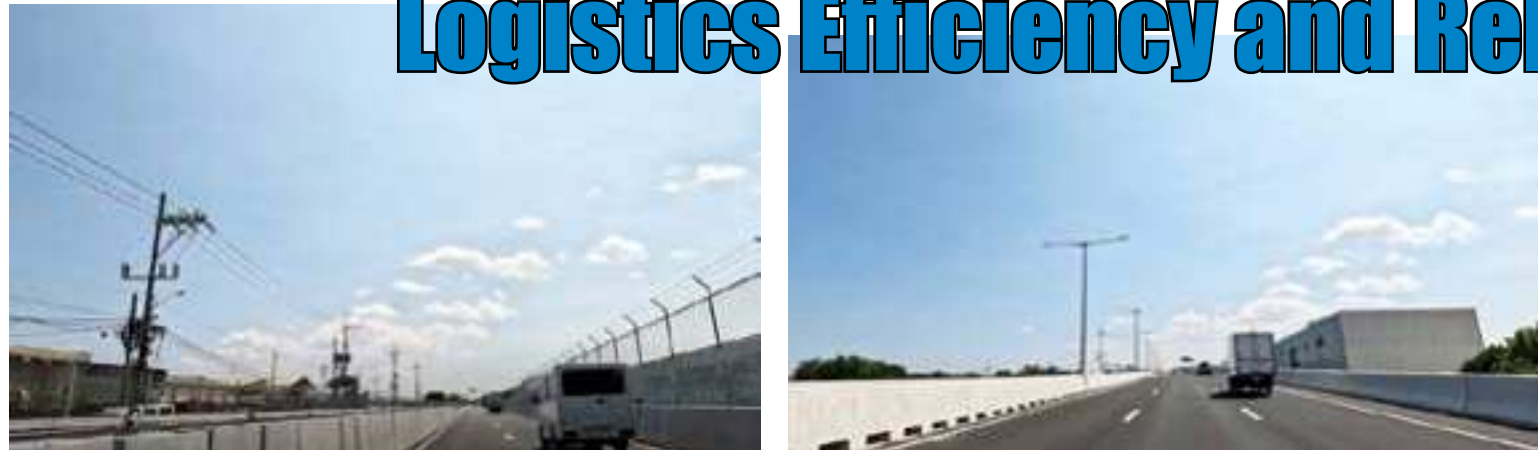


Fully Connected CAVITEX C5 Link Enhances Logistics Efficiency and Reliability



The logistics sector is recognizing operational predictability and asset efficiency as key benefits following the opening of the CAVITEX C5 Link Segment 3B.

Segment 3B is the final segment that completes the alignment of the 7.7-kilometer CAVITEX C5 Link, establishing a direct connection between the Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX) and C5 Road in the City of Taguig.

While the industry continues to operate under challenging economic conditions, leaders note that the ability to bypass traditional urban bottlenecks provides a critical edge in maintaining supply chain reliability.

"The opening of the CAVITEX C5 Link Segment 3B eases up our daily transport movements, helping us keep up our delivery timelines and optimize our resources," said Doris Torres, Executive

Director of the Philippine Multimodal Transport and Logistics Association, Inc. (PMTLAI). "We welcome infrastructure that eventually reduces the total cost of logistics in the country."

At the operational level, the expressway significantly improves turnaround time. A route that previously took up to 1.5 hours can now be completed in as little as 15 minutes, enabling more consistent and predictable scheduling.

Arlyn Abello, Account Manager at Premier Global Logistics Corp., shared that improved traffic flow has enhanced fleet performance. "It has helped enhance the efficiency of our deliveries, allowing us to better meet our schedules and improve overall service reliability," Abello said.

Llalaksmi Freight Services Inc. also emphasized that the expressway enables them to avoid heavily congested

inner roads, saving on operational costs and prioritizing driver welfare. "It helps reduce delays, fuel consumption, and overall stress for our drivers, which is a big factor in keeping operations smooth. Because of this, we're able to serve our clients more efficiently, particularly for time-sensitive shipments," the company stated.

While the alignment is now fully connected, a portion of Segment

3B is currently operating under a modified scheme, with two lanes in each direction, as the remaining Right-of-Way (ROW) concerns are being addressed to achieve its full six-lane capacity with a 2x2 service road.

Even in its current state, the project significantly enhances network connectivity, enabling logistics companies to better manage fleet utilization and ensure that time on the road is spent moving goods rather than idling in traffic.

The CAVITEX C5 Link expressway is a joint venture between Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation's (MPTC) subsidiary, the Cavite Infrastructure Corporation (CIC), and the Philippine Reclamation Authority (PRA), and operated by the PEA Tollway Corporation (PEATC).

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datelineweeklynews.com

ISSN NO. 2619-8185

weekly newspapers

DATELINE

The Only Newspaper with Educational Timeliness
Province of Cavite, Luzon Island, Philippines

VOL. XXIII > No. 08 > May 25-31, 2026 > P20.00

Cayetano: Senate work continues, key bill moving forward **PAGE 07**

RIZAL CONVERGENCE TEAM BOLSTERS INTER-AGENCY SYNERGY FOR 2026 SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOOD GOALS

SSS commits to faster, streamlined services as ARTA marks 8th year

BFP warns public against unauthorized fire safety inspections

MEGAWORLD CORPORATION CAVITE MEDIA ROUNDTABLE



Photo taken during the recently concluded Megaworld Corporation Cavite Media Roundtable as they hosted lunch gatherings fellowship for regional media personalities here in Cavite. A simple kumustahan with their new media friends from PAPER.PH CAVITE CHAPTER and other group celebrated the company's continuous growth and typically future festive themes, entertainment, and project updates also showcased new township Maple Grove, Megaworld's 140-hectare sustainable "green" township project in General Trias, Cavite. Billed as the "Makati of the South," merges a 35-hectare commercial district with luxury residential villages, condominiums, and lush parks and it is just 30-45 minutes from Makati via CAVITEX. Present during the said media lunch fellowships are Mr. Harold Brian Geronomo, First Vice President and Head of Corporate Communications and Media Affairs Megaworld Corporation; Mr. Glenn Arvin Reyes, Director of Publicity and Media Engagement; Ms. Lady Ochel Espinosa, Director of Media Strategy and Reputation Management; Ms. Sherry Aizza Rodil Media Planning Manager; Mr. Jonathan Marco Grajo Media Relations Manager and for the media tour, we were joined by Mr. Eugene Lozano, Head of Sales and Marketing, Megaworld Cavite. (Webster Ace C. Paging)

