

PhilHealth services to continue with more benefits –PBBM

MANILA — The Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) will continue to deliver unhampered services despite receiving zero subsidy from the 2025 national budget, President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. assured on Monday, Dec. 30.

“Sisiguruhin natin na tuloy-tuloy at mas lalawig pa ang mga benepisyo ng lahat ng Pilipino sa ilalim ng PhilHealth,” President Marcos said in his speech during the signing of the P6.326 trillion 2025 national budget.

The President emphasized that the administration remains committed to prioritizing social services in the 2025 budget, including the sectors of education, health, economic services, infrastructure and agriculture.

Executive Secretary Lucas P. Bersamin echoed the President’s sentiments in a press conference, assuring the Office of the President

will exhaust all remedies to sustain PhilHealth’s services.

“Sinabi ng ating Pangulo kanina na walang mababawas na benepisyo kundi magdagdag pa. At, pina-liwanag ni Secretary Ralph Recto ngayon, na ang PhilHealth ay maraming resources na maaari niyang gamitin sa pagpapalago ng benepisyo para sa mga kababayan natin,” Bersamin said.

“Wag kayong mag-aalala, ang inyong Executive Branch ay maingat ... mabusisi sa paggamit ng ating resources,” Bersamin added.

He was referring to the statement of Department of Finance (DOF) Secretary Ralph Recto highlighting PhilHealth’s robust financial standing.

The Finance chief cited the approximately PhP280 billion in reserve funds, a PhP150 billion surplus, and over PhP400 billion in invest-

ments.

Recto said PhilHealth’s corporate operating budget is sufficient. The government can closely monitor its fiscal performance in the coming year.

“They have adequate resources. Now, having said that, we in the Department of Finance, next year, tutukan namin ang PhilHealth. We will make sure that we spend that budget better,” Recto said when asked to explain PhilHealth’s budget.

Recto said they will particularly focus on the benefit package for the top 10 illnesses.

Asked if the President sustained the zero-budget allocation, Budget Secretary Amena Pangandaman explained the government did not make any substantial changes in the enrolled bill.

“Pag wala na po sa enrolled bill, wala po. Hindi [na] po siya [pwede]. Hindi po natin puwedeng dagdagan,”

she said.

The President signed the P6.326 trillion 2025 national budget from the initial proposed P6.352 trillion.

He vetoed P194 billion worth of proposed projects which he said were “inconsistent with

Cont. on PAGE 3



President Bongbong Marcos

PNP CALABARZON Resolves Robbery hold-up and Carnapping Incidents Within Hours

Camp BGen Vicente P Lim- The Police Regional Office CALABARZON swiftly resolved a robbery hold-up and carnapping incident that transpired at approximately 11:10 PM on December 28, 2024, along the National Highway in Barangay Patimbao, Santa Cruz, Laguna.

According to report, the victim, alias “Darwin”, 42, a tricycle driver, was forcibly robbed and his motorcycle was taken. Acting swiftly, personnel of the Santa Cruz Municipal Police Station (MPS) conducted follow-up operations, including

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PBGEN Paul Kenneth T. Lucas



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ATICalabarzon



Happy New Year, everyone – especially to our farmers, fisher-folks, and extension workers and partners!

This 2025, let's continue to cultivate a year full of peace, compassion, and abundance.

May your homes be filled with prosperity, your tables with nourishing food, and fields with bountiful harvests for the entire year and beyond.



ATI Calabarzon

Agricultural Training Institute/DA

ATI CALABARZON rolls out 15 batches of FFS on corn production, management

To boost corn production through modern technology and proper management, the DA-ATI CALABARZON in collaboration with the Local Government Units (LGUs) through the City and Municipal Agriculture Offices rolled out

15 batches of the Farmer Field School (FFS) on Corn Production and Management in the provinces of Laguna, Batangas, and Quezon.

Participants of the training were corn farmers from the municipalities and cities of Sariaya, Tagkawayan, Tayabas City (two batches), San Francisco (two batches), Catanauan, Agdangan, and Guinyan-

gan in Quezon; Nasugbu (two batches), Batangas City, and Tanauan City in Batangas; and Calamba City in Laguna (two batches).

The FFS program aimed to promote sustainable farming practices, helping farmers adapt to shifting agricultural settings through hands-on learning. The program enabled farmers to build their techni-

cal and scientific skills to grow corn and other crops while using the right farming methods by combining theoretical knowledge with practical application in the field.

The graduates gained contemporary methods and strategies for planting and growing corn during the 18-week course, which took place from July to December 2024.

EDITORIAL

Bagong taon, bagong pag-asa...

