MPT South extends aid to Habagat, Typhoon-hit CAVITEX and CALAX Communities



Kawit, Cavite Mayor Armie Aguinaldo, and other municipal officials received donations from MPT South at Kawit Municipal Hall.

July 25, 2025 LAX). - In the wake of the re-

parts of Metro Manila, communities to distrib-Metro Pacific Tollways widespread flooding. The launched immediate re- plans to extend support to facing, and we are here to lief operations to assist public utility vehicle (PUV) severely affected com- drivers and operators plymunities along the Ma- ing CAVITEX whose livenila-Cavite Expressway lihood and mobility were South's broader commit-(CAVITEX) and Cavite-La- disrupted by days of reguna Expressway (CA-



MPT South, LGU employees, and personnel of the Philippine National Police demonstrated "Bayanihan" for the displaced families in Kawit, Cavite.



"We're more than MPT South swift- just a tollway operator. We cent typhoon and intensi- ly coordinated with local are part of these communi-(Habagat) that battered expressways' alignment and neighbors who show Cavite, and Laguna, Met- ute a total of 3,000 relief crisis," said Elnora D. Rumawak, Officer-in-Charge (MPT South), a unit of rarily displaced by the of MPT South. "We understand the hardships Corporation (MPTC), has company also announced that our communities are

> tive forms part of MPT ment to corporate social responsibility and disaster response, reinforcing its role not only in infrastructure but also in community

help ease their burden."

About MPT South

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 (SCTEX), and the Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in Cebu.



MPT South turned over relief aids to Imus City, received by the City Social Welfare and Development led by Ms. Josephine Villanueva.nations from MPT South at Kawit Municipal Hall.



MPT South turned over relief aids to Bacoor City, which were received by Councilor Karen Evaristo.



SMC expands urban farming project to six sites, targets nationwide rollout

SA CALABARZON. WAGI SA







ABOITIZ FOUNDATION BRINGS TECH, ENERGY TO REMOTE BATAAN SCHOOL



urnover of solar panels ment to transform com- Aeta Integrated School to Biaan Aeta Integrated munities through innova- (BAIS) in Mariveles, Batan brought together stake- Foundation in partner- milestone under its flagolders from the Aboitiz ship with AboitizPow- ship program, AuroraPH. Group, DepEd-Bataan, er's GNPower Mariveles Launched in 2024, Auand local government of- Energy Center (GMEC) roraPH harnesses the ficials—highlighting strong and GNPower Dinginin power of renewable en-

uroraPH: The recent In line with its commit- net connectivity to Biaan

collaboration toward (GNPD), has turned over ergy, and satellite inter- an, Cebu, and Davao City

DTI RIZAL, MERALCO, BAYAD, AND MPIONEER

MANILA - The

DBM Secretary

Pangandaman

She said the

Department of Budget

and Management (DBM)

on Thursday assured the

public that the govern-

ment has sufficient funds

for the disaster response

and recovery efforts in ca-

lamity-stricken areas in the

Amenah Pangandaman

said the government is

ready to respond to the

needs of individuals dis-

placed by the massive

flooding triggered by heavy

rains brought about by the

enhanced southwest mon-

added that there are avail-

able funds that could be

used in areas affected

by the adverse effects of

availability of calamity

funds is in line with Presi-

dent Ferdinand R. Marcos

weather disturbances.

parts of the country.

syal at teknikal na aspeto

Start Up av para sa mga

nagsisimula pa lamang na

negosyo habang ang Up-

scale naman ay para sa

patuloy na pagbibigay su-

porta sa mga umiiral nang

Patungan ng Hiyas Urban

Mushroon Farm, ang pag-

sali sa YFC ang nagsilbing

pag-asa nila na palakihin

at ipakilala pa ang mga

produkto hindi lamang sa

buong rehiyon kundi sa

bansa. Aniva. makakaasa

walang sawang pagpa-

Ayon kay Ms.

ng mga agribusiness. Ang

DALAWANG YFC AWARDEE SA CALABARZON.

Salayo mula sa probinsya

ng Quezon ng Excellence

in Product Packaging and

Labelling Enterprise sa

kategoryang YFC Start Up

tampok ang kanilang anim

na flavored Fried Rice

isang kompetisyon na

inilunsad ng DA upang

nilang kinilala ay ang ba- tan ng pagtulong sa pinan- paunlad ng agribusiness.

Ang YFC

and pumasok sa sektor nd and kaniland panata sa

Seasoning paste.

WAGI SA BUONG PILIPINAS

sentante ng Department ron, atchara, at cracker.

of Agriculture IV-CALA- Samantala, pinarangalan

BARZON (DA-4A) ang din ang Banahaw Cre-

nagkamit ng parangal sa ations ni Queen Anne Xyza

Top 3 sa kategoryang YFC hikayatin ang mga kabata-

nas. Ilan sa mga produkto agrikultura sa pamamagi-

Dalawang repre- goong, chicharon, polvo-

POINT OF VIEW MINDFULNESS EXER CISES & ACTIVITIES **FOR ADULTS**

5. Try to envision the shape that your skin is making as you sit in contact with the chair, shifting : your awareness toward any physical sensations you are experiencing. As you feel each one, acknowledge its existence before letting your consciousness let go of it and move on naturally.

If you find any emotions coming up, recognize them and create space for them. Then bring your attention back to your observing self-your feelings and thoughts are there, but you are separate from them, noticing them. This is the "Observer you".

This exercise can be continued for as long • as desired and there are many stages you can work through that will help you practice being an observer of yourself. It is not an easy exercise at first because we are often habitually inclined to react to and over-identify with our feelings.

The goal of evoking the Observing Self is to enter a separate mode which allows you to step : back from yourself and your experiences. Simulta- : neously, however, you are con-necting with a deeper constant self that is unaffected by dynamic emo-

2. Five Senses Exercise

This exercise is called "five senses", and provides guidelines on practicing mindfulness quickly in nearly any situation. All that is needed is to notice something you are experi-encing with each of the five senses

Follow this order to practice the Five Senses:

• Notice five things that you can see. Look around you and bring your attention to five things that you can see. Pick something that you don't normally notice, like a shadow or a small crack in the concrete

• Notice four things that you can feel. Bring awareness to four things that you are currently feeling, like the texture of your pants, the feeling of the breeze on your skin, or the smooth surface of a table you are resting your hands on.

· Notice three things you can hear. Take a moment to listen, and note three things that you hear in the background. This can be the chirp of a bird, the hum of the refrigerator, or the faint sounds

of traffic from a nearby road. · Notice two things you can smell. Bring your awareness to smells that you usually filter out, whether they're pleasant or unpleasant. Perhaps the breeze is carrying a whiff of pine trees if you're outside, or the smell of a fast-food restaurant

across the street. Notice one thing you can taste. Focus on one thing that you can taste right now, at this moment. You can take a sip of a drink, chew a piece of gum, eat something, notice the current taste in your mouth, or even open your mouth to search

the air for a taste.

This is a quick and relatively easy exercise to bring you to a mindful state quickly. If you only have a minute or two, or don't have the time or tools to try a body scan or fill out a worksheet, the five senses exercise can help you or your clients bring awareness to the current moment in a short amount : of time.

Continuation next week • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •

Gov't has sufficient calamity funds, DBM assures

and necessary support. "Sa ating nation-

'yung tinatawag po nating NDRRMF (In our national budget, we have funds set aside to respond during calamities or what we call the NDRRMF [National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Fund1)." Pangandaman said

agencies din po av mav stand-by fund na maaaring gamitin sa relief and recovery efforts. So, we appeal to them to closesoon or "habagat" in many ly coordinate with us so we can provide them with what they need, including the replenishment of their Quick Response Funds (Each front-line agency also has a stand-by fund that can be used for relief and recovery efforts So, we appeal to them to closely coordinate with us so we can provide them

"Bawat front-line

na handang tumugon sa paredness, and relief and panahon ng kalamidad o rehabilitation efforts during disasters and calamities. Concerned agencies may request the DBM to re-

plenish their respective QRFs when at least 50 percent of the funds have already been obligated. Pangandaman said the public need not worry, as the DBM would expedite the release of the calamity

"Huwad mag-alala ang ating mga kababayan dahil may sapat pond pondo and pama- is why the DBM calls on halaan. Ang DBM naman all government agencies po, basta't kailangan at to ensure that the funds kumpleto ang dokumento, agad naming pinoprose- the last centavo. reach the so ang release ng pondo deserving beneficiaries (Our countrymen should as soon as possible," she not worry because the said. (PNA)

Bagong benepisyo sa atake sa

is ridge whose forted

Pagproseso sa denied claims,

alataking hospital groups

pinuri at sinuportahan ng

puso, kinilala at pinasalamatan!

The QRF is a funds. As for the DBM, if it al budget naman po, may built-in stand-by fund that is necessary and the docnakalaan tayong pondo agencies use in their pre- uments are complete, we immediately process the release of the funds) "

> She also urged all concerned government agencies to ensure the proper and efficient use of funds

> nananawagan po ang DBM sa lahat ng mga government agencies na siguraduhin na ang pondong inilalabas namin, down to the last centavo, ay makakarating sa mga nararapat na benepisyaryo sa lalong madaling panahon (That we are releasing, down to

JLAT SA PAG-ANGA'

NGCP starts restoration of 'Emong'-affected transmission lines

Jr.'s directive to ensure with what they need, in-

that Filipinos in disaster-hit cluding the replenishment

areas are given immediate of their Quick Response

toration on transmission tan-Bulala 69kV Line, all of lines affected by Typhoon which serve the La Union (international name Co-May) in Northern Luzon has started, the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP)

In an advisory, the power transmission operator did not give specifics on what lines are being restored but said its crews are now inspecting and assessing the dam-

As of 1 p.m., the affected lines include the Labrador-Bolinao 69kV Line, which serves the Central Pangasinan Flectric Cooperative (CENPEL-CO) and the Pangasinan 1 into a tropical storm and Electric Cooperative (PAN-

Also, the Bauang-San Fabian 69kV Line, the Bauang-Naguilian 69kV Line, the Bauang-San Fernando 115kV an. (PNA)

MANILA - Res- Line, and the Bacno-Electric Cooperative (LU-ELCO).

"Please that loss of power may be caused by affected transmission facilities of NGCP or distribution facilities of local distribution utilities or electric cooperatives. Specific cities and municipalities affected by the power interruptions are determined by concerned Distribution Utilities. unless the outage affects the entire franchise area," the advisory said.

The weather bureau, in its 2 p.m. bulletin. said Emong weakened packs maximum sustained winds of 85 kph near the center and gustiness of up to 115 kph.

It was last located over Calayan, Cagaya bid to support and empower local micro, small, and medium enterprises nicipalities of Morong, (MSMEs), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Rizal, through its Negosyo Centers Morong, oration, and business Cardona and Baras led by Business Counselor Leah Clemente. successfully held a "Power Coaching" event on May 26, 2025, in provide valuable insights ness Insurance Packages partnership with Meralco, into energy management, Bavad, and MPioneer In- financial services, and as ance

event gathered 30 MSME

business protection.

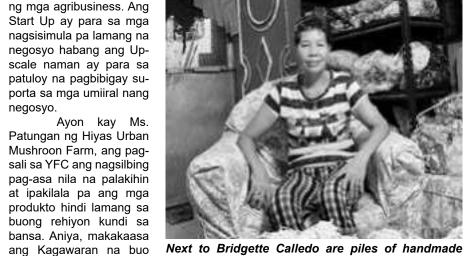
Participants were provided with expert-led discussions on topics critical to MSME growth, in-

Energy Efficiency Power Management

ment Solutions for businesses by Bayad

Affordable Busioffered by MPioneer Insur-

CRAFTED BY HAND



Next to Bridgette Calledo are piles of handmade accessories, ready to be shipped to Bacolod.

older, she worked with her

mother to sustain their

married in her mid-20s,

she started her own busi-

ness with her husband.

building on the knowledge

and experience she had

gained over the years.

With the consistent prod-

uct quality and a growing

customer base, demand

steadily increased. To

meet rising orders, the

couple eventually brought

in more help. What began

as a small business run by

two people has now grown

to include over 20 home-

based workers. Together.

they managed to produce

around 1,000 shell acces-

sories daily, a testament to

their teamwork and dedi-

cation

But after getting

family business.

Handcrafted at a young age gave her accessories have an advantage in masterlong been a staple in Ce- ing her craft. As she grew bu's local craft industry. But to stand out in a competitive market. Bridgette Calledo took a different route by bringing her products outside the province. Her strategy paid off as she now supplies around 25 retailers and wholesalers across nearby islands like Panay and Negros.

Bridgette has spent almost her entire life making accessories. a skill passed down by her mother who had the same business. Starting

opment Support and local government services fa cilitated by DTI Rizal and Negosyo Center Morong Cardona and Baras.

According to Ms Leah Clemente, Business Counselor of Negosyo Center Morong, "This collaboration is a reflection of our commitment to provide MSMEs not only with regulatory and training support but also with access to private sector expertise that addresses their evolving business needs."

The Power Coaching session also opened opportunities for participating entrepreneurs to network, raise specific business concerns, additional passive income, and explore potential partnerships with both government and private institutions.

Rizal through its Negosyo Centers, continues to strengthen public-private partnerships to advance inclusive growth, improve MSME resilience, and support the region's economic development.

materials and scale up their production. Even at 63. Bridgette still travels with her daughter-in-law to nearby provinces during fiestas to set up stalls and reach new customers. Unpredictable weather may sometimes affect their sales, but she remained optimistic, always hopeful that each new day brings another opportunity. "Sales

of CARD, Inc. (A Micro-

finance NGO). Her PHP

80.000.00 loan allowed

her to buy additional raw

always constant, and that is perfectly normal," Bridgette shared. "There are days when business thrives and other times when it slows down What's important is your ability to manage sales fluctuations and recover without losing the drive to keep going," she added.

Their product line includes necklaces, bracelets, anklets, and other ac-

With her business, she was able to gradually repair their house and purchase some appliances that made life

Looking ahead, she aims to increase production, provide more people with livelihood opportunities, and extend reach to a wider market. A step she believes will not only sustain her business growth but also uplift the community in the process.





DTI RIZAL, MERALCO, BAYAD, AND MPIONEER INSURANCE EMPOWER MSMES THROUGH "POWER COACHING" EVENT IN MORONG. RIZAL



Morong, Rizal | In

July 30-Aug. 05, 2025

Young Farmers Challenge

(YFC) National Competi-

tion noong ika-17 ng Hulyo

₱500,000 ang natanggap

ng Hiyas Urban Mush-

room Farm nina Jeck lyas

mula sa probinsya ng

Rizal na ginawaran bilang

Upscale sa buong Pilipi-

at Ma Regina Patungan

Tinatavang

sa Baguio City.

participants from the mu-Cardona, and Baras. creating a vibrant platform for learning, collabdevelopment. It aimed to strengthen entrepreneurial knowledge, enhance operational efficiency, and

one-day

presented by Meralco

Accessible Pay-

Business Devel-

CAYETANO RENEWS EDCOM

III PROPOSAL TO ALIGN

DEPED, CHED, TESDA GOALS

Republic of the Philippine Fourth Judicial Region REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF CAVITE OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT

& EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF New Justice Hall, J.P. Rizal Avenue, Kaybagal South, Tagaytay

BDO UNIBANK, INC., Mortgagee

EJF NO. TG-25-062

For: Application for Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of Mortgage (Under Act. No. 3135, As Amended)

-versus-

SPS. CHARMAINE A. QUIDOZA and DANTE P. QUINDOZA,

Mortgagors.

NOTICE OF EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE

Upon Extra-judicial forclosure sale under act 3135, as amended, filed by Petition /Mortgagee, BDO UNIBANK, INC. a universal banking corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the Republic of the Philippines ,with principal office and place of business at 33rd Floor BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, #12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Mortgage Loan Agreement (MORTGAGE) executed and notarized on May 28, 2017, by mortgagors/Borrowers. SPS, CHAR-MAINE A. QUIDOZA and DANTE P. QUINDOZA, both of legal age with residence and postal addresses at (1) Phase 2 Block 11, Lot 22 Ridge Crest Subdivision, Pasong Buaya 2, Imus. Cavit. and (2) Lot4 Block 7 RCD Royale Homes, Brgy, Kalubkob, Silang, Cavite, represented by **JASMINEPERES** ONDONG as per Special Power of Attorney executed and notarized on February 4, 2016, in favor of petitioner/Mortgagee, over a real estate property including improvements thereon, descrived in and covered by TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITTLE NO. 076-2016007643 of the Registry of Deeds for Tagaytay City, in order to satisfy the oustanding loan obligation of hte Mortgagor/s-Debtor/s in the amount of ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY-TWO PESOS AND 46/100 (php1.357.842.46), as of May23, 2025, the undersigned Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court of Cavite thru her deputy. Oliver T. Bocacao, Jr., will sell at public auction on September 10. 2025 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter. at the New Hall of Justice of tagaytay City, to the highest, for Cash or manager's Check and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all its of sale. improvements thereon , to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 076-2016007643

Registry of Deeds for Tagaytay City

'IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in BARANGAY OF KALLIBKOB MINICIPALITY OF SILANG PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON, bounded and described as follows

LOT NO: 4 BLOCK NO: 7 PLAN NO: PCS-04-028823 PORTION OF: LOT 401-A &401-B, PSD-04-180693; LOCATION: BARANGAY OF KALUBKOB. MINICIPALITY OF SILANG, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON

BOUNDRIES

LINE	DEREC	TION ADJOINING NLOT(S)
1-2	SW	LOT6, BLOCK 7, PCS-04-028823
2-3	NW	ROAD LOT 7
		(6.50 M. WIDE), PCS-04-028823
3-4	NE	LOT 2, BLOCK 7, PCS-04-028823

SE LOT 1, BLOCK 7, PCS-04-028823

momen

SE LOT 3, BLOCK 7, PCS-04-028823 TIE POINT: BLLLM NO. 1, CAD 452-D, SILANG CADESTRE

LINE BEARING DISTANCE TO CORNER 1 S. 54 02'W 303.28M N. 16 30'W 11.48M. N. 73 30'E 7.00M S 16 30'F 11 68M 8.82M. 4-5 S. 75 08'W S. 75 08'W 6.18M

AREA: EIGHTY ONE SQUARE METERS(81), MORE

DESCRIPTION OF CORNER: ALLPOINTS ARE REFERRED TO ARE INDICATED ON THE PLAN. AND MARKED ON THE GROUND BY P.S., CYL CONS. 15X40 CMS;

BEARINGS: DECLINATION

DATE OF ORIGINAL SURVEY: JUNE 9,1981 DATE OF SUBD/CONS SURVEY: OCTOBER 21-25, 2013 DATE OF APPROVED SURVEY: APRIL 8 2014 GEODETIC ENGINEER: HERBERT S. TABERNILLA JR

is registered in accordance with the provision of Section 103 ot the Property Registration Decree in the name of SPOUSES CHARMAINE A. QUINDOZA

AND DANTE P.QUINDOZA, FILIPINOS Address: PHASE 2 BLK.11 LOT 22 RIDGE CREST SUBDIVI-SION, PASONG BUAYA2, IMUS, CAVITE'

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on Semptember 17, 2025 without

Prospective bidders or buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate and verify for themselves the TRANSFER CERTIFI-CATE OF TITLE NO. 076-2016007643, the encumbrances

"All sealed bid must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and date."

Tagaytay City, Philippines, July 7, 2025

ATTY. VARBRA ANN A. VARIAS-DIMAYUGA Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff

> OLIVER T. BOCACAO JR. Sheriff-IN-Charge

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

Copy Furnished:

BDO UNIBANK, INC 33rd Floor, BDO Corporation Center Ortigas. #12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluong City

PS CHARMAINE A QUIDOZA and DANTE P QUINDOZA Debtors/Mortgagors

- (1) Phase 2 Block 11, Lot 22 Ridge Crest Subdivision, Pasong Buaya2, Imus, Cavite
- (2) Lot Block 7 RCD Royale Homes, Brgy. Kalubkob, Sil ang, Cavite

JASMINE PEREZ ONDONG Authorized Representative of the Mortgagors/Borrowers No Address

STRAIGHT NEWS PUBLISHING July 16, 23 & 30, 2025

DSWD bares 1.M beneficiaries of 2014 AICS in Calabarzon

lion Calabarzon residents digital payment of finanhave received financial aid from the Department gas City last January 17, of Social Welfare and De- 2025, with 577 clients 2024 under its Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Sit- al assistance. This is for uations (AICS).

The program aligns with the directive of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to ensure the swift and efficient delivery of aid, reaffirming the "Bawat Buhay Mahalaga"

According to DSWD Calabarzon, a total of 1,833,996 individuals have been provided with financial support since 2024 to help them cope with various economic shocks such as illness. hospitalization, or the death of a family member. Of this number, 587,000 individuals were assisted in the first half of 2025.

"If there's death in the family or hospitalization, you can't prepare for it, so we are helping them get back on track and recover. With the assistance that we give, it will help them be productive, start anew, and provide again for their needs " said Regional Director Barry Chua of DSWD Calabarzon

DSWD emphasized that the provision of financial assistance under the program is based on the assessment and interview conducted by social workers, as well as the status of the clients.

to According DSWD data in 2024, a total of 1.246.996 individuals were assisted through the AICS program with a to- such a big help." Talucod tal amount of P5.13 billion disbursed to cover medical, subsistence, burial, and educational needs.

To enhance the efficiency of aid delivery, DSWD partnered with the Land Bank of the Philippines and the Universal Storefront Services tions. Corporation (USSC) to implement hybrid digital payments and streamlined disbursement methods.

implementation of hybrid cial assistance in Batanvelopment (DSWD) since receiving a total of 1.8 million in medical or buriefficient disbursement and minimizes security risks for DSWD personnel by handling large amounts of cash during payouts." Chua explained.

Through antee letters (GLs), the vision of Bagong Pilipinas. AICS program now allows access to medical assistance via selected branches of the leading drugstore chain. Mercury Drug. These GLs ensure that the government covers the cost of products and services, including medicines, provided by partner service providers

> "In Calabarzon there are five participating Mercury Drug outlets accepting guarantee letters, including Bavanan in Bacoor City, P. Guevarra Sta. Cruz in Laguna, Kumintang Ilaya in Batangas City, Cathedral in Antipolo City. and Merchan in Lucena City.

> One of the AICS beneficiaries, Donna Talucod, 43, a resident of Victoria, Laguna whose husband is a kidney transplant patient, expressed gratitude to the government for the help provided by the program.

> "The assistance I received through GL helped me ease the financial burden on my shoulders, and getting the medicines at the nearest Mercury Drug assured me of quality medicine. This is

Chua reaffirmed DSWD Calabarzon's commitment to assisting through its social protection programs, underscoring the agency's goal to uplift those in crisis situa-



EDITORYAL: BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION NAGBABALA SA TAONG BAYAN NA MAG INGAT SA MGA SCAMMER NA NAGSOSOLICIT PARA SA BIKTIMA NG BAGYO

Amid Storms as NGCP Confirms Normal

Transmission Operations

the National Grid Corpo- the combined weather

Immigration ang pub- lamang ng pera. liko sa pagkalat ng ilang mga scammer na nagumano sa mga biktima

saan nagbigay babala si Immigration Commissioner sioner Viado. Joel Anthony Viado hing-

continues to face the ef-

fects of the southwest

monsoon (habagat) fol-

of Tropical Storm Crising,

the Department of Energy

steps to ensure the sta-

bility and reliability of the

Sharon Garin, accompa-

nied by Undersecretary

sonally visited the Luzon

Wimpy Fuentebella, per-

Energy Secretary

nation's power supply.

lowing the recent passage

ngayon ng Bureau of ngalan makapangolekta on gamitin sana umano kanyang ngalan at mariind

Ayon sa pahayag ng kawanihan, ang babaso-solicit ng pera para la ay bunsod ng makatanggap sila ng mga ulat hinggil sa 'scammers' na nagpapanggap na may koneksyon kay Commis-

Nanghihingi raw gil sa mga indibidwal na ang mga ito ng 'monetary

(NGCP) on the operation-

al status of the country's

comed by NGCP's System

Operations Vice President

led the technical pre-

sentation alongside the

System Operations (SO)

team. According to NGCP,

nationwide remain fully

ior disruptions reported

They were wel-

transmission network.

pines — As the country ration of the Philippines systems.

(DOE) is taking proactive Revnaldo Abadilla, who

Regional Control Center to despite heavy rains and

receive a full briefing from gusty winds triggered by

para sa mga nasalanta ng pinabulaanan ang pakiki: Sa pag-iimbesti-

ga, natuklasang ang sangkot na scammer av kapaget naman ang iba pang ahensya ng gobyerno.

weather events," said Sec.

ness in upholding energy

security for Filipino house-

condition, NGCP assured

veillance and readiness

should weather conditions

holds and industries.

"We appreciate

While the sys-

remains in normal

Kava't kinundena

sioner Joel Anthony Viado Pinag-iingat ginagamit ang kanyang donations' na siyang lay- ang maling paggamit sa bahagi nito sa anumand uri ng solication para sa

STRAIGHT NEWS

Nakikipag-ug navan naman aniva sila pa na gamit sa ilang ins- sa National Bureau of idente ng panloloko na tar- Investigation o NBI para mapaimbestigahan and naturang insidente pangloloko.

The DOE's vis-

it is part of the govern-

change-induced weather

disturbances. It also un-

collaboration in securing

in parts of Luzon and Vi-

savas both the DOF and

NGCP have committed

As rains persist

critical infrastructure.

public informed.

"The safety and ment's intensified efforts

stability of the transmis- to strengthen resilience in

sion grid are top priorities, the energy sector, particu-

especially during extreme larly in the face of climate

NGCP's round-the-clock derscores the importance

monitoring and prepared- of strong public-private

the DOE of continued sur- to transparency and re-

bill that would create the Third Congressional Commission on Education or EDCOM III. The EDCOM III priority bills in the 20th Congress, seeks to bring together the Department of Education (DepEd). Commission on Higher **DOE Reassures Public on Grid Stability** Education (CHED), and

Peter Cayetano on Thurs-

day renewed his call to

fix what he described as

a fragmented education

system by reintroducing a

Designed as a parliamentary-style body, EDCOM III will not dilute the independence of the three agencies. Instead, it will allow their heads to work closely with lawmakers, local governments,

the Technical Education

and Skills Development

Authority (TESDA) under

a single coordinating com-

down to implementation The Commission will be co-chaired by four lawmakers, namely the chairs of the Senate and House committees on Basic Education, Arts, and Culture, and on Higher, Technical, and Vocational Education. It will also in-

al-time communication to clude an Advisory Support keen stakeholders and the Council (ASC) composed of representatives from the academe, business sector, parents' associations, LGUs, and civil society groups. Among EDCOM

III's key priorities are tackgambling, political dynasty ling the learning crisis, reducing dropout rates, improving digital infrastructure and addressing persistent issues such as stunting and workforce mismatch

The bill also proposes using tools like artificial intelligence to modernize education and make it more responsive to industry needs.

Complementary to Cabinet Cluster for Education

side another major reform: the Education Cabinet Cluster, also proposed by Cayetano and already approved in principle by the President.

Cluster brings together executive agencies involved in education and labor Act, one of Cayetano's to improve inter-agency coordination and ensure smoother implementation of programs. EDCOM III. by

contrast, focuses on longterm planning, policy de velopment, and stronger oversight from Congress It is also meant to be permanent, unlike bodies created through Presidential orders.

Cavetano first filed the bill in the 19th Congress as co-chair of EDCOM II, which had flagged the disjointed implementation of programs across DepEd, CHED, and education stakehold- and TESDA as a factor in ers to ensure better align- the country's education ment, from policy design

the need for a common vision for education and close coordination between Congress and executive agencies to make it a reality.

"The urgency of this reform cannot be overstated," he said.

"If we are to pro duce a globally competi tive workforce and make education the true driver of national development, we need decisive coordinated action." he continued.

Senate Presiden Francis "Chiz" Escudero, Senator Pia Cavetano and Senator Joel Villanueva. who serves as a com missioner of EDCOM II. co-authored the bill

In his explanatory note, Cayetano also anchored the bill on a bib lical principle from Galatians 6:7: "Kung ano and itinanim, siyang aanihin.

"By laying the groundwork for a truly cohesive and responsive education system, we aim to transform the nation by building the right foundations," he said, PR





SM is Turning and Here's Everything You Need to Know!

throwback vibes, and com- thanks to SM's official munity programs! The offi- 40th anniversary website. cial anniversary website But let's backtrack a bit... has all the details—book- As many of you know, mark it now and don't miss out on the celebration, go-to spot for weekend thy moments, SM Supermalls has been part of our a humble shoe store. Back lives for four iconic de- in 1958, Henry Sy, Sr. cades. And now, it's going opened Shoe Mart in Maall out for its 40th birthday! Whether you're in it for the pop-ups, the parties, accessible to Filipinos. times, creating spaces

or the perks (hello, free- Fast forward to 1985, SM that keep up with how bies and flash sales!), opened its very first mall—

turns 40 with ₱40 deals, know is just a click away— a time when mall culture before it became our From childhood malling hangouts, food trips, memories to TikTok-wor- and shopping sprees,

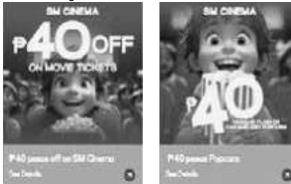
SM started out as nila with a simple dream: to make quality shoes more



Big vibes, big deals, and bigger memories—see what's in store!

One of the most skating pass exciting sections on the 40th anniversary website? The Deals section, a.k.a. vour ultimate cheat sheet to all the anniversary perks happening dropping soon, so check back regularly and don't sleep across SM Supermalls. on the savings It neatly rounds up all the promos in one place, so you don't have to scroll through dozens of posts or hunt for flyers at the mall. Just click, browse, and plan your next budget-friendly barkada day out. Here's a sneak peek at The Big 4-0 Deals!

what's waiting:



₱40 off regular bowling games

₱40 off on SM Cinema tickets

₱40 off for every 4 MOA/Sky Eye tickets

And that's just the start. Even more deals are

And of course—popcorn for only ₱40!

Celebrating 40 Years of SM Moments

So whether you're here for the deals, the nostalgia, the community impact or all of the above—SM's 40th anniversary is shaping up to be one for the books. And with more exciting announcements, events, and surprises dropping soon, the best way to stay in the loop is through the official website.

Bookmark it, share it, and check back often—because the countdown to 40 vears of SM-iles has only just begun.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, and X to stay updated with all the latest news and happenings here at SM Supermalls. You can also check the updated entry guidelines and mall hours for 2025 here.

barely existed in the country. People thought it was too big, too far, too ambitious... but we all know how that turned out. *wink* From one mall to over 80 (and counting!) nationwide and outside the country, SM Supermalls has grown into a full-blown lifestyle destination where we shop, eat, play, celebrate, and make memories. Four decades later, it's still evolving with the





July 30-Aug. 05. 2025

40 Years of Spreading SMiles!

Beyond the sales and celebrations, SM's 40th anniversary is also about giving back and that spirit shines through in the website's "40 Years of Heart" section. Here, you'll find all the meaningful initiatives SM is rolling out to uplift communities across the country, proving that malling with a heart just hits different.





One standout campaign is the SM Book Nook Book Donation Drive, which kicked off on July 7, 2025. With a goal of collecting 40,000 pre-loved books, the drive supports the National Library of the Philippines and helps expand SM Book Nook reading hubs nationwide. Under the theme "Under the Same Sky: Share the Magic of Stories," it transforms your well-loved reads into gifts of imagination, learning, and hope for kids and communities.





SM is also going green in a big way with the International Coastal Cleanup Drive happening on September 20, 2025. The mission: gather 40,000 volunteers nationwide to restore our shorelines and protect marine life—one piece of trash at a time. It's more than a cleanup; it's a movement. Whether vou're an eco-warrior, a beach lover, or someone who simply wants to help, now's your chance to make an impact.

Getting involved is easy! The website has direct links to help you donate books or sign up as a volunteer in just a few clicks. There's even a live counter tracking how many books have been donated and how many volunteers have signed up. It's not just for display. It's there to celebrate progress, spark momentum, and remind us that every small action adds up. Because at 40, SM isn't just looking back on its legacy—it's stepping into the future with heart and purpose.

SMC EXPANDS URBAN FARMING PROJECT TO SIX SITES, TARGETS NATIONWIDE ROLLOUT

poration (SMC), through rounding its San Miguel Foundation (SMF), has expanded its community farming to six sites nationwide with plans to establish at least three new locations annually as part of a broader push to improve food access and support livelihoods in low-income communities.

launched in 2020 at the company's head office complex in Mandaluyong during the COVID-19 pandemic, the program began as a way to help utility, maintenance, and security staff grow their own food and

initial 750-square-meter farm has since evolved into a multi-site model combining organic farmenterprise.

The project now covers a total of 3.300 square meters and in-

San Miguel Cor- and residents from surbarangays. "We wanted to

provide more than just livelihood. We wanted to give initiative Backyard Bukid our people a sense of purpose and ownership. That small patch of land gave us proof that the model could grow." SMC Chairman and CEO Ramon S. Ang said. Participants

undergo a three-month intensive training pro-Originally gram provided by SEED Philippines, covering organic farming methods including composting, seedling production, natural pest control, and biopesticide formulation. Since the pro-

gram's inception, the farms have produced earn additional income, over 3,000 kilograms of vegetables, which are sold at up to 50% below retail prices. Proceeds are managed by each farming group, with 80% ing, skills training, and distributed as cash benefits to members and 20% allocated for farm maintenance and reinvestment.

> Volunteers composed duce for personal use by coordinating with personnel, farm managers. Some also



Support personnel who are members of SMC's Backyard Bukid program tend to day-to-day farming chores at the SMC Head Office Complex in Mandaluyong City.

volves over 120 active may also harvest pro- have replicated the model in their homes, while others now serve as mentors to new participants. SMF aims to expand the program further, targeting three new farm sites per year, particularly in areas near its facilities. Backyard Bukid is part of SMC's broader corporate social responsibility initiatives, which include river rehabilitation, livelihood support, and environmental

DOST and PEZA Complete Nationwide Orientation of 33 HEIS to Propel Innovation-Driven Regional Economic Growth through KIST Ecozone Solution Circular No. 2023-001 and process, including the representation process, including the re-

ogy (DOST), in collabo-Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), successfully completed the Virtual Orientation Series on the Knowledge. Innovation. Science and Technology (KIST) Ecozone Program. Held every Tuesday from May 13 to June 17, 2025, the series aimed to guide higher education institutions (HEIs) in preparing their applications to be-

The KIST Ecozone Program is a strategic initiative by DOST and PEZA that seeks to entation series was part establish special econom- of the joint effort of DOST ic zones within HEIs. For- and PEZA to operationmally recognized through alize the DOST-PEZA sive guidance on the KIST cedural, and policy-relat-

PEZA registration and of Science and Technol- Presidential Proclamation under Republic Act ration with the Philippine 7916 (Special Economic Zone Act), these university-based ecozones will foster interdisciplinary collaboration, promote technopreneurship, and accelerate commercialization of research and development outputs. By linking academe, industry, and government, these ecozones are envisioned to drive innovation, create quality jobs, support high-value come registered KIST industries, and contribute Developers. to advancing the goals of the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028.

The virtual ori-

cular No. 001 s. 2024, procedures. The sessions which provides the policy and procedural frame- rum where participants work for the establish- from HEIs engaged with ment of KIST Parks/Eco-

zones across the country. series opened with strong support from national leaders DOST Secretary Renato DOST CALABARZON) U. Solidum Jr., PEZA Director General Tereso O. Panga, and DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations Sancho A. Mabborang underscored the transformative potential of KIST Ecozones in turning HEIs into innova- Mr. Ludwig O. Daza (Detion hubs, strengthening university-industry linkag- Liza S. De Vera (Division es, and driving inclusive, Chief III), and Ms. Nancy F. regional economic growth.

Fach weekly session offered comprehen- addressed technical, pro-

DOST Memorandum Cir- quirements and evaluation port HEIs in navigating the also featured an open foand development process.

resource persons from both DOST and PEZA Representing DOST were Ms. Emelita P. Bagsit (Regional Director, and Engr. Melvin P. Jusi (Project Development Officer IV, DOST Office of the Undersecretary for Regional Operations), From PEZA's Ecozone Development Department, participating officials included partment Manager), Ms. Vargas (Project Evaluation Officer IV). Together, they

KIST Ecozone application

Throughout the six-week program, a total of 33 HEIs/SUCs were successfully oriented na- seven KIST Parks will tionwide, with participation be proclaimed and/or from 17 DOST Regional Offices and select local country—anchoring a fu government units across ture where science, techvarious regions. The ori- nology, and innovation entation series marks a serve as the foundation critical step in accelerating for inclusive, sustainable, the implementation of the and globally competitive KIST Ecozone Program regional development

collaboration and growing interest among academic institutions DOST and PEZA remain hope ful that by 2028, at least established across the

With sustained