DOLE TUPAD Tuloy Pasada program brings relief for PUV drivers in Calabarzon
DOT backs continued festival traditions amid challenges, cites economic benefits

It's giving main character energy and your tote is about to match



Say hello to TOTE-tally Yours, where your shopping spree turns into a full-on style moment. Cop your fave tote, personalize it with cute patches, and make it so you Pull up, bring the besties, and max out the experience with fits, vibes, and a little retail therapy on the side Don't just shop, make it TOTE-tally iconic. #ToteTallyYours #SM-Fam #MaxOutTheExperience #GalaToTheMax

PHILHEALTH'S EXPANDED BENEFITS DELIVER REAL IMPACT AS PRIVATE HOSPITALS STEP UP FOR FILIPINO PATIENTS



PASIG CITY — delivering tangible results for millions of Filipinos, PhilHealth's expanded benefit packages are now significantly reducing out-of-pocket health expenses while inspiring stronger participation from the private healthcare sector. Over the past two weeks, President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. and PhilHealth President and CEO Dr. Edwin M. Mercado personally witnessed how these reforms are transforming healthcare access **cont. on page 2**

SMC REVENUES UP 19% IN FIRST QUARTER ON BROAD BUSINESS GROWTH



San Miguel Corporation (SMC) delivered a strong start to 2026, with first quarter consolidated revenues rising 19% to P428.3 billion from the same period last year, supported by broad growth across its major businesses. The results were driven by stronger Fuel and Oil volumes, with revenues reflecting movements in global prices, along with new contributions from its Energy business and sustained volume growth in Food.

Consolidated operating income increased 31% to P59.6 billion, driven by higher revenues and margin expansion in the Energy business, which helped offset margin pressure in Petron. Reported consolidated net income was lower at P22.5 billion, from

P43.4 billion in the same period last year due to the P21.9 billion gain from the partial sale of powdered assets and forex loss in 2026. "Our businesses performed well in the first quarter, supported by steady demand and the hard work of our teams across the group," said SMC Chairman and CEO Ramon S. Ang. "While global conditions remain challenging, we will stay disciplined in how we operate, serve our customers well, and continue investing where we can support our country's growth."

FOOD & BEVERAGE
San Miguel Food and Beverage, Inc.'s (SMFB) first-quarter net income rose 2% to P11.8 billion, supported by gains in its Food and Spirits businesses, the stable performance of Beer, and

disciplined cost management. Revenue increased 4% to P103.1 billion, while income from operations climbed 3% to P15.7 billion.

San Miguel Foods posted a 7% increase in revenue to P49.6 billion, driven by growth in the feeds segment and sustained demand for branded products, including Magnolia dairy, coffee, and Purefoods meats. Operating income rose 10% to P4.9 billion, while net income climbed 8% to P3.3 billion. San Miguel Brewery Inc. recorded P36.8 billion in revenue, reflecting a steady performance for the period. Domestic revenues reached P32.7 billion, supported by price adjustments amid volume and cost pressures, including higher excise taxes. Operating income was maintained at P7.9 billion, while net income stood at P6.2 billion, helped by cost controls and continued investments in brand and channel initiatives. Cinebra San Miguel Inc. reported a 3% increase in revenues to P16.7 billion, with operating income at P2.8 billion and net income at P2.3 billion, also supported by brand-building initiatives and disciplined cost

FUEL AND OIL
Petron Corporation reported a net income of P1.8 billion in the first quarter of 2026, down 56% from P4.0 billion in the same period last year, as refinery output declined

management.

POWER
San Miguel Global Power recorded a 26% year-on-year increase in revenues to P53.6 billion, driven in part by contributions from five battery energy storage system (BESS) facilities, as well as power supply agreements for the Mariveles and San Roque power plants. Meanwhile, offtake volumes amounted to 6.5 million MWh, down 13% year-on-year, largely reflecting the deconsolidation of the Ilijan Power Plant and Batangas Combined Cycle Power Plant. Income from operations increased 163% to P28.1 billion, driven by topline growth, improved gross profit margins, and higher contribution from the BESS facilities.

Net income declined to P23.9 billion compared to the same period last year, mainly due to the P21.9 billion gain from the asset sale recorded in the first quarter of 2025.

INFRASTRUCTURE
The Infrastructure Group delivered P10.4 billion in revenues

for both Philippines and Malaysia operations.

Port Dickson has remained shut since November 2025, after Tropical Storm Senyar damaged its product jetty, while Petron Bataan underwent scheduled maintenance. These disruptions were exacerbated by escalating tensions in the Middle East.

Revenues rose 27% to P246.0 billion in the first quarter, on the back of strong volume growth and higher average Dubai crude prices, which rose 12% from US\$77/bbl in 2025 to US\$86/bbl in 2026. Excluding trading transactions from the company's operations in Singapore, Petron recorded sales volume of 25.7 million barrels in the Philippines and Malaysia, 7% lower than the previous year's 27.6 million barrels, due to lower production. Operating income declined by 36% to P6.1 billion. Margins were squeezed by higher product costs, with the absence of refinery production in Malaysia and reduced output in the Philippines.

INFRASTRUCTURE
The Infrastructure Group delivered P10.4 billion in revenues

From Page 1

EDITORIAL: The reckoning

THE impeachment ball rolled out Monday from the House of Representatives...

That ball is now in the Senate hall, which interestingly changed leadership minutes before the 255 yes votes were cast against 26 no and nine abstentions...

The charges include misuse of confidential funds, unexplained wealth, and alleged threats against President Marcos.

They highlight the legal process over political standing and focus on the repeated nature of the charges, and when confidential funds met public scrutiny.

The margin of votes was heard and watched by millions, north and south of the capital, to send articles of impeachment against Vice President Sara Duterte to the Senate...

Under the 1987 Constitution, an impeachment triggers a Senate trial. A guilty verdict there would see Duterte removed from office and barred from elected office for life.

Filipinos will be watching how the Senate, with its new leadership, will act on the impeachment complaints.

Senator Alan Peter Cayetano, who served as then president Rodrigo Duterte's foreign secretary, replaced Vicente Sotto III as Senate president after a 13-9 vote, with two abstentions.

Filipinos including political and election observers will be watching keenly if the change in Senate leadership could play a significant role in the outcome of the attempt to impeach the vice president.

The House committee on justice chairman Gerville Luistro sponsored the impeachment complaint before the votes were counted, underlining process and evidence.

The plenary discussions focussed on the four consolidated Articles of Impeachment adopted by the Justice panel after combining similar allegations from the Saballa and Cabrera impeachment complaints.

The first article involves the alleged misuse and irregular disbursement of confidential funds under both the Office of the Vice President and the Department of Education during Duterte's tenure as secretary.

The second article focuses on allegations of unexplained wealth and discrepancies involving Duterte's Statements of Assets, Liabilities and Net Worth and bank transactions flagged by the Anti-Money Laundering Council.

The third article concerns allegations of bribery tied to cash envelopes reportedly distributed to DepEd officials when Duterte was secretary.

The fourth article centers on Duterte's controversial remarks in November 2024 in which she publicly stated online that she had arranged for President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr., First Lady Liza Araneta-Marcos, and then-Speaker Ferdinand Martin Romualdez to be killed should anything happen to her.

The impeachment, which may highlight the end of the line, for the Vice President, deserves attention which underlines accountability in public office.

SSS...

QUEZON CITY, 22 May 2026 – The Social Security System (SSS) reaffirmed its commitment to faster and more responsive public service as it joins the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA) in celebrating its 8th anniversary on Friday, May 22.

SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro said the agency continues to strengthen frontline services, simplify processes, and modernize systems to better respond to member concerns, in line with the shared goal of improving government service delivery for Filipinos.

PHILHEALTH...

in two leading private hospitals.

On May 1, President Marcos and Dr. Mercado visited St. Elizabeth Hospital, Inc., where PhilHealth members were actively benefiting from the agency's expanded healthcare packages, including YAKAP primary care consultations, cancer treatment services, and life-sustaining dialysis care.

The visit showcased how PhilHealth's strengthened benefits are helping patients access essential treatment earlier while shielding families from the financial burden of illness.

Last May 11, the President visited The Medical City in Ortigas, where he inspected the newly opened Alfredo R.A. Bengzon Patient Access Ward, a 51-bed facility designed to provide world-class healthcare services to PhilHealth members with little to no out-of-pocket expenses.

The facility, which includes nine mother-and-baby-friendly rooms, stands as a powerful example of what can be achieved when private hospitals fully embrace their partnership with PhilHealth in advancing accessible, high-quality healthcare. Patients and their families shared firsthand how expanded Phil-

nos. "As one of the country's largest public service institutions, SSS recognizes that every transaction affects the daily lives of our members. We continue to improve our systems, processes, and frontline services because faster and more responsive government service is not only an operational goal, but a public responsibility," de Claro said.

"The agency's strong financial performance in 2025 has strengthened its capacity to expand member assistance programs and accel-

From Page 1

erate reforms aimed at improving service delivery," de Claro added. In 2025, SSS posted a net income of P142.97 Billion while its Reserve Fund surpassed the P1 Trillion mark for the first time in the institution's history, a major milestone that further strengthens the long-term stability of the pension fund for current and future members.

"Our strong financial position allows us to invest directly in better services, new technologies, infrastructure upgrades, and programs that will improve the experience of our members," de Claro said. He also highlighted the agency's expanded relief programs designed to help Filipino workers and families cope with the continuing impact of the national energy emergency.

As part of these efforts, de Claro said SSS is also preparing to roll out an Energy Sustainability Loan Program in September.

The program allows qualified SSS members with a Mandatory Health coverage protected them from catastrophic medical expenses and allowed them to focus on recovery instead of financial hardship. "The question is not capability, but will—the will to look at every PhilHealth member and say, 'You belong here, too.'" said Dr. Mercado. "Decades from now, no one will ask how many private suites a hospital had. They will ask how many lives were saved and changed."

Building on these successes, PhilHealth is calling on more private hospitals, specialty centers, and clinics nationwide to join this shared mission of making quality healthcare truly accessible to every Filipino. The agency remains ready to support healthcare facilities seeking accreditation across its growing range of benefit packages—including primary care, outpatient emergency services, inpatient care, maternity services, dialysis, cancer care, and treatment of catastrophic illnesses under the Z Benefits Program.

Healthcare institutions interested in partnering with PhilHealth may visit PhilHealth Official Website or coordinate with the nearest PhilHealth Local Health Insurance Office. PR

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The program allows qualified SSS members with a Mandatory

Provident Fund account to avail themselves of financing to install residential solar panel systems, payable for up to seven years.

The Mandatory Provident Fund Program is a compulsory retirement savings scheme that automatically enrolls SSS members who are contributing to the regular SSS program with a Monthly Salary Credit (MSC) above ₱20,000.

SSS aims to support at least 100,000 homes by 2028 through the program, which seeks to help families manage rising electricity costs while promoting long-term energy sustainability.

According to de Claro, the initiative reflects the evolving role of SSS in responding not only to traditional social security concerns, but also to emerging economic pressures affecting Filipino households. "As ARTA continues to push for reforms in government service delivery, SSS remains committed to developing programs that are more responsive, practical, and relevant to the everyday realities of the Filipino people," de Claro said. PR

DATELINE WEEKLY NESPAPERS, a Filipino /English newspaper with every Monday issued and its principal editorial office at 2F #025 Coastal Green St., P. F. 1 Espiritu, Bacoor City Cavite with all the required BIR, DTTI (CR#01576397), Barangay and City business permits Tel Nos. (046)476-7611/(0955)1552764; datelineweekly@gmail.com / heidelitalat@yahoo.com



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ADVERTISING RATES

COMMERCIAL ----- P200/col.cm
LEGAL/NOTICES ----- P160/col.cm

Font Size:
Heading : 10
Body Text : 8
Space : Single space



Cayetano...

Senate President Alan Peter Cayetano on Tuesday gave assurance that Senate work and pending measures would continue despite the recent leadership change in the chamber, with the Senate approving two priority measures on Third Reading on his second day as Senate President.

During the Senate session on May 12, 2026, Cayetano clarified that ongoing hearings, bicameral conferences, and pending committee work may proceed even while the reorganization of Senate committees is still being finalized.

"The only things that are technically on hold are new hearings and the sponsorships on the floor pending designation of chairmen," he said.

Eyeing to convene an "all-Senator caucus soon" to discuss committee assignments and pending legislative matters, the Senate President emphasized that under Senate rules and tradition, committees may continue functioning until successors are formally designated, particularly for measures and hearings already underway.

He also stressed the need to avoid unnecessary delays in legislative

From Page 1

work, especially for pending measures considered important by senators from both the majority and minority blocs.

Cayetano likewise assured fellow senators that bills already under deliberation could still move forward while the chamber settles the reorganization of committees.

"Technically, you can. It's just a matter of the majority leader, and the new majority would like that on the floor at the moment," he said in response to questions regarding pending measures and sponsorships.

Amid public concerns following the recent Senate leadership change, Cayetano maintained that the chamber continues to perform its legislative duties and process priority measures affecting Filipinos.

That same day, the Chamber approved on Third Reading Senate Bill No. 1894, or the proposed measure enhancing the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act, and Senate Bill No. 1966, which seeks to institutionalize the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS) program of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). PR

From Page 1

DOLE TUPAD...

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) in Calabarzon, through its provincial offices, continues to monitor the rollout of the Tulong Panghanapuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) Tuloy Pasada Program covering several major public transport routes across the region, in coordination with the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB).

The Tuloy Pasada Program is a special implementation of DOLE's flagship emergency employment program 'TUPAD', designed to provide 15 to 20 days of income support to public utility vehicle (PUV) drivers affected by high fuel

costs, by receiving the equivalent of the regional minimum wage.

In a Facebook post, DOLE Laguna Provincial Office TUPAD Coordinator Lorena Gacosta monitored activities across multiple transport routes in the province to assess program implementation, ensure beneficiary validation, and verify the efficient and transparent delivery of assistance to qualified transport workers.

"Monitoring covered multiple routes, including Calamba-Pacita, San Pablo City-Liliw, Pagsanjan-Sta. Cruz, Siniloan-Sta. Cruz, and Magdalena-Sta. Cruz, benefiting a total of 298 transport workers with combined assistance amounting to over P3.9 million," she said.

BFP warns...

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) — The Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) Calabarzon urges the public to remain vigilant against individuals posing as fire personnel who conduct unauthorized inspections and falsely present themselves as government officials in order to deceive or scam victims.

This came after a reported incident in Bacoor City, Cavite, where the Philippine National Police Bacoor Component City Police Station informed the local BFP Fire Station that four individuals had been arrested for allegedly posing as employees of the Bacoor local government and conducting unauthorized fire safety inspections.

According to BFP Calabarzon, the Bacoor police submitted a copy of its report to the local BFP station following a complaint from a private individual who claimed that the suspects were conducting inspections without presenting valid identification cards, inspection orders, or any proof that they were authorized BFP personnel.

In his official statement, BFP Calabarzon Regional Director Fire Chief Superintendent Roy Roderick Aguto reminded the public, particularly business and establishment owners, to remain vigilant against such acts and immediately report suspicious individuals to the nearest fire or police station to prevent them

Meanwhile, in Batangas province, monitoring also took place along Lipa to Lemery and Batangas City to Bauan routes, where a total of 173 beneficiaries are covered.

DOLE Batangas Office then clarified in a post, "Batangas City to Bauan deployment is scheduled from May 13 to June 26 on an alternate basis, while the Lipa to Lemery route implementation runs from May 13 to June 8", it stated.

A total of 125 beneficiaries were also monitored in the province of Quezon. The program

from deceiving more victims.

"Hinihikayat ang publiko na huwag basta magpapasok o makikipag-transaksyon sa sinumang indibidwal na hindi makapagpakita ng wastong dokumento o nagpapakita ng kahina-hinalang kilos kaugnay ng fire safety inspection, pagproseso ng permits at clearances, o pagbebenta ng fire safety equipment. Para sa kaligtasan at proteksyon ng lahat, agad na makipag-ugnayan sa pinakamalapit na himpilan ng BFP o sa lokal na kapulisan," Director Aguto said.

The BFP then emphasized that legitimate fire safety inspections are conducted only by authorized personnel carrying valid identification cards, inspection orders, and other supporting documents that establish their legal authority to conduct inspections.

Meanwhile, during the operation, Bacoor PNP intelligence operatives recovered one red Mitsubishi vehicle, along with nine red and eight green fire extinguishers found inside the vehicle.

Authorities confirmed that the arrested suspects had no employment records, official designation, or authorized assignment with the BFP.

A case for Usurpation of Authority and Official Function and Estafa has been filed by the Bacoor police station against the arrested individuals.

responds to drivers' needs and rights, including validation of listed recipients, assessment of the program's delivery on the ground, and verification of compliance with established guidelines for beneficiary participation and assistance distribution.

DOLE emphasized that the continuous monitoring of the TUPAD Tuloy Pasada Program across CALABARZON aims to ensure that all interventions are properly implemented, beneficiaries are accurately validated, and assistance is delivered in a timely, efficient, and transparent manner.

Rizal...

Antipolo City, Rizal — A week following their strategic assembly, the Rizal Convergence Team continues to set a high bar for provincial collaboration. On April 23, the team convened its 1st Quarterly Meeting at the DOST Bldg., University of Rizal System (URS) Antipolo Campus, marking a pivotal moment in the province's mission to streamline government services for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and marginalized sectors.

The meeting served as a forum to synchronize the technical and financial resources of key agencies, ensuring that government interventions—ranging from laboratory services and technology training to seed funding—reach those who need them most without duplication of effort.

The session was headlined by reports on first-quarter accomplishments, during which member agencies showcased significant community-level impacts. Key developments from the meeting included: (1) the 4Ps Transition Strategy: the primary focus was placed on synchronized interventions for "exiting" beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), ensuring these families maintain their upward trajectory through identified partner support and scheduled priority activities; (2) members introduced a proposal to establish a Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) Council.

This body aims to deepen collaboration and utilize data-driven approaches to expand the reach of government assistance; and (3) the team finalized synchronized deliverables for the remainder of 2026, reinforcing a unified front against poverty through coordinated program implementation.

During the proceedings, the team noted that the value of convergence lies in optimizing resources, explaining that aligning planning and im-

plementation maximizes the impact of every government peso spent for the people of Rizal.

The meeting also welcomed visiting partners from CARE Philippines and the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA)—Rizal, both of whom presented specialized programs designed to be integrated into the team's existing framework.

The convergence is powered by a robust coalition of provincial leaders and representatives, including: OIC Provincial Director Mhark Ellgine A. Libao of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Rizal, OIC Provincial Director Sharon F. Dioco of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Rizal, and OIC PARPO Atty. Lemeul R. Isidro of the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) Rizal, Supervising LEO Victoria B. Natanauan of Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) Rizal, Senior TESDS Ma. Ingrid Sanga of Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) Rizal, CDS Princess Anne S. Bulalayao of Cooperative Development Authority (CDA) IV-A, SWO Carl O. Cambe of Department of Social Welfare and Development Field Office IV-A (DSWD FO IV-A), FWO Jennifer I. Jumbas of Overseas Filipino Workers Welfare Association (OWWA) IV-A, and Project Manager Caselyn Briguera of CARE-HERS.