Tatlong araw na lang, 2025 na. Bagong taon, bagong pag-asa, bagong mga pagsubok at hamon ng buhay ang kakaharapin. Hindi natin alam kung ano ang hatid ng 2025, subalit umasa tayo na kakayanin din at malalampasan ano man ang dumating, ano man ang mangyari. 2019, 2020, 2021. Iyan ang pinakamatitinding taon na kinaharap nating lahat. Bulkang taal, sumabog. COVID-19, nanalasa. Lindol, bagyo, baha. Pa-rang wala nang katapusan, pero, nalampasan pa rin natin.

Heto tayo ngayon at masayang sasalubong sa 2025. Sapagkat iyan ang kaloob ng Diyos. Gods will. Binigyan tayo ng tibay at tatag ng katawan, ng tapang at lakas ng loob, ng kalusugan at talas ng isip kung paano haharapin ang lahat ng pagsubok at balakid.

Mga huling buwan ng 2024, sunod-sunod na super bagyo ang nanalasa sa bansa. Libo-libo ang hanggang sa ngayon na patapos na ang Taon ay sa mga evacuation centers nagpalipas ng Pasko. Subalit naging masaya pa rin sila, at isinapuso ang tunay na diwa ng Kapaskuhan. Ngayong 2025, umasa tayo sa isang mapayapa, maaliwalas at mabiyayang buhay. HINDI TAYO PABABAYAAN NG MAKAPANGYARIHANG DIYOS. Manalangin tayo, magpakatatag at magpakabuti, aabot pa tayo sa maraming bagong taon. HAPPY NEW YEAR PO SA ATING LAHAT...

WELCOME 2025

Local Government Unit of Mendez-Nuñez

Business One Stop Shop(BOSS) 2025



Sa pagdating ng panibagong taon ay muling bubuksan ng Lokal na Pamahalaan sa pangunguna ng ating Punong Bayan, Kgg. Francisco T. Mendoza, Jr. ang B.O.S.S. o Business One Stop Shop para sa mga negosyo maging sa mga nasa sektor ng pam-publikong transportasyon.

Ito ay sisimulan sa unang araw ng pasok para sa taong 2025 sa Mendez Municipal Quadrangle. Para naman sa mga Public Utility Vehicles o



PUVs gaya ng tricycle, bus at jeep, isasagawa ang BOSS simula sa Enero 21 hanggang Enero 31, 2025 kung saan may nakatakandang araw para sa bawat TODA.

Halina, sama-sama tayong maging kabahagi sa pag-unlad ng ating bayan. Para sa iba pang mga detalye, sumagguni po lamang sa graphics sa baba.

Marcos leads 128th commemoration of Jose Rizal's martyrdom

MANILA, (PIA) — President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. on Monday, December 30, led the 128th commemoration of Dr. Jose Rizal's martyrdom at the Rizal National Monument in Manila.

The President is joined by First Lady Louise "Liza" Araneta-Marcos and members of the First Family.

The commemorative program began with arrival honors from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), followed by the raising of the Philippine flag.

Marcos Jr. laid a wreath at the Rizal Monument alongside National Historical Commission of the Philippines (NHCP) Chairman Regalado Trota Jose Jr. and AFP Chief of Staff General Romeo Brawner Jr.

In his Rizal Day message, he called on

Filipinos to reflect on the enduring legacy of Dr. Jose Rizal and urged the public to embrace Rizal's ideals and continue striving for a just and progressive society.

Marcos emphasized that Rizal's vision for a fair and forward-thinking Philippines remains relevant today.

"As we remember his noble works and honorable life, let us take to heart his words and ideals that awakened the consciousness of our forebears and stirred a national movement for freedom," he said.

He encouraged Filipinos to look back with pride and embody the values that Rizal cherished, including love of country, dedication to truth, and commitment to the welfare of the people.

"The values of patriotism, truth, and

dedication to the welfare of the people that Rizal espoused remain crucial to our country's progress," he added.

Marcos urged citizens to embody these values in their daily lives, whether through community service, the pursuit of knowledge, or efforts to uplift marginalized groups.

"True change begins within us, especially when we stand firm on the issues we face today," he further said. "Let us be bold enough to be catalysts of change and hold on to the belief that each of us can contribute to the beloved Philippines."

Similar flag-raising and wreath-laying rites took place in key locations across the country, organized by local government units and various organizations.



The National Historical Commission of the Philippines and other government agencies also scheduled educational exhibits, cultural shows, and community programs to celebrate Rizal's life and teachings, reinforcing his lasting impact on the nation.

This year's short but meaningful event also featured simultaneous programs at the Rizal Shrines in Calamba City, Laguna, and Dapitan City, Zamboanga del Norte.

Under the theme "Rizal: Sa Bagong Pilipinas, Buhay at Aral Aming Nilalandas," the annual remembrance invites Filipinos to reflect on the values exemplified by Rizal's heroism and how they can serve as a foundation for the future. (JCO/PIA-NCR)

National Museum now open every day starting 2025

QUEZON CITY, (PIA) – The National Museum of the Philippines (NMP) Central Complex in Manila and all its regional component museums in the country will now be open to the public daily starting January 2025.

"Universal access has always been our priority. By opening our museums every day and maintaining free admission, we aim to make our programs and services even more accessible to everybody," said the NMP in an online post following the announcement.

The central complex or the main museums of the NMP in Manila is composed of the National Museum of Fine Arts, National Museum of Anthropology, and the National Museum of Natural History.

Meanwhile, the NMP maintains a total of sixteen (16) regional, area, and site museums outside Metro Manila which also comprise of equally important art collections in terms of its national artistic, cultural, and natural heritage significance.

One of the newest additions to the NMP National Fine Arts Collections is the "Josephine Sleeping" clay sculpture by Dr. Jose Rizal which was unveiled for the first time alongside the commemoration of the 128th anniversary of his martyrdom on December 30, 2024.

Dr. Jose Rizal created the clay sculpture of his last love, Josephine Bracken, during his exile in Dapitan. Dubbed as "Rizal's Mona Lisa," the NMP highlighted how this artwork offered a glimpse into the humanity of Rizal.

Rizal married Josephine Bracken in his death row cell a few hours before his execution at Bagumbayan on December 30, 1896. By exhibiting the clay sculpture which is believed to be one of the hero's final artworks, the NMP hopes to immortalize the legacy of Dr. Jose Rizal whose contributions to Philippine history and culture is unparalleled as a prominent figure in the realization of the Filipino propaganda movement in the late 19th century.

The "Josephine Sleeping" is exhibited at the Spoliarium Hall together with the other artworks of Dr. Jose Rizal in Gallery V "Inspiring the Nation, Dr. Jose Rizal: The National Hero in Art" at the National Museum of Fine Arts.

The regular operating hours of the NMP Central Complex is from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Holiday road accidents...p6

volved motorists not wearing safety accessories such as helmets and seatbelts — 356 motorcycle accidents and 83 consumed alcohol before hitting the road. The DOH reminded motorists not to drink and drive and to

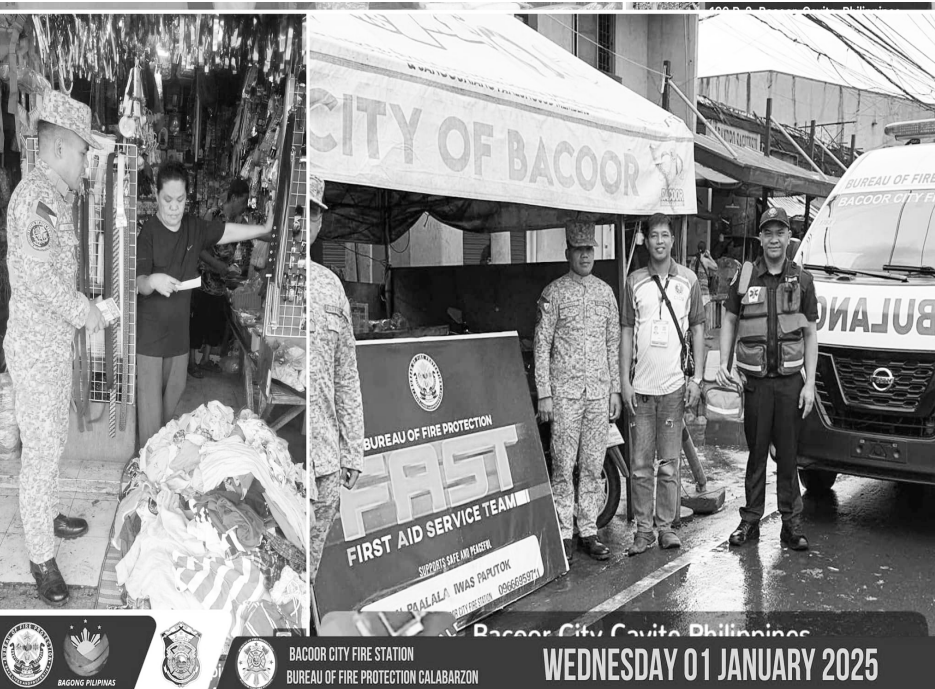
sleep for at least seven hours before traveling to ensure concentration and quick reflexes. It also urged motorists to use helmets and seatbelts, and to be mindful of speed limits and road signs. (PNA)

PhilHealth...page 1

the administration's priority programs."

In his speech, the President said he directly vetoed provisions not responsive to the peoples' needs. Conditional implementation on certain items was also pursued to ensure public funds are utilized according to authorized purposes, he added. (PND)

City Government of Bacoor



Although the New Year celebrations have ended, the BFP Bacoor continues to conduct fire safety reminders, carry out firetruck visibility activities, and provide medical assistance at Zapote 1 Market, Bacoor City, Cavite. They remain committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of the community by maintaining a visible presence, offering guidance on fire prevention, and being ready to respond in case of emergencies, helping to foster a safer environment for everyone. In case of fire and other emergencies, dial: ☐☐ 161 ☐ 0966-695-9711

PNP CALABARZON Resolves Robbery hold-up...page 1

the analysis of CCTV footage. This led to the identification and arrest of the suspects at Barangay Duhat, Santa Cruz, Laguna, by 2:00 AM on December 29, 2024. Suspects were identified as alias “Chris”, 22, of Tondo, Manila and alias “Micy”, 25, of Santa Cruz, Manila. Recovered from their possession were short firearm, a replica handgun, ammunition, a Rusi motorcycle and belongings stolen from the victim, Yamaha NMAX Motorcycle used by the suspects, cash, and other items believed to be from other crimes. Follow-up investigations revealed the suspects’ involvement in a separate “Basag Kotse” incident in Pililia, Rizal, earlier on Decem-

ber 28, 2024. Further, police authorities also uncovered their history of criminal activities, including robbery, “Basag Kotse”, and drug-related offenses in the previous years. PBGEN Paul Kenneth T. Lucas, Regional Director of Police Regional Office CALABARZON, lauded the swift action of the Santa Cruz MPS and emphasized the importance of heightened vigilance, especially during the holiday season. “As we celebrate the holidays, we must remain alert against individuals who seek to exploit the season’s festivities to commit crimes. The CALABARZON police force is committed to ensuring the safety and se-

curity of our communities by responding promptly to incidents and bringing offenders to justice,” PBGEN Lucas said. He also urged the public to report any suspicious activities immediately and assured that the police force would remain proactive in safeguarding lives and property during the holidays and beyond. Meanwhile, the Santa Cruz MPS has assisted the victim in preparing necessary documents for the filing of appropriate complaints against the suspects. Coordination with the Provincial Intelligence and Detective Management Branch and other law enforcement units continues to ensure a tight case.(RPIO4A)

PH to send 20 athletes to Asian Winter Olympics next month

By Jean Malanum

MANILA — After winning three gold medals in the Paris Olympics, the Philippines is setting its sights on a first-ever medal at the 2026 Winter Olympics. “We’ve already accomplished the dream in the Summer Olympics – three gold medals in consecutive games. And that dream we want to also achieve in the Winter Olympics,” said Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) president Abraham “Bambol” Tolentino in a news release on Wednesday. For starters, the Philippines will send 20 athletes to the 9th Asian Winter Games on Feb. 7 to 14 in Harbin, China. There are no available accurate records as to how many Filipinos have competed in the first eight editions of the Asian Winter Games, but Tolentino believed the team to Harbin is the biggest. “And our athletes are competing in six of the 11 sports on the Harbin program,” he said. Marc Angelo Pfister, Enrico Gabriel Pfister, Christian Patrick Haller, Alan Beat Frei, Jessica Pfister, Benjo Delarmente, Kathleen Dubberstein, Leilani Dubberstein, Sheila Mariano and Anne Marie Bonache make up the team competing in curling, one of the most-watched winter sports discipline. The Curling Winter Sports of the Philippines, which was established late last year, joined Philippine Skating Union and Philippine Ski and Snowboarding Association in the POC roster.

Other members of Team Philippines managed by chef de mission Richard Lim are Paolo Borromeo, Aleksandr Korovin, Cathryn Limketkai, Isabella Marie Gamez and Sofia Lexi Jacqueline Frank in figure skating; Francis Ceccarelli and Talullah Proulx in Alpine skiing; Laetaz Amihan Rabe in freestyle skiing; Peter Joseph Groseclose in short track speed skating and Adrian Tongco in snowboarding. A total of 64 events will be contested in Harbin, which also hosted in 1996. China organized the 3rd Asian Winter Games in Changchun (2007). Japan has dominated the Asian Winter

Games followed by China and Kazakhstan. It hosted the first edition in Sapporo (1986) and the last edition in Sapporo and Obihiro (2017). