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Wilcon Depot, the country's leading home improvement and construction supply retailer, successfully held a groundbreaking ceremony at National Highway, Brgy. Sta. Clara Sur, Pila, Laguna on December 18, 2020.

The soon-to-rise retail store will stand as the 5th Wilcon store in the province of Laguna. Wil-

con continues to fulfill its vision of bringing products and services closer to more Filipino across the country.

The groundbreaking ceremony is part of Wilcon's 5-year store expansion campaign, the #FlyingHigh-To100, wherein Wilcon aims to have 100 operational stores by 2025, barring any unexpected external factors. The soon-to-open store will be added to its currently 63 stores nationwide.

DBP bags international award for first ASEAN bond issuance

Higher oil imports hike BOC fuel taxhaul by 54 percent in November

PHL, India to enhance economic partnership in infra development, digital technologies



PIA CALABARZON info caravan brings Christmas joy to Tanay tour guides



MAI

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Kamakaialan ay ginanap ang blessing at inauguration ng multipurpose hall sa Madelaine Place sa Brgy. Molino 3. Pinangunahan ni Mayor Lani Mercado Revilla ang pagpapasinaya kasama si Molino 3 Brgy. Captain Jun Advicunla, Brgy. Officials at HOA officers. Layunin ng proyektong ito na mabigyan ng kargdagang pasilidad ang mga naninirahan doon para sa anumang aktibidad na pangungunahan ng kanilang Homeowners Association.

President Duterte signs P4.5-trillion 2021 national budget

President Rodrigo Duterte has signed into law Monday the P4.5-trillion 2021 national budget that allocates money for the government's COVID-19 vaccine rollout and infrastructure development.

Attending the signing ceremony in Malacañang were select members of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

"I stand before you today happy and proud to sign the 2021 General Appropriations Act," President Duterte said in his message.

"This important piece of legislation attests to the importance of an active and fruitful collaboration between the Executive and the Legislative branches of government, especially at this time when the health and welfare of our people are at stake."

The ratification of the 2021 national budget manifests the com-

mitment of all stakeholders to set aside divisive partisan politics for national good.

The President commended the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) and civil society partners, which provided extensive knowledge and technical expertise in crafting the expenditure program that will enable the country to rebuild and push the economy forward.

With the signing of the 2021 national budget, the President said his administration could continue pursuing its flagship Build, Build, Build program, revitalize the industry and service sectors, and support much-needed social services projects.

"Let me stress, however, that one of the most important items in the 2021 budget is the allocation of 72.5 billion pesos for the purchase, storage, transportation, and distribution of COVID-19 vaccines," he said.

"As we look forward with hope for the coming year, let me assure the public that this administration will ensure the efficient use of our resources through a sound fiscal policy that will enable us to overcome the debilitating effects of the pandemic on public health and our economy," he added.

President Duterte assured the Filipino public that every centavo contained in next year's spending measure would be spent to ensure the nation's recovery, resilience, and sustainability.

Under the 2021 national budget, the education sector received the lion's share with P708 billion.

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) came second with P694 billion while the country's health sector got the third highest allocation with P287 billion. (PND)

EDITORIAL:

As we make the second stride today during our journey through 2021, slamming shut the door on 2020 with its memories of the unimaginable coronavirus pandemic and the string of typhoons, among others, there are reasons to be happy and hopeful this year.

This week, the Philippines logged 474,000 cases of infections and 9,240 plus deaths, after a lockdown was clamped on the country in mid March last year. And the numbers are still rising.

The tumultuous memory caused by strong typhoons, which unleashed powerful winds and torrential rains which killed dozens of people and destroyed thousands of homes and left swathes of Luzon and other areas flooded, closed a bruised 2020.

But there are good reasons for business leaders and health authorities, and frontliners including the ordinary man on the street, to be hopeful this year.

Shortly before 2020 ended, and that was only this week, the Philippines announced the Philippines will be able to secure supply deals for 150 million doses of vaccines – the possibility of a rollout a monumental achievement – against the novel coronavirus by this month.

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Presidential and Inter-Agency Task Force Spokesman Harry Roque told a virtual conference the government was still negotiating for the vaccine supply, in reference to Secretary Carlito Galvez who heads inoculation efforts against COVID-19.

Roque said the government hopes to seal contracts for 150 million vaccine doses.

Rich nations have been able to corner 8.15 billion vaccine jabs, but with funding from local firms, the government has so far secured 2.6 million doses of the COVID-19 vaccine developed by British drugs group AstraZeneca.

However, the Food and Drug Administration has yet to approve any vaccine for emergency use.

There is also news that China has been racing against the West to develop its own COVID-19 vaccines, with five already in large-scale Phase 3 clinical trials.

This week the protective effect of the (Sinopharm CNBG Beijing) vaccine against COVID-19 has been reported at 79.34 percent by the Beijing Institute of Biological Products, a Sinopharm subsidiary.

Hopeful in 2021

Sinopharm has applied to China's drug regulator for approval of the inactivated coronavirus vaccine, an official statement said, a type of inoculation using particles of the pathogen.

China has committed to giving priority to developing countries, like the Philippines, for vaccines which would be made through several ways, including through donations and aid.

We do not know how the Philippines, which has allotted vaccine funds in its 2021 national budget, would get the vaccines – but the point is the vaccines are ready waiting for evaluation.

Hopes are high the COVID-19 vaccine will be in full distribution by July this year and by the end of the year the planet will be inoculated, according to authorities. There is hope, a plan, and light at the end of the tunnel that should make all business leaders happy.

For businesses, the future of employees executing strategies for the industry appears in good light.

We're not there yet, in fact a long way from it, but let's continue to hope.

CELEBRATE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AT MINISO

It's the most wonderful time of the year at Miniso as it brings you quality and affordable gift ideas perfect for the holiday season.

Miniso's Christmas inspired plush toys - Santa Clause, reindeer, gingerbread and snowman will surely bring the holiday spirit to any home. We Bare Bears huggable characters; Panda, Grizzly and Ice Bear in Christmas costumes are also available to have and to hold.

Miniso's fashionable Christmas headbands are also available to give you that fun holiday look. Conveniently shop your Christmas gifts now at shop.minisoph.com and instantly place your orders! All these and more are also available at Miniso stores located in most SM Supermalls nationwide. For more details and updates, you can check out Miniso Philippines at Facebook and Instagram.



Huggable and adorable Christmas inspired plush toys now available at Miniso.



Cuddly sitting moose plush toy from Miniso.



