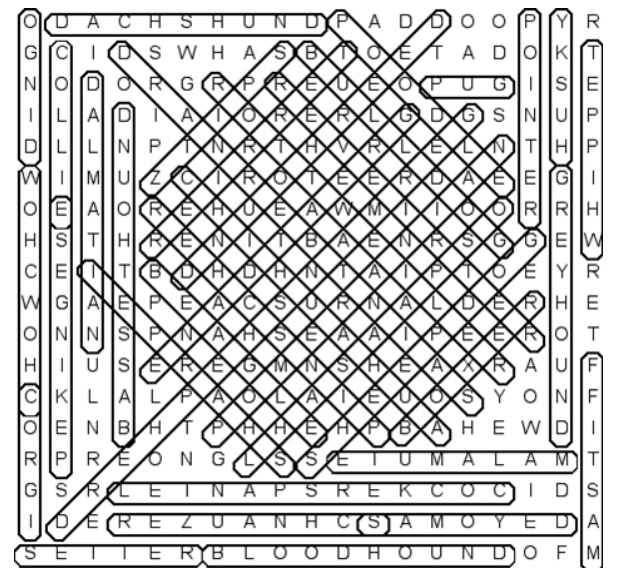
Electronics

Find and circle all of the Electronics related terms that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell the name of a common electronic component.

A N A L O G L T I N N I N G R N Y  
 R E W O P C A P A C I T O R E O T  
 E I E D O R T C E L E R D A D R I  
 C P T W G S A H C T E A I M L T C  
 N O T M I N T A R V I N O P O C I  
 A S A R O R T C A O R S D E S E R  
 D I W D E H E C A O T I E R T L T  
 E T E I O S U M T T N S O E T E C  
 P I N D T U I C R E N T I C I L E  
 M V E O M C U S G O A O I R A N L  
 I E C T C D H A T L F R C T Y F E  
 D P U U N I T E U A C S I F A H S  
 A B I O R I L S S U N G N R L L T  
 E G C H V R N I I M I C A A L U D  
 L I O E C I E T S D H D E E R D X  
 I N D U C T A N C E S O C G A T E  
 E G A T L O V E T R O T S I S E R

- AMPERE
- ANALOG
- ANODE
- CAPACITOR
- CATHODE
- CELLS
- CHIP
- CIRCUIT
- CONDUCTOR
- CONTACTS
- CURRENT
- DIGITAL
- DIODE
- ELECTRICITY
- ELECTRODE
- ELECTRON
- FARADS
- FLUX
- GATE
- IMPEDANCE
- INDUCTANCE
- INSULATORS
- LEAD
- NEGATIVE
- OHMS
- POSITIVE
- POWER
- RESISTANCE
- RESISTOR
- SILICON
- SOLDER
- SWITCHES
- THYRISTOR
- TINNING
- TRANSFORMER
- TRANSISTOR
- VACUUM TUBE
- VOLTAGE
- WATT
- WIRE

## Sagot sa nakaraan



# Sudoku

7			5					
	6	2		1			4	7
3	1		9		4	5		
	4		6					3
	3	5		4		8	7	
2					3		1	
		3	4		9		5	1
4	8			3		6	2	
					2			4

4	3	9	2	5	1	8	6	7
2	7	1	3	8	6	4	9	5
5	6	8	7	4	9	2	1	3
8	9	2	4	6	3	7	5	1
6	5	4	8	1	7	9	3	2
7	1	3	9	2	5	6	8	4
1	8	5	6	7	4	3	2	9
3	2	7	5	9	8	1	4	6
9	4	6	1	3	2	5	7	8

## Sudoku hint

	1	20		43	21	22	23	24
25			26		2	27		
		3		28			4	5
44		29		45	46	30	6	
31			32		7			8
	9	33	10	34		11		12
13	14			35		15		
		36	37		38			16
39	17	40	41	42		18	19	


Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 thru 9. If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guesswork. Need a little help? The hints page shows a logical order to solve the puzzle. Use it to identify the next square you should solve. Or use the answers pag if you really get stuck.



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# Zubiri to biz sector: We helped you, now let us help our workers

By Jerome Carlo Paunan

MANILA, (PIA) -- The Senate Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources has held a hearing for various bills regarding a proposed minimum wage increase, including Senate President Juan Miguel Zubiri's Senate Bill No. 2022, or the Across-the-board Wage Increase Act, which proposes a P150 wage hike for all private sector workers across the country.

The Committee has already approved the measure in principle, and a technical working group is set to discuss a proposed graduated wage increase scheme for MSMEs.

"We expect that the

Committee Report will come out in about two weeks, and we hope to pass the bill before we adjourn in June," said Zubiri.

The Senate President stressed that the last legislated minimum wage increase was in 1989, at P89, before the passage of the Republic Act 6727, which created the Regional Wage Boards.

"Ang nakita po natin, with due respect sa ating Regional Wage Boards, napakababa po ng mga increase nila at napakatagal bago nila aksyunan ang problema ng pagtaas ng bilingin, at ang sigaw ng tao para sa disente man lang na sahod. Kapag umaaksyon naman sila, napakababa ng increase, between P5.00 to P16.00 lang,"

*continue to page 2*



Senate President Juan Miguel Zubiri

## ASEAN Fleet Review highlights PH commitment to maritime security

By Priam Nepomuceno

MANILA – This year's Association of Southeast Asian Nations Fleet Review (AFR) held in Subic Bay, Zambales on Thursday is a testament to the Philippines' "unwavering commitment" to promoting maritime security in the region.

Philippine Navy (PN) chief Vice Admiral Toribio Adaci Jr., in a statement Thursday night, said AFR participants highlighted their naval capabilities and readiness in the event.

He added that it sends a clear message to the world -- the Philippines is dedicated to safeguarding "our shared waters, countering maritime threats, and ensuring the stability that underpins our economic growth and prosperity."

"As we embark on the ASEAN Fleet Review and the second edition of the ASEAN Multinational Naval Exercise (AMNEX) under the auspices of the PN, I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to the Royal Thai (RT) Navy for setting the stage and spearheading the very first ASEAN Fleet Review and AMNEX in 2017. The RT Navy played a pivotal role in shaping AMNEX into a remarkable platform for addressing

common regional maritime problems and enhancing military responsiveness," Adaci said.

Participating ships in the AFR were the PN's BRP Antonio Luna (FF-151) and BRP Andres Bonifacio (PS-17); RSS Supreme (73) from the Republic of Singapore Navy; KRI Gusti Ngurah Rai (332) from the Indonesian Navy; KD Leiku (FF-G30) from the Royal Malaysian Navy; OPV 512 (Patanni Class) from the Royal Thai Navy; KDB Daruttaqwa(09) and KDB Afiat (20) from the Royal Brunei Navy; Trang Hung Dao (015) from the Vietnam People's Navy.

With the theme "Synergy at Sea: Regional Cohesion for Peace and Stability," the AFR 2023 provides an opportunity for the ASEAN members to be ambassadors of goodwill and catalysts of ASEAN centrality and cooperation.

Highly successful  
Meanwhile, Department of National Defense (DND) chief Carlito Galvez Jr. who witnessed the AFR with Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) chief Gen. Andres C. Centino and Adaci called the event a success as two PN ships and another seven from ASEAN navies were able to participate in the event.

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## DND, AFP open to fair, equitable MUP pension system modifications

By Wilnard Bacelonia

MANILA – The Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) is "amenable and open" to modifications in the pension system of military and uniformed personnel (MUP) so long as these are fair and equitable.

Finance Secretary Benjamin Diokno, in a recent statement, warned that the current

MUP pension system would inflate public debt by as much as 25 percent by 2030 and could result into a fiscal collapse unless reforms are made.

Diokno said pension benefits are allocated annually through the national budget but the MUP do not contribute a single peso to their pension system.

"We anticipate around

70 to 80 percent of enlisted personnel eligible for optional retirement. Ito po 'yung mga naka-20 years na sa serbisyo (They are those who have spent 20 years in service), to avail the same given the uncertainty of them immediately receiving pension upon retirement should the system be overhauled," Department of National Defense (DND) Officer-in-charge Senior Undersecretary Carlito Galvez

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WIN-WIN SOLUTION. National Treasurer Rosalia de Leon (left) discusses with Department of National Defense Undersecretary Ignacio Madriaga (center) and Officer-in-Charge Senior Undersecretary Carlito Galvez Jr. during a Senate hearing on Monday (May 15, 2023). The Committee on National Defense and Security, Peace, Unification and Reconciliation discussed proposals to amend the pension system of military and uniformed personnel. (PNA photo by Avito Dalan)