



Cong. Pidi Barzaga attends the Committee Hearing of Public Accounts and Good Government and Public Accountability today, November 5, 2020, on the state of internet and telecommunication services in the Philippines.

CAVITE PNP ENSURES PUBLIC SAFETY AS TYPHOON ROLLY HITS CAVITE

Camp BGen Pantaleon Garcia, Imus City- As Typhoon hits Cavite, Provincial Director, Police Colonel Marlon R Santos ordered the deployment of SRR Personnel in affected areas for forced relocation and evacuation of residents in low lying areas for possible storm surge, flooding and flashfloods.

Cavite Police together with their supportive Local Government Units (LGUs) has strengthen its partnership and worked together as one during Typhoon Rolly.

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Provincial Director Marlon R Santos

Noveleta LCE extends financial aid to frontliners

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) will get 284 million worth of funding in 2021 for the purchase of equipment and other needs that will be used to start research activities under the

DOST GETS 284 M FUNDING FOR VIROLOGY INSTITUTE IN 2021

proposed Virology Science and Technology Institute of the Philippines (VIP).

The good news was shared by Dr. Rowena Cristina L. Guevara, DOST under-secretary for Research and Development in the DOST Report episode aired on 30 October 2020. Dr. Guevara gave an update on the proposed virology institute that will be the country's premier research facility encompassing all areas in the study of viruses and viral diseases.

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NOVELETA, Cavite (PIA) –The local government of Noveleta extended financial assistance to frontliners that recovered from coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19).

In a simple ceremony recently held at the Sangguniang Bayan Session Hall, Mayor Dino Reyes-Chua and Vice Mayor Arlyn Torres led the distribution of the P10,000 financial aid to the 56 medical, municipal and barangay frontliners.

"This is the least that we can do to thank



Mayor Dino Reyes-Chua

them for their sacrifices and dedication to help the municipality in the fight against the pandemic," Mayor Chua said.

The frontliners, on the other hand, expressed gratitude to the local government for the financial aid that could somehow augment their daily needs and expenses especially after surviving the COVID-19 disease. (Ruel Francisco, PIA-Cavite with report from Dennis Abrina)

“For those who must go to their jobs,take extra precautions.” – Publisher



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DENR, PLDT-Smart ...page 4

the Philippine government.

In July 2020, the DENR thru Assistant Secretary for Climate Change and concurrent Director of BMB Ricardo Calderon and DENR-Caraga Regional Executive Director Hadja Didaw Piang-Brahim signed a memorandum of agreement with PLDT Group Chief Sustainability Officer Chaye Cabal-Revilla, who is also the concurrent PLDT SVP & Group Controller and Smart Chief

Finance Officer.

The three-year extendable project to be implemented by PLDT-Smart through its Chief Sustainability Office until 2023 aims to strengthen and support the AMWS-Protected Area Management Office and other concerned DENR offices in implementing peatland conservation and management strategies under the AMWS Management Plan. #

DOST GETS ...P1

Dr. Guevara underscored the importance of the VIP that would focus mainly on studying and developing vaccines on humans, animals, and plants. She said that there are research projects that have been approved and these would focus on the ZIKA virus, African Swine Flu for pig, and kadang-kadang for coconut.

The bill creating the VIP has already been filed in the House of Representatives and in the Senate.

According to Usec. Guevara, the creation of the VIP would undergo two phases. The first is to organize the Filipino researchers

who have been doing virology on humans, animals, and plants. The second is the establishment of the building or research facility that will take around two years to complete.

Furthermore, Usec. Guevara, head of the sub-technical working group on vaccine clinical trials, shared the many initiatives being implemented to provide for the development of and access to vaccines for the COVID-19 pandemic in the country.

Guevara said the first step taken was to participate in the Phase 3 clinical trials of bilateral partners

Team CALABARZON's quick response during the wrath of TS 'RollyPh' (GONI)



Camp BGen Vicente P Lim – PRO4A Regional Director, PBGEN VICENTE D DANA, JR immediately alerted the entire unit since October 31 to take precautionary measures while Tropical Storm 'Rolly' and 'Siony' affect the region traversing part of Luzon area.

According to PAG-ASA, TS 'Rolly' intensified last Saturday affecting vastly the Bicol region then landed over Polilio Islands and mainland of Quezon Province in the evening. This has brought floods and devastations which severely affected low lying areas within CALABARZON and its nearby regions.

All units in the areas responded immediately to incidents such as road clearing operations, inspection on landslide areas, search and rescue operations, evacuation of affected residents and distribution of relief goods through coordination with the Local Government Units, and their respective City and Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council (CDRRMC/MDRRMC).

As of 12:00 PM today there are 441 number of persons stranded (436 in Batangas and 5 in Quezon) while 178 vehicles stranded and 2 ships are still aground all in Batangas. No damages on infrastructure were reported however, 9 damages in seaports in Quezon were recorded.

As of the moment, police force from PRO4A are still securing the 11 flooded areas in Laguna (2), Batangas (7), and Quezon (2). Residents were already advised for possible rerouting for there is 1 road in Cavite and 3 roads in Batangas that are not passable. PNP personnel are con-

such as China and Russia. Once the vaccine becomes available, the Philippines would have the access to that as early as possible. The other strategy employed was to participate in the solidarity trials of the World Health Organization (WHO).

Exploring all avenues, the Philippines will also join Gavi COVID-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) facility, a mechanism designed to guarantee rapid, fair, and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines worldwide.

Moreover, Guevara shared that the medium-term goal of the country is to establish a Modular Multi-pro-

duct Fill-and-Finish Facility to be operated by a local manufacturing company. Fill and Finish involves the process of filling vials with vaccine and finishing is the process of packaging the medicine for distribution.

The DOST Report is a regular broadcast program of the Science and Technology Information Institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST-STII) that highlights the various initiatives and innovations of the DOST aired live every Friday, 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM, through the DOSTv Facebook page and YouTube channel (By Allan Mauro V. Marfal, DOST-STII)



tinuously conducting clearing operations to ensure that all roads are passable and safe.

Team CALABARZON were the first responders at the area and have rescued many residents. A total of 41,



797 families and 164, 527 individuals were securely placed and are now in the 2,103 identified evacuation centers. There is 1 casualty in Rizal and 4 were injured; (3 in Cavite and 1 in Quezon) due to heavy rains and floods brought about by the typhoon.

CAVITE PNP ENSURES...p1

Amidst the pandemic situation, Cavite PNP made a close coordination with the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office, Provincial DSWD and other government agencies involved in disaster preparedness and response operations like securing evacuation centers, participating in packing and distribution of relief goods, road clearing and guarantees the res-

toration of law and order especially on warn criminals who will take advantage of the situation.

PCOL MARLON SANTOS, stated that "We, the men and women of the Cavite PNP will continue to perform our duties with dedication, provide public services, work as nation's servant and protector at all times especially during crisis, disasters and pandemic."

source:(Cavite PIO)



ATICalabarzon

BY: Janine L. Cailo



Another worthy and exciting segment to look out for as Agripreneur features ANPILO Agri Farm, a certified Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA) of ATI CALABARZON in Calaca, Batangas, on November 7, 2020, 5:30 am in GMA 7.

ANPILO Agri Farm, a seven-hectare farm, practices and advocates organic farming. Dragon fruit is the main produce of the farm. ANPILO Agri Farm is also an integrated farm producing various high value crops such as chili and lettuce.

Sen. Bong Go support family of fire victims in Sineguelas, Bacoar

Bacoar City Government is grateful for the help Senator Bong Go has given us. We collected the heads of the families of our fellow fire victims in Brgy. Alima and Brgy. Sineguelas. Sen Bong Go provided financial assistance, relief packs, 25 bikes, 25 tablets and motorcycle backriding barriers to fire victims.

Senator Bong Revilla has given our countrymen a serenity to not abandon



Senator Bong Go



them and if they want to return to their homeland, they can return after repairing their place.

According to Mayor Lani Mercado-Revilla, every family who is fire victims will receive thousand-peso financial assistance as an aid to their restart in life. Mayor Lani noted that the fellow evacuation centers in the county will not go hungry and they can stay there two weeks to a month.

Cong Strike Revilla, Vice Gov Jolo Revilla, Board Member Aba Gawaran, Vice Mayor Karen Sarino-Evaristo, Councilor Alde Pagulayan, ABC President Rey Palabrica and Bryan Revilla helped distribute financial assistance and relief packs.

Different National Government agencies also attended to share their help in the revival of our countrymen.

Revilla wants procurement law amended to fast track AFP modernization program

o fast track the procurement of war material for the Armed Forces of the Philippines' modernization program, Sen. Ramon Bong Revilla has filed a bill seeking to amend Republic Act No. 9184 or the "Government Procurement Act of 2003."

Revilla, in filing Senate Bill No. 1830, said a specialized procurement process for defense assets is needed to pursue and sustain programs for the modernization of the AFP and to enhance the capability of military, police, and other law enforcement units to address the internal security threats posed by local and transnational terrorists and criminal groups, and new and emerging security threats.

"Prior to this, the AFP leadership had already asked Congress to introduce amendments to the stringent requirements of the Government Procurement Reform Act to address the unique needs and demands of purchasing defense equipment and services, such as the need for confidentiality and reasonable extension on time frames with respect to supplies sourced overseas," Revilla said.

During the recent Commission on Appointments hearing on the promotions of senior military officials, Revilla questioned AFP Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Gilbert Gapay on the 2019 Commission on Audit report citing the inefficiencies in the implementation of the AFP modernization program, specifically on projects that should have been completed in 2018 and

2019.

Gapay told the senator the AFP procurement process is also governed by Republic Act No. 9184 and the failure of bidding had caused delay in the implementation of the AFP modernization program. Gapay then proposed that Congress legislate a separate defense procurement act to expedite the bidding process.

Acting on Gapay's appeal, Revilla filed SBN 1830 "to provide the necessary authority, opportunity and flexibility for the Department of National Defense and the AFP leadership to fast track its implementation of the long-delayed modernization program. While this measure provides an expeditious and specialized procurement for the defense sector, it is still anchored on the basic principles of quality and reliability of purchases, and accountability and integrity."

Under the Revilla bill, the Secretary of the Department of National Defense (DND) may prescribe rules and standards to govern the procurement of defense articles, services, and infrastructures, and to enhance the national defense program of the government.

In his amendment Section 5 of RA 9184, infrastructure projects shall include ship-building projects and the repair, restoration and maintenance of military ships, aircraft and other major military equipment.

When the procurement involves national security interest, the DND Secretary, upon the approval of the President, may pre-



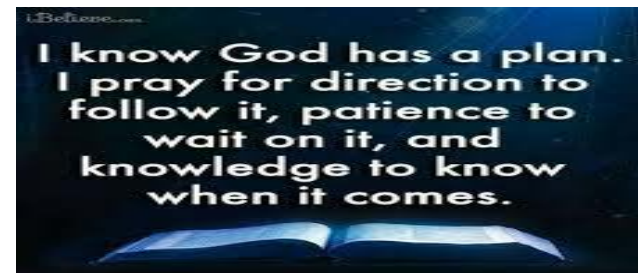
SEN. BONG REVILLA, JR.

scribe any of the methods of procurement as may be applicable for the procurement or development of defense articles, services, and infrastructures, without resorting to competitive bidding, Revilla said.

Under the measure, the procurement of domestic and foreign goods "may limit the procurement of defense articles from known direct manufacturers of the items" in order to obtain and maintain the desired standardization and interoperability of military articles inventory, to protect the procurement of defense articles against unscrupulous suppliers and to ensure high quality defense items.

The measure also provides that the procurement of major defense equipment not available locally could be exempted from the requirement of public bidding, in view of security and other strategic considerations, including confidentiality, interoperability, and/or the existence of defense partnerships.

"It is hoped that with the help of this bill, significant gains will be accomplished in fully realizing the objectives of the AFP modernization program, particularly the development of a self-reliant and credible strategic armed force, such that it can fully perform its mandate to uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic and to secure the national territory from all forms of intrusion and encroachment," the senator said.



DOH-CALABARZON inaugurates Botika ng Bayan in TMC

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) --DOH-CALABARZON (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon) today inaugurated the fourth Botika ng Bayan (BnB) in the region located at the City of Trece Martires, Cavite.

“Sa tulong ng ating lokal na pamahalaan ay pananatilihin natin ito at bibigyan ng wastong pangangalaga upang hindi mapabayaan at ito ay ating palalakasin sa pamamagitan ng pakikipag-ugnayan sa mga pribadong pharmaceutical companies upang sila ay makapaglagay ng mga gamot na dito sa BNB upang ang mga pasyente ay hindi na maghanap kung-saan-saan pa para sa kailangan nilang gamot at ito rin ay makukuha ng libre,” Regional Director Eduardo C. Janairo stated in his message during the opening of the BnB at the city health office.

He added the collaboration with private multinational companies will provide the needed essential medicines and will ensure adequate supply for all BnB outlets.

Among the essential medicines that are available includes paracetamol, antibiotics, topical ointments, anti-thrombotic, anti-inflammatory, antihyperlipidemic, anthelmintic, oral hypoglycemic, vitamins, micronutrients, antacids



**Regional Director
Eduardo C. Janairo**

and other essential drugs for asthma, hypertension, diabetes and dyslipidemia even for family planning.

The Trece Martires BnB was made possible through the effort and cooperation of the city government. The outlet will

provide quality outpatient pharmacy services to the residents of the city, especially the underprivileged patients.

The three other BNBs are located in Sta. Maria, Laguna, Mauban, Quezon and in Magallanes,

DENR, PLDT-SMART JOIN HANDS TO RAISE AWARENESS ON PEATLANDS CONSERVATION

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR)—through its Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB)—has partnered with digital services provider PLDT Inc. (PLDT) and its

Cavite.

“Sa tulong ng ating mga lokal na pamahalaan sa CALABARZON, gagawin nating primary care pharmacy ang mga BNB na syang magbibigay ng pangunahing serbisyo sa pagbibigay ng mga libreng gamot sa ating

mga mamamayan,” Janairo reiterated.

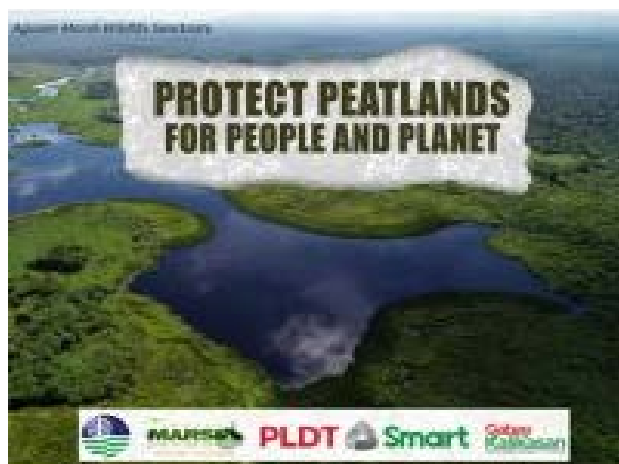
Director Janairo reminded that healthy living including proper diet and regular exercise is still the best way to prevent illness.

Among the other municipalities who also

applied for a BNB license to operate with the Food and Drug Administration namely San Luis and Tingloy in Batangas, Montalban in Rizal, San Narciso and Quezon in the province of Quezon. (PIA-4A/DOH-CALABARZON)



DOH-CALABARZON Regional Director Eduardo C., Janairo together with City of Trece Martires Mayor Gemma Buendia-Lubigan prepares to cut the ribbon for the formal opening of the Botika ng Bayan outlet located at the city health office held on November 4, 2020 in Cavite.



wireless unit Smart Communications Inc. (Smart) to help raise awareness on peatlands in the Caraga region.

DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu said peatlands are vital for providing safe drinking water, assist in preserving global biodiversity, and help reduce flood risks.

“Peatlands are dubbed as ‘one of the most valuable ecosystems on Earth’ according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature or IUCN because apart from all these uses, they also help mitigate climate change and global warming,” Cimatu said.

Peatlands are a type of wetlands whose peat soils consist of car-

bon-rich dead and decaying plant matter. If kept wet, peatlands can store twice as much carbon as all the world's forests combined. However, its crucial role in mitigating climate change, as well as the huge costs that arise when these natural carbon sinks are damaged, remains largely overlooked.

The DENR and PLDT-Smart will present the conservation program on peatlands in a web activity that will be held on November 6, 2020 to kick off the Climate Change Consciousness Week in the latter part of the month. Peatlands to be featured in the conservation program will include the Caimpugan Peatland in the Agusan Marsh Wildlife Sanctuary

(AMWS).

Located in Agusan del Sur, the Caimpugan Peatland holds the only recorded remaining intact peat swamp forest—the largest of its kind—in the Philippines.

PLDT Chairman and CEO Manuel V. Pangilinan will be the guest of honor for the virtual event.

Ramsar Convention Secretary General Martha Rojas-Urrego will also have a special participation because the AMWS is designated as a Wetland of International Importance by the said inter-governmental treaty on wetlands.

AMWS is also recognized as a Heritage Park by the ASEAN and legislated as a National Park by

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