We Bare Bear's Grizzly wearing a Santa hat for the holidays.



This cute and lovable Panda from We Bare Bears sports his reindeer look. Available at Miniso.

GOCCs remit P160.62 billion to BTr

A total of 63 government-owned or controlled corporations (GOCCs) have remitted a total of P160.62 billion to the Bureau of the Treasury (BTr) as of December 15 this year to help fund the government's continuing efforts to curb the spread of COVID-19 and provide economic relief to pandemic-hit businesses and individuals, the Department of Finance (DOF) said.

Of this amount, P133.50 billion represents the cash dividends from 55 GOCCs as mandated under Republic Act (RA) No. 7656. Otherwise known as the Dividends Law, RA 7656 requires GOCCs to remit at least 50 percent of their net earnings to the National Government (NG).

The return of unutilized subsidies, payment of guarantee fees and NG advances, and other forms of remittances account for P27.12 billion.

According to the DOF-Corporate Affairs Group (CAG) led by Finance Undersecretary Antonette Tionko, the amount of P133.50 billion in dividend contributions of GOCCs is already almost double the actual full-year collections for 2019 of P69.2-billion.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) topped the list of GOCCs with the highest dividend contributions, having remitted P40.53 billion, followed by the Philippine

Deposit Insurance Corp. (PDIC) with P17.98 billion and the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (PAGCOR), P17 billion.

The other dividend contributors in the top 10 are the Tourism Infrastructure and Enterprise Zone Authority (TIEZA), with P12 billion; Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), P6 billion; Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA), P 6 billion; Philippine Ports Authority (PPA), P5.05 billion; Philippine National Oil Company (PNOC), P5 billion; Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRecA), P4.4 billion; and National Power Corporation (NPC), P4 billion.

Other GOCCs that remitted dividends of more than P1 billion to the BTr are the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), P2.27 billion; PNOC Exploration Corp. (PNOC-EC), P2 billion; Philippine Economic Zone Authority (PEZA), P2 billion; Bases Conversion and Development Authority, P1.17 billion; and Clark Development Corp. (CDC), P1.13 billion.

The Philippine Sugar Corporation (Phil-sucor) contributed dividends of P875 million; National Development Company (NDC), P720 million; Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA), P659.55 million; Philippine Crop Insurance Corp. (PCIC), P630.19 million; Subic Bay Metro-

politan Authority (SBMA), P544.65 million; Cebu Port Authority (CPA), P500 million; and Mactan Cebu International Airport Authority (MCIAA), P500 million.

The National Home Mortgage Finance Corp (NHMFC) remitted P359.96 million; Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), P358.50 million; Philippine International Trading Corp. (PITC), P324.11 million; Philippine Retirement Authority (PRetA), P216.37 million; Phividec Industrial Authority (PIA), P160 million; Clark International Airport Corp. (CIAC), P140.01 million; APO Production Unit, Inc. (APUI), P111.70 million; Social Housing Finance Corporation (SHFC), P109.63 million; National Electrification Administration (NEA), P85.72 million; Philippine Postal Corp. (PPC), P80.35 million; Food Terminal Inc. (FTI), P71.46 million; Philippine International Convention Center (PICC), P69.95 million; Philippine Fisheries Development Authori-

ty (PFDA), P62.90 million; LBP Insurance Brokerage, Inc. (LIBI), P62.77 million; and Authority of Freeport Area of Bataan (AFAB), P53.93 million.

GOCCs that also remitted dividends include the Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA), LBP Resources and Development Corp. (LBRDC); LBP Leasing and Finance Corp. (LBP-LC), Human Settlements Development Corp. (HSDC), Small Business Corp. (SBC), Local Water Utilities Administration (LWUA), DBP Leasing Corp. (DBP-LC), Cagayan Economic Zone Authority (CEZA), National Housing Authority (NHA), Nayong Pilipino Foundation Inc. (NPFI), Batangas Land Co. Inc. (BLCI), Philippine Mining Development Corp. (PMDC), Kamayan Realty Corporation, Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Auth (APECO), DBP Data Center Inc. (DDCI), Alabang Sto. Tomas Development Inc. (ASTDI), NDC Philippine Infrastructure Corporation, and the Pinagkaisa Realty Corporation (PRC).

EXTRA JUDICIAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ESTATE OF THE LATE JOFREY ELION ANAS HAS BEEN EXTRA-JUDICIALLY SETTLED BY HIS HEIRS THRU EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE AS PER DOC. NO. 153 ; PAGE NO. 32 ; BOOK NO. 79 ; SERIES OF 2021, BEFORE NOTARY PUBLIC ATTY. CESARIO G. GONZALES JR.

**Dateline Weekly Newspapers:
Jan. 04, 11, & 18, 2021**



KAPANALIG

Ni Nelson Dimapilis

While the dry runs on limited face-to-face classes in low-risk areas would have addressed some challenges that hound distance learning, Senator Win Gatchalian said that the government's rescinding of its green light is a precautionary measure against a new strain of COVID-19 that is now spreading across the world.

The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture warned, however, that the country should brace itself for the aggravation of the current learning crisis and a likely spike of learners with poor performance. To mitigate the looming learning losses and make up for lost time on face-to-face instruction, Gatchalian said the government should exhaust all resources and implement measures to help learners catch up.

In rolling out remedial programs, Gatchalian said there is a need to assess learning gaps, especially among vulnerable students. This would help in the correct targeting of learners for remedial programs.

'Learning crisis' needs to be averted following cancellation of face-to-face classes

Under the 2021 national budget, P16,615,694,000 was allocated for 'flexible learning options' under the programmed appropriations of the Department of Education (DepEd). An additional P6-billion was allocated for flexible learning options under unprogrammed appropriations.

The senator said that the absence of face-to-face classes entails the continuous use of alternative modalities for learning delivery such as self-learning modules, radio- and television-based lessons to support teachers and learners amid the distance learning setup.

Gatchalian also cited the role of the Alternative Learning System (ALS), especially in reaching out to an estimated 2.3 million K to 12 learners who were not able to enroll because of the COVID-19 pandemic. A special provision in the 2021 national budget allocates an amount of at least P559 million for the program.

"Dahil wala na muna tayong face-to-face classes ngayong Enero, nangangamba akong baka lalong umurong ang kaalaman ng ating mga kabata-

an. Mas malaki ang magiging problema natin. Kaya dapat sa 2021, ibuhos natin ang budget at lahat ng resources para masiguro na hindi umurong ang kaalaman ng ating mga estudyante," said Gatchalian.

The lawmaker reiterated that before the pandemic hit the country, the international assessments 2018 Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), the Southeast Asia Primary Learning Metrics (SEA-PLM) 2019, and the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2019 consistently showed that the country's K to 12 learners are failing to master basic competencies and lagging behind their peers across the world.

As part of long-term recovery efforts, Gatchalian emphasized the need for reforms in teacher education and training to improve learner outcomes. Senate Bill No. 1887 or the Teacher Education Council Act, which Gatchalian filed, seeks to improve the coordination between DepEd, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) to improve teacher education and training in the country.

DBP...

--State-owned Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) was cited by a renowned international multi-media firm for its bond issuance last year, which was aimed at raising funds to bankroll projects on the environment and financial inclusion, a top official said.

DBP President and Chief Executive Officer Emmanuel G. Herbosa said the bank's maiden issuance of ASEAN Sustainability Bonds, amounting to P18.125-billion, won as Best Sustainability Bond - Financial Institution in The Asset Country Awards 2020 presented by Hong Kong-

based financial publication The Asset.

"We take pride and honor for this achievement as it recognizes DBP's role as a catalyst for inclusive development," Herbosa said. "As a development financing institution, DBP has always been at the forefront of sustainable development and environment protection."

DBP is the seventh largest bank in the country in terms of assets and provides credit support to four strategic sectors of the economy - infrastructure and logistics;

micro, small and medium enterprises; environment; social services and community development.

The proceeds from last year's bond issuance, which was the first bond program exclusively focused on sustainability, were used to fund projects that contribute towards economic inclusion, climate change mitigation and adaptation, natural resource conservation, pollution control and prevention, and other social issues,

Herbosa said

the P18.125-billion raised, which was up-sized from the initial amount of P5-billion, represents the initial tranche of DBP's P50-billion Bond Program, geared at financing environmental and social projects eligible under the Bank's Sustainability Finance Framework.

He said 83% of the proceeds were allocated to 15 projects in sustainable and renewable energy, while the rest was allocated evenly between initiatives for water supply and sanitation and health care.

"The bond issuance did not only provide for a sound investment but also accorded investors an opportunity for directly partaking in initiatives that advance social and economic advancement," Herbosa said.

Herbosa said DBP recently raised P21-billion in its second bond issuance to fund various development projects of vital economic sectors, reeling from the ill-effects of the pandemic.

He said net proceeds of the second tranche would be earmarked for financing re-

newable energy, green buildings, clean transportation, energy efficiency, pollution prevention and control, sustainable water management, climate change adaptation, affordable basic infrastructure, affordable housing, food security, and other similar developmental initiatives.

"The second bond issuance would allow us to reach a wider network of stakeholders, especially in the countryside, as we take a step closer to becoming a P1-trillion bank by 2022," Herbosa added. (PIA-4A/DBP)

FROM PAGE 1

PIA...

Just in time for the Yuletide season, the Philippine Information Agency - CALABARZON (PIA 4-A) has rolled out their information caravan to the Indigenous Peoples (IPs) in a bid to curb misinformation amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the support of the Office of Civil Defense - CALABARZON (OCD 4-A) and the Department of Health - CALABARZON (DOH 4-A), PIA 4-A delivered their services to IPs who mainly earn their livelihood as tour guides in Barangay Cuyambay of this town.

"Naniniwala kami sa PIA na sa pagbabayanihan, sa pagtutulungan ay malalampan natin ito," said PIA 4-A Regional Director Ma. Cristina Arzadon, emphasizing the danger-

ous, and sometimes fatal, effects of misinformation.

[We at PIA believe that through bayanihan, through units, we can overcome this.]

In his briefing on the Minimum Health Standards that must be observed in tourist destinations, Dr. Joel Melchor Francisco of DOH 4-A said that because gatherings are part of celebrating Christmas in the Philippines, attendees must always observe health protocols such as wearing face masks while hosts should only allow their guests to gather for up to 15 minutes to avoid crowding.

"Dahil nakagawian na ng Pilipino ang pag-sasalu-salo, bilang respeto ay dapat nakasuo ng

face mask [ang lahat]. Dapat ay isaalang-alang natin ang kaligtasan ng ating pamilya," Dr. Melchor said.

[Because Filipinos are used to holding parties, everyone must wear a mask as a sign of respect. We must always prioritize the safety of our families.]

However, Filipinos can still minimize infection by becoming responsible guests and hosts who observe basic health measures such as proper hygiene, sterilization of utensils, and physical distancing.

"Pag isa sa atin ang may sakit, maaari natin iyon maikalat sa ating pamilya sa ating pag-uwi [kaya] ibayong

pag-iingat ang kinakailangan," he reminds.

[If we become sick, we can spread it to our families when we come home so we need to be very careful.]

Aside from the pandemic, CALABARZON Regional Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council Spokesperson Alex Masiglat warned that as tour guides, they must also be prepared for other natural disasters such as earthquakes and typhoons.

"Bilang Pilipino, tayo ay lantad sa sakuna, natural man o gawa ng tao." Masiglat reminded during the distribution of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on com-

mon natural calamities.

To recall, Rodriguez - one of the hardest hit areas by Typhoon Ulyses - was placed under the State of Calamity in November.

PIA 4-A also distributed grocery packs to the attendees, this time to help them prepare for the joys of the Christmas season. (PB)

FROM PAGE 1

EXTRA JUDICIAL

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DATELINE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:
DECEMBER 21, 28 & January 04, 2021

A GIFT OF HOLIDAY CHEER FROM SM APPLIANCE CENTER



TV becomes art with this amazing Samsung 55" QLED 4K Flat Smart TV.

SM Appliance Center brings gifts of holiday cheer, hope and inspiration to everyone with its latest and innovative products. With most of us spending more time at home, these make presents perfect for yourself or for your loved ones.

You'll be amazed how TV becomes art with Samsung's The Frame

TV. It has an Art Mode with over 1,200 pieces of art with a customizable frame of your choice. It's TV when it's on. Art when it's off.

There are also rechargeable JBL Party Box speakers with fabulous sound and dazzling lights to enjoy all your favorite music wirelessly while at home.

Refresh and renew the air in your living spaces while saving energy inverter window and split type air conditioners from Hitachi and Carrier.

Get your kitchen holiday-ready with energy saving LG inverter Side by Side Refrigerators to keep your foods always fresh and crisp; as well

as high performance La Germania Ovens that help make cooking your family's favorite meals healthier, faster and more convenient.

SM Appliance Center also has LG all-in-one washer and dryer combo washing machines by which you can remotely operate your laundry and download additional cycles with its LG ThinQ features.

Get connected with Samsung Galaxy A71 smartphones and enjoy all your favorite apps, social media, games, entertainment.

When you shop at SM Appliance Center, you'll not only be a winner because of the great selection of brands, but also because you will be given a chance to bring home

appliances in its Libreng Appliances Araw Araw promotion.

Every P1000 purchase at any SM Appliance Center branches or via Online channel (www.smappliance.com & viber order form) from Nov 15 to Jan 15, 2021 entitles one to an electronic raffle entry (single receipt) and a chance to win exciting prizes during the raffle draws. Be one (1) of the 8 lucky weekly winners of Samsung appliances grand prizes which include: 75" 8k QLED TV, 1.5 hp Premium Inverter Wind Free Plus Aircon, 24.7 cu.ft. Side by Side Refrigerator and 6.5 kg Frontload Washer. Click this link to participate and to know more: <https://smappliancepromos.com>

You can shop and order these items at all SM Appliance branches nationwide or via Order To Deliver service / Concierge in your area. You may also join SM Appliance Center's Viber community at <https://bit.ly/SMApp-Viber>. With our easy & secure home delivery service, you can Stay Home and Stay Safe.

You may also shop online at www.smappliance.com. For more updates, you may also want to like and follow us at facebook.com/smappliance.



This high performance La Germania Oven is a great gift for kitchen enthusiast and foodies



Energy saving Hitachi 1.0hp Full DC Inverter Window Type Aircon



This Harman JBL Partybox 310 is a perfect gift for music lovers. Features include Bluetooth connectivity, 240 watts of powerful sound and long battery life.



The Carrier 1.5hp XPower Gold 3 Inverter Split Type Aircon has an Advanced Nano Filtration System that deodorizes the air in your room that to help keep your kids and the whole family safe from virus



Get your kitchen holiday ready with this LG Inverter 24.0 cubic feet Side by Side Refrigerator. Features include Smart Wifi, Door In Door and Hygiene Fresh



Make your laundry chores a breeze with this LG 10.5 / 7kg Frontload Inverter Fully Automatic Combi Washer Dryer with energy savings and LG ThinQ features



This Samsung Galaxy A71 smartphone from SM Appliance Center has a 6.7" display size, Full HD Amoled Plus and 128GB +8GB RAM expandable up to 512 GB.

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It's the most wonderful time of the year at Miniso as it brings you quality and affordable gift ideas perfect for the holiday season.

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Gingerbread plush toy to have and to hold. Available at Miniso.



These penguin plush toys are wonderfully wintry



This cute and lovable Panda from We Bare Bears sports his reindeer look. Available at Miniso.



Cuddly sitting moose plush toy from Miniso

PHL, India...

FROM PAGE 1

Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III and India Ambassador to the Philippines Shambhu Kumaran met recently to explore ways of enhancing economic cooperation between their two countries, especially in the areas of "financial and digital technologies" and infrastructure development.

Both officials acknowledged the numerous mutually beneficial opportunities open to the Philippines and India as economic partners in the Indo-Pacific region, as both countries are poised to strongly bounce back in 2021 from the economic impact of the lingering COVID-19 pandemic.

During his virtual courtesy call on Secretary Dominguez, Ambassador Kumaran expressed India's interest in strengthening its cooperation with the Philippines in the fields of banking and finance, particularly on expanding the use of fintech to help attain President Duterte's goal of financial inclusion for all Filipinos.

In support of this goal, Ambassador Kumaran said India can lend its expertise to the Philippines in setting up its national broadband network as well as its national ID system.

Secretary Dominguez welcomed the Ambassador's offer of assistance and invited Indian companies to participate in the upcoming rollout of a shared cyber-defense plan for Philippine state-run banks and their subsidiaries.

The Finance Secretary also expressed his appreciation for India's interest in helping the government implement its digital transformation programs that aim to expand financial inclusion among

Filipinos, upgrade the delivery of frontline government services and further curb official corruption.

During the virtual meeting, Ambassador Kumaran also said Indian companies are interested in taking part in the Duterte administration's "Build, Build, Build" program but are in need of more information on the various opportunities available to them under the President's centerpiece infrastructure modernization plan.

To assist prospective investors on this concern, Secretary Dominguez and Ambassador Kumaran agreed to help organize a webinar or online workshop where the Philippines can showcase the various opportunities open to India's companies on infrastructure development, as well as other possible areas of cooperation between Filipino and Indian firms.

The Finance Secretary mentioned during the meeting that an Indian company—GMR Infrastructure Limited—is already taking part in the "Build, Build, Build" program and has performed impressively in operating the Mactan Cebu International Airport (MCIA) and expanding the Clark International Airport (CIA).

The Philippines and India rekindled their bilateral ties with the official visits of President Duterte to India in 2017 and 2018, which were followed by a state visit of Indian President Ram Nath Kovind to the Philippines in October 2019.

India and the Philippines celebrated last year their 70 years of diplomatic relations, which were established on November 16, 1949. (PR)

Successful bond floats mark strong investor confidence in PHL economy in 2020 despite COVID-19 pandemic

The strong demand for the Philippines' foreign bond offerings in 2020 even with the unprecedented challenge brought by the COVID-19 contagion has underscored international investor confidence in the country's ability to quickly bounce back from the impact of this global crisis and regain its pre-pandemic growth momentum.

Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III said the low borrowing costs and tight spreads of these foreign bond issuances was the result of the Philippines' strong fiscal position and favorable credit profile, which has remained at a high-investment grade rating of "BBB +" in a sea of credit-rating downgrades and negative outlook revisions worldwide amid the global economic turmoil.

In January, before the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a pandemic, the Philippines successfully returned to the euro debt market, raising 1.2 billion euros (about US\$1.33 billion) from the issuance of its 3- and 9-year global bonds.

The Bureau of the Treasury (BTr) described the bond issuance as a "landmark" transaction as it was priced with its lowest coupon rate in the euro market and was the first-ever zero-coupon issuance of the Philippines in the international capital markets.

For the 3-year EUR600 million notes, the yield was 0.13 percent, which allowed the government to print at zero percent coupon with a spread of 40 basis points (bps) over the benchmark.

The spread was tighter than the initial price guidance for the bonds, which had a spread of about 65 basis points above benchmark, according to the BTr.

The 9-year bonds fetched a coupon rate of 0.70 percent, tighter than the 0.875 percent during the Philippines' of 8-year euro notes last year.

The debt papers also had a spread of 70 bps above the benchmark, tighter than the initial price guidance of 95 bps.

Dominguez said then that "the overwhelm-

ing response from the market for this landmark transaction underscores the international investor community's deepening confidence in the Philippine economy amid the reforms put in place by the Duterte administration to sustain the country's high and inclusive growth in the face of the current geopolitical headwinds."

At that time, the government had planned the euro bonds issuance as the opening salvo of its efforts to diversify funding sources for its aggressive "Build, Build, Build" infrastructure program and unprecedented spending for social services.

When the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic in March, the government's succeeding bond offerings in the global market were done to source emergency financing for the cash-intensive task of containing the spread of the virus, providing assistance to the poor and other vulnerable sectors along with businesses, and prepare the economy for a strong post-pandemic recovery.

In late-April, the Philippines raised US\$2.35 billion in its sale of 10-year and 25-year US dollar denominated global bonds at record-low coupons despite what National Treasurer Rosalia De Leon said was an "environment gripped with pandemic fear."

She described the Philippines as "a diamond in the sovereign issuance space" when it was able to price its 10-year global bonds at a coupon rate of 2.457 percent, which was 40 bps tighter than the initial pricing guidance of 220 bps above benchmark.

The 25-year notes were priced at 2.95 percent, which was 42.5 bps tighter than the initial pricing guidance of 3.375 percent area.

Following that float, Dominguez said "the strong demand for this bond issue demonstrates the resiliency of investor interest in the Philippine economy despite the global economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic."

The government decided to defer the issu-

ance of its renminbi-denominated panda and yen-denominated samurai bonds in the fourth quarter owing to strong liquidity in the domestic market.

Before the end of the year, the Philippines returned again to the global bond market, raising another US\$2.75 billion on December 10 at even lower coupon rates than the April issuance.

Investor appetite remained strong for the Philippines' third and final bond offering for 2020.

Its 10.5 year bonds were priced at 1.648 percent, at US Treasury spreads of T+70 bps after an initial pricing guidance of T+100 bps area, while the 25-year tranche was priced at 2.65 percent, which is 35 bps tighter than initial pricing guidance of 3 percent area.

Dominguez attributed the success of the most recent bond offering to the "international investor community's recognition of the Philippine economy's strong fundamentals despite the global economic downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic."

"We believe this result indicated that international investors are aware of, and appreciate, the Duterte administration's resolve to rebuild the domestic economy and its initial headway in steering it back to its pre-COVID growth trajectory," Dominguez said.

"The prudent fiscal management and bold economic reforms that President Duterte put in place since he assumed office in 2016 are paying off. These initiatives have given the government headroom to spend on COVID-19 response even as it sustains its aggressive spending on infrastructure and other priority programs to revive the economy amid the global slowdown," he added.

President Duterte's prudent fiscal management also enabled the Philippines to raise US\$7.62 billion from its multilateral and bilateral partners for its

pandemic response measures.

Along with the US\$5.1 billion raised through the international commercial markets, the total amount secured by the government for its COVID-19 response as of Dec. 15, 2020 stands at US\$12.72 billion.

The US\$7.62 billion budgetary support financing came from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), World Bank (WB), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), Agence Française de Développement (AFD) Group of France, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), and the Korean Export-Import Bank – Economic Development Cooperation Fund (KEXIM-ED-CF).

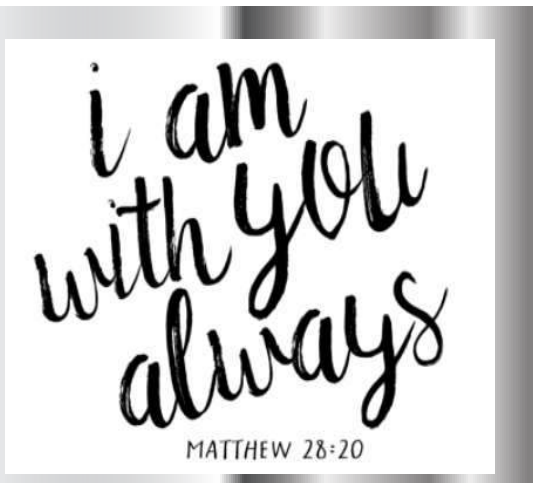
"Because of our strong macroeconomic fundamentals, we were able to quickly access funds from our development partners and commercial markets at very low rates and tight spreads, and for longer repayment periods," Dominguez noted.

These borrowings were obtained with fiscal prudence in mind, Dominguez said, to ensure that the country's deficit-to-GDP (gross domestic product) ratio remains in the mid-range of its Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) neighbors and credit-rating peers.

"Considering that we are now in a low-interest global financing environment, the Philippines is in a very strong debt-management position," Dominguez said.

Fiscal prudence will continue to be the norm under the Duterte administration "despite the many populist excuses to blow up the deficit and bury future generations in debt," he said.

"We have solid footing in terms of our fiscal position, so we can afford a responsible level of deficit spending. Nevertheless, we will not abandon the administration's prudent fiscal management," Dominguez said. (PR)



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILLIPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY CAVITE

Foreclosure Case No. F-055-20

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,
-versus-

**Spouses MAXIMO FERNANDEZ MARCOS and
MERLE VILLAMOR MARCOS**
Mortgagor

x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA – JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra – Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act.4118, filed by Mortgagee, **BDO UNIBANK, INC.**, with business address at BDO Corporate Center, 7899 Makati Avenue, Makati City against the Mortgagor, **Spouses MAXIMO FERNANDEZ MARCOS and MERLE VILLAMOR MARCOS**, and with residence and postal address at (1) Blk. 2, Lot 87, Ph 21, Kensington, Navarro, Gen. Trias, Cavite and (2) Block 79, Lot 6, Ph. 3A, Mabuhay Homes Darangan, Binangonan, Rizal to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness as of 03 February 2020 amounts to **ONE MILLION SEVENTY NINE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHT PESOS and 93/100 (P1,079,708.93)**, Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties, and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all the other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **FEB. 25, 2021 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning** at the main entrance of the Government Center Bldg. located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder of **CASH** and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 057-2017024009

Lot No. 87 Block:2 Plan No. PCS-04-028596

PORTION OF : LOTS 1688-A-1688-B (LRC) PSD-8235 & LOT 1718, SAN FRANCISCO DE MALABON ESTATE, DECREE NO: 4270; LRC REC. NO. 5964

LOCATION : BARANGAY OF NAVARRO, MUNICIPALITY OF GEN. TRIAS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON

BOUNDARIES:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT(S)
1-2	SE	ROAD LOT 11, PCS-04-028596
2-3	SW	LOT 86, BLOCK 2, PCS -04-028596
3-4	NW	LOT 161, BLOCK 2, PCS-04-028596
4-1	NE	LOT 88, BLOCK 2, PCS -04-028596

AREA: FIFTY SQUARE METERS (50), 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 and time, it shall be held on **MARCH 04, 2021** without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City DEC. 15, 2020.

(sgd) **RICARDO A. TOLEDO**
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished:

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
RISK MANAGEMENT GROUP-REMEDIAL MANAGEMENT UNIT
11TH FLOOR, BDO South Tower, BDO Corporate Tower
7899 Makati, Avenue, Makati City 1200

**MAXIMO FERNANDEZ MARCOS and
MERLE VILLAMOR MARCOS**
1.) (1) Blk 2, Lot 87, Ph 21, Kensington, Navarro, Gen. Trias, Cavite
2.) Block 79, Lot 6, Ph 3A, Mabuhay Homes Darangan, Binangonan, Rizal

WARNING: IT IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED TO REMOVE DEFACE, OR DESTROY THIS NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF SALE.

DATELINE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:
December 21, 28 & January 4, 2021

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILLIPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY CAVITE

Foreclosure Case No. F-110-20

SKYBLUE LENDING CORPORATION
Mortgagee,
-versus-

SPOUSES ALLEN M. DAYPUYART and MARY JOY B. DAYPUYART
Mortgagor

x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA – JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra – Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act.4118, filed by Mortgagee, **SKYBLUE LENDING CORPORATION**, with business address at Suites 2609 World Trade Exchange Center, Juan Luna Street, Binondo, Manila against the Mortgagor, **SPOUSES ALLEN M. DAYPUYART and MARY JOY B. DAYPUYART** and with residence and postal address at Lot 29, Blk 52, Chateau Real Subdivision, Brgy. Manggahan, Gen. Trias, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness as of 14 October 2020, amounts to **TWO MILLION FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY TWO THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED PESOS and 00/100 (P2,422,800. 00)**, Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties, and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all the other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **FEB. 25, 2021 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning** at the main entrance of the Government Center Bldg. located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder of **CASH** and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 057-2016022604

A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 29, OF THE CONS./SUBD. PLAN. PCS-04-016460 BEING A PORTION OF THE CONS. OF LOTS 1,3,5 & 7 TO 32, BLCK 52, L.R.A REC. NO.), SIT. IN THE BRGY. OF MANGGAHAN, MUN. OF GEN. TRIAS PROV. OF CAVITE, BOUNDED ON THE SE, ALONG LINE 1-2 BY LOT 30 ON THE ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 28: ON THE SW., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY LOT 7 ALL OF THE CONS. SUBD. PLAN ON THE NW., ALONG LINE 4-5 BY RD LOT 52, PCS-04-012517 (8.00 M. WIDE): ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 5-1 BY LOT 31 OF THE CONS. SUBD. PLAN. BEGINNING AT A PT. MARKED "1" xxx CONTAINING AN AREA OF NINETY SI (96) SQ. METERS xxx

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 and time, it shall be held on **MARCH 04, 2021** without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City DEC. 15, 2020

(sgd) **REYNALDO L. SALOMA**
Sheriff IV

Copy furnished:

SKYBLUE LENDING CORPORATION,
c/o Atty. Joaquin P. Telan
No. 81 West Capitol Drive Bo. Capitololy, Pasig City

SPOUSES ALLEN M. DAYPUYART and MARY JOY B. DAYPUYART
Lot 29, Blk 52, Chateau Real Subdivision, Brgy. Manggahan, Gen. Trias, Cavite

WARNING: IT IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED TO REMOVE DEFACE, OR DESTROY THIS NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE ON OR BEFORE THE DATE OF SALE.

DATELINE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:
December 21, 28 & January 4, 2021

HE IS MY
Healer

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
DASMARIÑAS CITY CAVITE

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND
(Otherwise known as Pag-ibig fund)
Petitioner/Mortgage

-versus-

File No.FC-DC-0016-20

EXTRA JUDICIAL FOR CLOSURE
OF REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE
UNDER ACT 3135,AS AMENDED
BY ACT 4118

SPOUSES THEMESTOCLES L. LUCEÑARA, JR.
And MICHELLE F. LUCEÑARA,

Respondent/Mortgagors

X-----X

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as Amended by Act 4118 filed by Petitioner/Mortgagee, **HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (Otherwise known as Pag-IBIG Fund)**, a government financial institution duly organized and existing under and by virtue Republic Act No.9679, with postal address at 12th Floor JELP Business Solutions Center, No 409 Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City against respondent/ mortgagors, **SPOUSES THEMESTOCLES L. LUCEÑARA, JR. And MICHELLE F. LUCEÑARA**, with postal addresses at Block 13 Lot 10 King Solomon Road Kingsland Village, Brgy. Pala-pala Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite and/or Block 14 Lot 11 King Solomon Road, Kingsland Village, Brgy Pala-pala, Dasmariñas City Province of Cavite and for satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of January 08, 2020 amounts to **ONE MILLION ONE HUNDRED SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY SEVEN PESOS & 03/100 (PHP 1,107,527.03)**, exclusive of all legal fees of expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on **January 27, 2021** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter in the Court Room of Branch 90, Regional Trial Court, Ground Floor, Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Buro I, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite to the highest bidder and for **CASH or CERTIFIED CHECK** in Philippines Currency, the following described real property together with all the buildings and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO.057-2011009474

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that certain land situated in BO OF PALA-PALA, MUN. OF DASMARIÑAS PROVINCE OF CAVITE IS LUZON bounded and described as follows:

A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 10, BLK 13 OF THE SUBD. PLAN PSD-04-022450. BEING A PORTION OF LOT 3885-D-3-B(LRC)PSD-333274, LRC REC. NO 8843), SITUATED IN THE BO. OF PALA-PALA, MUN. OF DASMARIÑAS PROV.OF CAVITE IS OF LUZON BOUNDED ON THE SW, ALONG LINE 1-2 BY LOT 9 ON THE NW., ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 8, BOTH OF BLK. 13 ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY ROAD LOT 2 AND ON THE SE.ALONG LINE 4-1 BY LOT 12, BLK. 13 ALL OF THE SUBD. PLAN BEGINNING AT A PT. MARKED "1" ON PLAN BEING S. 37 DEG. 20'E., 1975.05 M. FROM MON. 145, IMUS ESTATE THENCE N. 16 DEG. 45'W., 8.00 M. TO PT.2; THENCE N.75 DEG.15'E., 10.00 M. TO PT.3; THENCE S 14 DEG. 45'E 8.00 M. TO PT 4, THENCE S. 75 DEG. 15'W., 10.00 M. TO THE PT. OF BEGINNING CONTAINING AN AREA OF EIGHTY (80) SQUARE METER ALL PTS. REFERRED TO ARE MARKED ON THE GROUND BY PS CYL. CONC. MONS. BEARINGS TRUE; DATE OF ORIG. SURVEY JULY 27 1905-JUNE 11, 1908 AND THAT OF THE SUBD. SURVEY DEC. 3 1986 TO JAN. 4, 1987 AND APPROVED ON FEB. 17, 1987.

Prospective buyers and/or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title of the said real property and the encumbrance thereon, if there be any.

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

In the events the publication auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held **FEBRUARY 03, 2021**, at the same time and place without further notice.

11 JUNE 2020*, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite.

(sgd) **ALVARO MIJARES**
Sheriff IV

APPROVED:
MARCELA L. BAYBAY
Clerk of Court & Ex Officio Sheriff

Copy furnished:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND (Otherwise known as Pag-IBIGFund) 12th Floor JELP Business Solutions Center, No 409 Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong

MARIA VICTORIA B. CAPIRAL
c/o ATTY. CAESER S. EUROPA
24K ACCOUNT CONSULTANT.INC.
3F FASS INTELI COLLEGE BUILDING
NO. 11 PITTSBURGH STREET, BRGY. SILANGAN
CUBAO, QUEZON CITY

SPOUSES THEMESTOCLES L. LUCEÑARA, JR.
and MICHELLE F LUCEÑARA
BLOCK 13 LOT 10 KING SOLOMON ROAD KINGSLAND VILLAGE
BRGY. PALA-PALA DASMARIÑAS CITY, PROVINCE OF CAVITE

and/or
Block 14 Lot 11 Solomon Road Kingsland Village
BRGY. PALA-PALA DASMARIÑAS CITY, PROVINCE OF CAVITE

DATELINE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:
Dec. 21, 28 & Jan. 04, 2021

Higher oil imports hike BOC fuel tax haul by 54 percent in November

The Bureau of Customs (BOC) increased its revenue collection from petroleum products in November 2020 by 54.1 percent to P12.83 billion, as against P8.33 billion in the same period last year as a result of the surge in imports of diesel and gasoline.

In its report to Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III, the BOC said the increase in revenues was driven mainly by the corresponding spike in excise tax collections from petroleum products.

From Nov. 1-30, the BOC said excise taxes collected by the Bureau from fuel imports amounted to P8.97 billion, which is 88.7 percent higher than last year's collection of P4.76 billion for the same period.

For the period of Nov. 1-30, fuel imports increased by 32.1 percent to 1.1 billion kilograms (kg), compared to 829.4 million kg brought into the country in the same period in 2019, the BOC said.

Crude oil importation was only 381.8 million kg during this period, which is a 51.8 percent drop compared to the 792.7 million kg that was imported last year, the BOC said during a recent Department of Finance (DOF) Executive Committee (Execom) meeting.

Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. shut down its refinery in Batangas last August and announced it will convert the site into an import terminal.

Oil refiners in Asia, North America and Europe have also permanently shut down their facilities following the decline in global fuel demand by 30 percent amid the global economic slump resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the Nov. 1-30 period, the volume of diesel imports amounted to 698.8 million kg, up by 60 percent from the 436.9 million kg imported during the same period last year.

The volume of gasoline imports also increased by 55.7 percent to 259.2 million kg during the same period, up from 166.4 million kg last year, BOC data show.

Imports of kerosene and other oil products grew 354.4 percent from 1.28 million kg in the month of November 2019 to 5.8 million kg during the same period this year.

Expectedly, jet fuel imports decreased 71 percent to 14.6 million kg during the November 1-30 period, from 50.2 million kg last year, in light of the pandemic-related international travel restrictions.

During the Execom meeting, the BOC also reported to Dominguez that for the period Jan.1 to Nov. 30, preliminary data show the BOC posted a total collection of P493.32 billion, which exceeded by 6.6 percent the revised target of P462.78 billion set by the Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC).

Revenue growth from fuel imports from Jan. 1 to Nov.30 showed a 1.6 percent increase—P133.4 billion from P131.4 billion collected in the same period in 2019.

The increase in excise tax collections by 25.8 percent from P72.9 billion last year to P91.7 billion accounted for the growth in revenues despite the drop in the volume of fuel imports from

12.7 million kg in 2019 to 11.67 million kg this year, the BOC said.

As a result of the drop in global demand, the value of fuel imports also declined by 34.4 percent.

The value of fuel imports from Jan. 1 to Nov. 30 was recorded at P250.52 billion, down from P381.97 billion during the same period in 2019. (PR)

EXTRA JUDICIAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ESTATE OF THE LATE ALFREDO CUBE HAVE BEEN EXTRA-JUDICIALLY SETTLED BY HIS HEIRS THRU MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH AGRICULTURAL LEFT WITH TCT NO. T-25727 AS PER DOC. NO. 284; PAGE NO. 86; BOOK NO. 18; SERIES OF 2014, BEFORE NOTARY PUBLIC ATTY. PABLO B. AJESTA.

Dateline Weekly Newspapers:
Dec. 21, 28 & Jan. 04, 2021

EXTRA JUDICIAL

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late RODOLFO I. PELIÑA married to ORPHELINA ES-LABON, consisting of a portion of a parcel of land known as (Lot No.3 (LRA) PSD-E2019005475 of the subdivision survey of plan PSU-211550 LRC Case No.NC-109, LRC Record No.53680, situated in the Barrio of Zapang, Mun. of Ternate, Prov. of Cavite, consisting an area 3688 square meters, embraced and covered by OCT NO. O-2244, have been the subject of an Extra-Judicial Settlement of Estate of the Deceased among the legal heirs as per Doc.No.128; Page No.27; Book No. XXII and series of 2020 of Notary Public Jameswell M. Resus of Naic, Cavite.

DATELINE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:
DEC. 21, 28 & January 04, 2021

DATELINE Weekly Newspaper has its principal business editorial office at Blk. 4 Lot 11, Ph. 6, Northeast Primarosa Subd., Mambog 3, Bacoor City with all the required BIR, DTI (CR#01576397), Barangay and City business permits and registered as a second class mail, with Permit #2005-10 from the Phil. Postal Corp. Tel Nos.(046)476-7611/(0955)1552764; heidelitalat@yahoo.com

HEIDELITA LAT PAGINAG Webster Ace Paginag

Publisher

Editor-in-Chief

Marivic Soberano

Irene Gascon

Marketing Manager

Correspondents

Marvin B. Lat

Jennalyn B. Lat

Reporter

Circulation-in-Charge

Atty. Evelyn R. Dominguez

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foodpanda reaches 100th city in the Philippines, celebrates milestone with an exciting promo

The country's on-demand food delivery service hits the century mark

Delivering on its promise to serve more Filipinos nationwide, foodpanda Philippines announces its biggest milestone to date with the opening of its 100th location in the country.

"This month is a celebration of our growing foodpanda family here in the Philippines," said Daniel Marogy, foodpanda Philippines Managing Director. "Let us raise our glasses—or food orders, if you will—to foodpanda Philippines's 100-location milestone, it's the type of achievement that inspires us to work harder and bring our services to even more locations around the country."



foodpanda marks the occasion with a motorcade featuring local riders and the unveiling of the 100th City Marker, replete with pink pyro musicals and an official lighting ceremony. The branded installation is to be placed on-ground for iconicity to mark as foodpanda Philippines' 100th City.

First to 100 in APAC

Having reached triple digits in local location count, the Philippines now enjoys the distinction of being the first and only Asia Pacific (APAC) country to have foodpanda available in 100 local markets. While this year has definitely brought challenges, foodpanda pays homage to the food and beverage industry by opening up opportunities, particularly to small businesses in different local areas.

foodpanda was launched in the Philippines in 2014 and introduced Filipinos

to the brand's "three Cs" of food delivery service that makes life easy for users. The first C is "comfort," where all the time and energy that goes into buying food personally are reduced to simple on-screen scrolls and taps. Another is "convenience," with food and goods delivered in just 20 minutes or less. The last one is "customer perks and rewards," as foodpanda often offers free deliveries and unmatched food discounts.

"The tremendous growth of foodpanda in the Philippines is a testament to the relationship between the Filipinos' deep-rooted love for food and the company's brand of quick and simple delivery service," said Argie Muyco, foodpanda Philippines Head of Expansion. "Being available in 100 cities means sharing our services and opening our doors to 100 communities around the country. We intend to introduce foodpan-

da to more locations to get more food and goods delivered, as well as to create new jobs and support local food establishments, especially during these challenging times."

With exceptional, record-breaking service and a big heart to match, be sure to join the expanding foodpanda family by downloading the app now for free.

About foodpan-

da: foodpanda is dedicated to bringing food lovers their favorite meals from curated local restaurants in the Philippines. Since its creation, the on-demand food delivery service has grown to more than 170,000 partner restaurants in more than 325 cities across 13 Asian and Central Europe foodpanda Philippines currently operates in more than 50 cities across the Philippines and continuously expanding. foodpanda is a

subsidiary under Delivery Hero, a worldwide leader in the food delivery industry. For more information visit www.foodpanda.ph

How it works:

Through the foodpanda website or via the new iOS and Android apps, customers can enter their address and view a curated list of restaurants and shops serving their neighborhood. Once they have found their choice, they can place an order in the comfort of their home or office, paying online through foodpanda's secure platform or via cash-on-delivery. The order is then carefully prepared by the restaurant or shop, picked up by the foodpanda rider, and delivered straight to their doorstep.

Follow us on:

Facebook: [foodpandaphilippines](https://www.facebook.com/foodpandaphilippines)

Twitter: [foodpanda_ph](https://twitter.com/foodpanda_ph)

Instagram: [foodpanda_ph](https://www.instagram.com/foodpanda_ph)

SM CAVITE BRINGS CHRISTMAS JOY THROUGH KALINGA DONATION DRIVE



Mr. Lorenz Calingasan IV, AVP South 1 heading the distribution of Kalinga Packs to the Pedicab Drivers Assoc Habay 1 and 2 in Bacoor City, Cavite. More than 3000 Kalinga packs were distributed in Cavite in the spirit of giving this Yuletide season.

SM Cavite Malls under the The SM Group is spreading hope and good cheer this Christmas season to thousands of families nationwide as it

mobilizes its Christmas Kalinga donation drive. This is a joint project among SM Supermalls, SM Retail, SM Markets, SM Foundation to provide essential items to residents and families affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and recent natural calamities.

Mr. Lorenz Calingasan IV, Assistant Vice President for Operations headed the distribution in Cavite along with the Mall

Managers and employee volunteers from SM City Bacoor, SM City Molino, SM City Dasmariñas, SM City Trece Martires, SM City Rosario and SM Center Imus.

SM Cavite recently distributed more than 4000 Kalinga while the whole SM Group distributed over 70,000 food packs across the country. Some of the beneficiaries were Community Patrol Action Group, Barangay

Workers and front liners at the Trece Martires City, fishermen in the municipality of Rosario, Informal settlers affected by recent typhoons, Pedicab drivers and recent fire incident victims in Bacoor City, and surrounding communities in Molino, Imus, and Dasmariñas Cavite.

For updates and further announcements, visit www.smsupermalls.com or follow @smsupermalls on all social media platforms.



Mr. Charles Yap, Assistant Mall Manager of SM City Dasmariñas, cheerfully distributing the Kalinga packs to the beneficiaries.



The happy residents of Sitio Bisaya Amuntay, Brgy Zone 3, Dasmariñas Cavite who received their early Christmas gifts



Mr. Marnelle J. Sumilong, SM Center Imus Mall Manager along with employee volunteers headed the distribution in at the mall, adding more colors to their already adorable Christmas Centerpiece



happiest smiles this year are seen on the faces of these beneficiaries at SM City Molino. Volunteer employees from The SM Store, SM Hypermarket and SM Supermalls gathered to bring joy to the community nearby.



Bayanihan was seen as SM City Trece Martires volunteers joined forces to bring 650 Christmas Kalinga food packs for Trece Martires Community Patrol Action Group, Barangay Workers and front liners at the Municipal Hall.