By bridging the gap between individual agency mandates, the Rizal Convergence Team continues to foster a responsive, inclusive, and sustainable economic landscape for the province.

The Rizal Convergence Team is a multi-agency collective dedicated to poverty alleviation and economic empowerment. By pooling the expertise of DOST, DTI, DOLE, DAR, TESDA, DSWD, and CDA, the team provides holistic support to communities and MSMEs across Rizal Province. PR

From Page 1

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
DASMARINA'S CITY, CAVITE

RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION,
Petitioner/Mortgagee,

File No. FC-DC-2103-26
EXTRA JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE
OF RAL ESTATE MORTGAGE
UNDER ACT 3135, AS AMENDED
BY ACT 4118

-versus-

SPS. OSMANDO S. ATIENZA and EVANGELINE R. ATIENZA
for herself and as Attorney-In-Fact
of Osmando S. Atienza,
Respondents/Mortgagors.
x-----x

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118 filed by the petitioner/mortgagee, **RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION**, with postal address at 28th Floor AT Yuchengco Centre, 25th & 26th Sts., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig City, against the respondents/mortgagors **SPS OSMANDO S. ATIENZA and EVANGELINE R. ATIENZA for herself and as Attorney-In-Fact of Osmando S. Atienza** with postal addresses at 18 Dr. Sixto Antonio Ave., Brgy. Maybunga, Pasig City, Metro Manila, and Block 21 Lot 12 Amaris Homes Dasmariñas Phase II, Brgy. Buro, Dasmariñas City, Cavite and for the satisfaction of the mortgaged debt which as of 06 April 2026 amounts to **ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED NINETY NINE THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY THREE PESOS & 22/100 (Php 1,699,863.22)**, exclusive of all legal fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned sheriff will sell at public auction on **June 18, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock** in the morning or soon thereafter in the Ground Floor Lobby of Dasmariñas Community Affairs (DASCA) Building, Congressional Road, Buro II, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite to the highest bidder and for CASH or CERTIFIED CHECK, in the Philippine Currency, the following described real property together with all the building and other improvements existing thereon, to wit:

Transfer Certificate of Title No. 057-2023041518

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that a certain land situated in BARANGAY OF BUROL, MUNICIPALITY OF DASMARINA'S, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON., bounded and described as follows:
LOT NO: 12, BLOCK NO: 21, PLAN NO: PCS-04-032033 PORTION OF: LOTS 3515-B-1 AND 2, (LRC) PSD-303561, LOTS 3515-A, D, AND E, PSD-29914, LOTS 3531-A AND B, PSD-04-098179, LOTS 3533-B AND C, PSD-04-(continued on next page)

is registered in accordance with the provision of the Property Registration Decree in the name of

Owner: SPS. OSMANDO SANTOS ATIENZA AND EVANGELINE RAMOS ATIENZA, BOTH OF LEGAL AGE, FILIPINO CITIZENS

TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION (continued from page 1)

062306 AND LOT 5927-B, BSD-04-001525 (OLT)

LOCATION: BARANGAY OF BUROL, MUNICIPALITY OF DASMARINA'S, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON.

BOUNDARIES:

LINE	DIRECTION	ADJOINING LOT (S)
1-2-3-4	SE	ROAD LOT 32, PCS-04-032033
4-5	SW	LOT 13, BLOCK 21, PCS-04-032033
5-6	NW	LOT 18, BLOCK 21, PCS-04-032033
6-1	NE	LOT 11, BLOCK 21, PCS-04-032033

TIE POINT: MON. NO. 148, IMUS ESTATE

LINE	BEARING	DISTANCE
TO CORNER 1	N. 47° 50' E	1047.57 M.
1-2	S. 55° 44' W	0.99 M.
2-3	S. 62° 51' W	1.31 M.
3-4	S. 59° 34' W	1.83 M.
4-5	N. 44° 48' W	13.94 M.
5-6	N. 45° 12' E	4.00 M.
6-1	S. 44° 48' E	14.97 M.

AREA: FIFTY EIGHT (58) SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS

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

All sealed bids must be submitted 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 **July 02, 2026**, at the same time and place without further notice.

30 April 2026, Dasmariñas City, Province of Cavite.

(SGD) RODRIGO C. ESTOGERO, JR.
Sheriff IV

(SGD) ATTY. MARCELA L. BAYBAY
Clerk of Court VI & Ex-Officio Sheriff

Copy furnished:

RIZAL COMMERCIAL BANKING CORPORATION
28th Floor AT Yuchengco Centre,
25th & 26th Sts., Bonifacio Global City,
Taguig City.

SPS. OSMANDO S. ATIENZA and EVANGELINE R. ATIENZA
for herself and as Attorney-In-Fact
of Osmando S. Atienza

18 Dr. Sixto Antonio Ave., Brgy. Maybunga,
Pasig City, Metro Manila,
and Block 21 Lot 12 Amaris Homes
Dasmariñas Phase II, Brgy. Buro,
Dasmariñas City, Cavite

Notice posted at:

1. The Bulletin Board of Regional Trial Court, Dasmariñas City, Cavite
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DATELINE WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS:
MAY 11, 18 & 25, 2026

Pagkaing tatak-CALABARZON, Bida sa Trade Fair and Exhibit ng DA 4A



Nagpasiklab sa pagluluto ang dalawang exhibitors sa naganap na Bukod dito, Filipino Food Month Celebration Trade Fair and Exhibit na pinangunahan ng Department of Agriculture IV- CALABARZON (DA-4A) Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD) noong ika-28 ng Abril sa City Hall Covered Court, Trece Martires City, Cavite.

Ang naturang pagdiriwang ay alinsunod sa Presidential Proclamation No. 469, Series of 2018, kung saan ang buwan ng Abril ay opisyal na idineklara bilang 'Buwan ng Kalutong Pilipino' o Filipino Food Month na naglalayong magbigay-pugay sa mayamang kultura at tradisyon ng mga pagkain sa Pilipinas.

Nagpakita ng husay sa Cooking Demo si Bb. Grace Lupo Lamit para sa ipinagmamalaking kesong puti ng General Trias Dairy Raisers Multi-Purpose Cooperative, habang si G. Christopher Galpa mula sa Top Sizzling naman ang nagluto ng sikat na pork at bangus

The 500...

will keep it alive and sustaining," she emphasized.

When Rose was asked for her advice for fellow entrepreneurs, she advised them to continue learning and remain open to new ideas. "Never stop improving yourself," she shared. "Because your growth drives the growth of your business." She also advised managing finances properly and recording all cash flows.

For over seven years as a client, CARD MRI recognized her discipline and great business performance. She was awarded with Gawad Malikhain during the Pagk-

sisig na kilala sa lungsod ng Trece Martires.

Bukod dito, nakapagbenta rin ang 27 mga kalahok mula sa Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) at Farmers Cooperatives and Associations (FCA) ng rehiyon sa kanilang mga produkto tulad ng suka, wine, juice, chips, dried fish, at kape.

Nagpapakita si OIC-Regional Executive Director, Engr. Redelliza A. Gruezo sa Local Government Unit (LGU) ng lungsod at sa pakikibahagi ng iba't ibang samahan ng mga magsasaka, na ayon sa kanya ay makakatulong sa pagtaas ng kanilang mga kita.

Samantala, nakisara rin sa aktibidad si OIC-Chief of Field Operations Division, G. Felix Jocelito Noceda, OIC-Assistant Division Chief of Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Division (AMAD), G. Richmond Pablo, Chief of Integrated Laboratories Division (ILD), Bb. Eleanor De Jesus at OIC-APCO Cavite, Bb. Lorena Jimeno. **PR**

From Page 5

ilala sa Mga Likha Ni Inay 2025, an event organized by CARD MRI that honors microentrepreneurs who showcase resilience, dedication, and positive community impact.

The 500 pesos she found during the pandemic may have been unexpected, but what followed was the result of practical decisions, reinvestment, and consistent effort.

She believes success is not just about receiving an opportunity. It is also about making the most of it and sustaining it through hard work and openness to growth. **PR**

THE 500 PESOS THAT STARTED THE BETTER DAYS

Flashback to the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, when uncertainty became part of everyday life: jobs were lost, movements were restricted, and many families struggled to make ends meet. Rose Ann Toledo and her partner were among them. Both resigned from work because her partner has hypertension and was highly vulnerable to the virus. With no stable income, they had to think of practical ways to survive.

One day, while rushing to the public market, Rose noticed a PHP 500 bill lying on the pathway. She looked around and waited, hoping the owner might come back for it, but when no one came searching, she picked it up. A blessing from heaven, she thought. At the time, it felt like unexpected help.

Instead of spending it on food or daily expenses, Rose and her partner came up with an idea to generate income from it. Cloth face masks were in high demand during that season, so they decided to invest the PHP 500 in buying fabric. Their neighbor, who is a tailor, helped stitch the masks.

Rose posted the finished products online, and they quickly sold out. From that small capital, they generated more than a hundred thousand in gross income. Their small project also provided income to their neighbor, who had helped sew the masks.

"It was unbelievable," Rose recalls. "We made income online because of a simple idea and that 500-peso blessing from heaven."

But they didn't stop there. The same year, they reinvested that earning and began selling rebranded cosmetics products online.

They ordered supplies from manufacturers and partnered with a printing company to produce labels.

After selling their first batch, they purchased a small inkjet printer so they could print labels themselves and reduce costs.

That printer



Rose Ann Toledo (front left), a client of CARD SME Bank, Inc. from Silang, Cavite, with her staff at BetterDays Packaging & Printing Services during operations at their manufacturing office.

opened another opportunity.

Since their cosmetics products had no boxes, Rose designed packaging using a graphic design web app, printed it on photo paper, and cut and assembled the boxes manually. Realizing they could also offer it as a service to others, they posted their samples on Facebook Marketplace, offering customized boxes for other small businesses.

And there were orders. Although it started small: three pieces, five pieces, ten pieces. While many competitors required a minimum order of 1,000 pieces, they accepted as few as 100 to 150 pieces. This approach attracted startup businesses in need of affordable packaging, which in turn led them to officially launch their printing and packaging service in 2021.

Soon enough, the demand grew, and so did their capacity. Rose, a client since 2019 of CARD SME Bank, Inc., a thrift bank under CARD Mutually Reinforcing Institutes (CARD MRI), took out a loan to purchase additional machines. This enabled them to expand production and accept larger orders.

They soon expanded into large production printers that accommodate bulk orders. Today, they fulfill orders reaching up to 100,000 pieces and serve clients nationwide.

Their business, which they dearly named Better Days Packaging and Printing Services, now focuses on digital printing services, including boxes,

stickers, soft boxes, layout services, and other packaging needs. They currently have eight full-time staff, one part-timer, and bring on seasonal project-based employees as needed.

The journey was not without challenges. Managing and training young staff required patience. Yet they remained transparent and open-minded with them. There were also months when sales were slow. But to address this, they attended seminars and conventions, shared their calling cards, and continuously improved their materials and equipment. They have now upgraded from photo paper to foldcote materials.

Beyond business, they also give back to the community by supporting a reading center for children in Biga, Silang, Cavite. They regularly take part in quarterly donation drives and fun-run-for-a-cause outreach programs organized by a Cavite-based organization.

Looking back, Rose remembers how difficult the beginning was, emotionally and financially. They had limited resources and no vehicle. "You can start small if you really want to start a business," she said, reflecting back on their experiences. She shared that transitioning from an employee mindset to a business mindset indeed requires risk and discipline.

"Don't expect that starting a business is the end of the journey. The real question is how you **cont. on page 4**

Feeding Asia's Growth with Purpose: How Aboitiz Foods Serves Customers from Mill to Meal



Driving regional growth. Aboitiz Foods President and CEO Tristan Aboitiz (center) leads the company's executive team on a visit to the Diasham Resources facility in Singapore following its successful acquisition. The move integrates Diasham's animal health and nutrition solutions into the Aboitiz Foods portfolio, expanding the group's "mill to meal" capabilities across key Asia-Pacific markets, including China, Malaysia, and South Korea.

Regional growth. Aboitiz Foods President and CEO Tristan Aboitiz (center) leads the company's executive team on a visit to the Diasham Resources facility in Singapore following its successful acquisition. The move integrates Diasham's animal health and nutrition solutions into the Aboitiz Foods portfolio, expanding the group's "mill to meal" capabilities across key Asia-Pacific markets, including China, Malaysia, and South Korea.

The food and agriculture industry across Asia is navigating a new era shaped by rising demand and material costs, shifting consumer expectations, climate pressures, and rapid digital transformation. In this evolving landscape, growth in agribusiness is no longer just about scale, but also about adaptability, commitment to social responsibility, and resilience to navigate the industry's headwinds.

Regional food and agribusiness player Aboitiz Foods responds to industry challenges by keeping customers top of mind while building a resilient food value chain for long-term growth. Guided by its purpose to sustainably feed Asia's growth from mill to meal, the company continues to strengthen its regional presence while making a meaningful impact across the broader food ecosystem.

A significant milestone in this journey is the full equity acquisition of Singapore-based Diasham Resources, a specialist in high-quality animal

nutrition and health solutions. The move expands Aboitiz Foods' footprint across the Asia Pacific region through established distribution networks in key markets—including Thailand, Indonesia, China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Taiwan, Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Bangladesh. By integrating Diasham's expertise, the company strengthens its specialty nutrition portfolio, enabling it to deliver more targeted and science-backed solutions to its customers.

"This acquisition allows us to offer a more complete and integrated range of solutions to our customers," said Tristan Aboitiz, President and CEO of Aboitiz Foods. "As we expand across Asia, our focus remains the same — creating meaningful impact across the food value chain while staying true to our purpose."

In addition, Aboitiz Foods furthered its commitment to research and development through the recent investment in an aquaculture facility in Singapore. This is intended to bring research closer to application, supporting the development of more evidence-based, practical solutions that respond to evolving customer needs.

With a strengthened regional platform, Aboitiz Foods is translating its scale into meaningful initiatives, empowering communities and reinforcing sustainability at every stage of the food value chain. This commitment to impact is anchored in a continuous drive for operational excellence — start-

ing with the systems that drive efficiency from mill to meal.

Forwarding Innovation, Optimizing Efficiency

Innovation is one of Aboitiz Foods' core values — not just a buzzword, but a discipline embedded in its operations, systems, and culture.

Putting this core value into action, Aboitiz Foods initiated "The Mill," a company-wide product innovation platform that empowers teams to think boldly, challenge existing processes, and continuously improve products and services. By encouraging cross-functional collaboration and practical application, The Mill drives solutions that enhance efficiency and create measurable value for customers.

Aboitiz Foods also continues to refine its integrated value chain by leveraging technology to optimize operational resilience. The company became the first in the Philippines to implement Amazon Web Services Outposts in its manufacturing facilities — integrating cloud capabilities directly into plant operations. This milestone improves real-time data processing, reduces latency, and strengthens systemic stability across its operations.

Merging the technical expertise of its people with advanced technology, Aboitiz Foods fosters a high-performance culture where efficiency at the mill translates into farm-level reliability, supply chain stability, and stronger trust among its partners and customers. These efficiencies serve as the starting point for the company's larger commitment: fostering enduring relationships through collaboration and knowledge sharing.

Engaging Experts to Empower Partners

Beyond technology and infrastructure, Aboitiz Foods recognizes that sustainable growth is rooted in strong partnerships and cultivating expertise.

Through Agriconnect, the company convenes industry experts, veterinarians, nutritionists, **cont. on page 3**

MEKENI SHOWCASES EXPORT-QUALITY FILIPINO PRODUCTS AT IFEX PHILIPPINES 2026



PASAY CITY, Philippines — Mekeni Food Corporation is reinforcing its position as a globally competitive Filipino food brand as it joins the prestigious IFEX Philippines 2026, happening from May 21 to 23, 2026

at the World Trade Center Metro Manila. Recognized as the country's premier global food trade show, IFEX Philippines gathers international buyers, importers, distributors, and food industry stakeholders

to discover authentic and innovative Filipino food products for the global market. At the exhibition, Mekeni is showcasing its wide range of export-quality products, underscoring the company's growing international presence and commitment to world-class food manufacturing standards. Today, Mekeni products are available in more than 20 countries across Asia, the Middle East, North America, Eu-

rope, and Oceania. "Our participation in IFEX Philippines 2026 reflects Mekeni's continuing commitment to bring Filipino excellence to the global stage," said Pruds Garcia, President of Mekeni Food Corporation. "What started as a small homegrown enterprise in Pampanga has now grown into a brand trusted by Filipino families and international consumers alike. Through innovation, quality, and authenticity, we aim to further strengthen the presence of Filipino food products in the international market." Mekeni's participation also highlights the company's adherence to globally recognized food safety and quality standards, enabling the brand to compete in highly demanding export markets. According to Marilou Uy, Assistant Vice President for HR and Exports, IFEX Philippines serves as a valuable platform for expanding partnerships and promoting Philippine-made products worldwide. "IFEX Philippines provides an important opportunity for Mekeni to connect with global buyers and showcase the quality and competitiveness

of Filipino food products," Uy said. "As consumer demand for trusted and high-quality food brands continues to grow internationally, Mekeni remains committed to continuous improvement, export excellence, and proudly carrying the Filipino brand across borders." As one of the leading food manufacturers in the Philippines, Mekeni continues to champion local heritage and innovation through products that resonate with both Filipino communities abroad and international consumers seeking premium Asian food products. IFEX Philippines 2026 runs daily from 10:00 AM to 7:00 PM at the World Trade Center Metro Manila in Pasay City. **PR**



Feeding...

and technical specialists across the swine, poultry, and aqua segments to exchange insights and best practices.

Conducted across key markets including the Philippines, China, Malaysia, Vietnam, and Indonesia, Agriconnect reflects the company's commitment to building expertise not only within its organization, but across the broader ecosystem. Complementing these efforts are local capability-building programs. In the Philippines, Aboitiz Foods, through Pilmico Foods Corporation, partnered with Aboitiz Foundation and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, in creating MasaGaling - a nationwide baking skills training program that empowers bakers, trainers, and entrepreneurs to enhance their technical skills and create livelihood opportunities.

Championing food security, Aboitiz Foods, through Gold Coin Brunei, also teamed up with the Institute of Brunei Technical Education (IBTE) Agro-Technology Campus for Project Synergie - an initiative that upgrades IBTE's broiler farm facility and equips its students with technical expertise, nurturing future-ready food producers and agriculture professionals. By investing in knowledge-sharing platforms and technical empowerment, Aboitiz Foods helps its partners navigate industry shifts with confidence and resilience—an approach that also supports the company's broader commitment to responsible and sustainable growth across the region. Championing Sustainability across the Region

As it continues to expand its regional footprint, Aboitiz Foods is committed to creating lasting value that extends beyond the company to its customers and partners, the communities where it operates, and the planet. The company embodies this commitment through its corporate social responsibility (CSR) programs and everymeal - a sustainability advocacy that reinforces responsible and sustainable choices across the food value chain. A key milestone in Aboitiz Foods' sustainability efforts was exceeding the Philippines' Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Act plastic recovery targets by more than 300 percent in 2024, demonstrating measurable progress in environmental stewardship. Through waste recovery, packaging reform, upcycling initiatives, and circular economy efforts, Aboitiz Foods continues to reduce its environmental impact while creating shared value. Grounded in its core value of responsibility, Aboitiz Foods aligns its CSR initiatives with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. From recycling programs in China that divert waste from landfills, to solar lighting support in rural Malaysia, to livelihood and education assistance in Vietnam, Aboitiz Foods integrates environmental responsibility and community empowerment into its expansion strategy. These initiatives demonstrate how Aboitiz Foods anchors its regional growth in inclusive and sustainable impact—reinforcing the company's long-term vision of nourishing Asia's future together.

From Page 5

Nourishing the Future, Together As Aboitiz Foods expands its presence across eight Asian countries, its strategy remains anchored on purpose — sustainably feeding Asia's growth from mill to meal. "Our brand promise, 'Together we nourish the future,' reflects our commitment to working collaboratively with our partners and customers," Aboitiz added. "We are committed to creating a more sustainable and food-secure future for all. As we embrace transformation and growth, each of us plays a crucial role in shaping what lies ahead." Guided by innovation, expertise, and sustainability, Aboitiz Foods continues to strengthen its regional platform—ensuring that as Asia grows, its food systems grow stronger, more resilient, and more sustainable for generations to come.

DTI QUEZON KICKS OFF 2ND YEAR OF THE "BETWEEN" PROGRAM IN CELEBRATION OF THE 2026 NATIONAL WOMEN'S MONTH

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)-Quezon has officially kicked off the celebration of National Women's Month through the launch of the 2nd Year of the Breaking Barriers for Women's Empowerment and Networks through Digitalization and Resilience (BETWEEN) on March 4, 2026, at St. Jude Cooperative Hotel and Event Center, Brgy. Isabang, Tayabas City, Quezon. The activity was attended by more than thirty (30) women entrepreneurs from throughout Quezon Province.

Building on its successful 2025 debut, the BETWEEN program continues to champion women-led micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) across Quezon Province.

This year, the sessions center on cybersecurity, deeper insights into e-commerce fundamentals, digital distribution strategies, AI-driven productivity tools, and emerging digital trends.

The program kicked off with an opening remark from Business Development Division Chief Anna Marie V. Quincina, representing Provincial Director Julieta L. Tadiosa, CESO IV. It was followed by the morning session, which focused on "Leveraging Digital Solutions for Business Resilience," discussed by Mr. Antonio Ancheta, General Manager of Xurpas Software. He discussed how Artificial Intelligence (AI) and e-commerce are no longer just trends but essential tools for streamlining business operations, making smarter decisions, and reaching wider markets in the digital economy.

A hands-on activity allowed participants to learn how to use various AI tools, including ChatGPT, Meta AI, NotebookLM, and Gamma. Women entrepreneurs learned how to craft effective prompts and explored real-world applications such as information searching, data analysis, and seeking expert-like opinions for decision-making. They also engaged in interactive exercises to apply these tools themselves, experimenting with prompts and seeing firsthand how AI can enhance their work. The afternoon session tackled "Maximizing Business Potential Using Digital Concepts and Tools," discussed by Ms. Hazel Christine Herber, Certified SEO Professional Strategist and Web Developer. She shared practical strategies for harnessing the power of digital platforms to drive business growth. She also highlighted the distinct advantages of Facebook and Google, showing how each platform plays a unique role in expanding business reach—Facebook for engagement and brand awareness, and Google for reaching people who are actively searching for specific products or services, making it essential for capturing high-intent customers.

Ms. Herber conducted a live demonstration on creating a Google Business Profile. She guided participants through entering complete business details, selecting the appropriate category, and completing the verification process, and highlighted the importance of keeping the profile active by regularly posting updates, uploading photos, and responding to customer reviews, noting that these practices boost visibility and build trust and credibility on Google. Through this initiative, DTI Quezon reaffirms its commitment to bridging the digital divide, ensuring that Quezon's women entrepreneurs are not only participants but also leaders in the fast-evolving digital economy.

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DOT backs...

In the Philippines, the month of May is more than just the height of the dry season. Across towns and provinces, it is a period filled with color, music, faith, and thanksgiving as communities celebrate festivals rooted in culture and tradition. From harvest festivals to religious celebrations, May has long been considered one of the busiest and most vibrant months for local tourism, drawing thousands of visitors to several parts of the country.

In Quezon province alone, various festivals are simultaneously celebrated every May, transforming municipalities into lively centers of culture and economic activity. Among the most popular is the Pahiyas Festival in Lucban, known for its colorful house decorations made from agricultural harvests and the iconic kiping.

Other towns in the province also hold their own festivities, including the Agawan Festival in Sariaya and the Mayohan Festival in Tayabas City, in honor of San Isidro Labrador as an expression of faith and thanksgiving for a bountiful harvest throughout the year. For the Department of Tourism (DOT) Calabarzon regional director, Marites Castro, continuing these traditions remains important despite economic and social challenges communities face, and she emphasized that festivals do not have to be extravagant or lengthy to create a positive impact. "I believe it is important for our mayors to continue these kinds of activities. (Because) festivals do not necessarily have to be long celebrations. We can shorten the implementation of traditional activities while still preserving them, because these contribute significantly to stimulating the local economy," she stated in an interview with the Philippine Information Agency during the celebration of the Pahiyas Festival on May 15.

Her statement came following the ongoing oil crisis, which prompted several local government units in Quezon and other parts of the country to shorten or scale down festival activities to reduce operational expenses and address rising fuel and transportation costs. She then explained that local festivals provide livelihood opportunities for residents, especially small vendors, transport groups, food establishments, and tourism-related businesses that depend on visitors' arrivals. During celebrations such as the Pahiyas Festival, tourists from different provinces visit Quezon to experience local culture, taste regional delicacies, and purchase locally made products. "When there are visitors, local businesses benefit. People buy food, souvenirs, and other products. Domestic tourism remains one of the strongest drivers of tourism because Filipinos continue supporting and visiting destinations within the country," Castro added. Besides economic gains, festivals also serve as platforms for preserving local identity, faith, and showcasing Filipino creativity.

In Lucban, residents spend weeks preparing elaborate decorations that reflect both artistry and gratitude for a bountiful harvest. Streets are lined with colorful displays, while traditional dances, processions, and community gatherings highlight the town's heritage. As Calabarzon continues to promote domestic tourism, the Tourism department encourages more Filipinos to visit local destinations and support community festivals that not only preserve culture but also help sustain local economies.

For many communities in the region, festivals remain a symbol of resilience, proving that even amid challenges, traditions continue to unite people and create growth opportunities. Her statement came following the ongoing

From Page 1

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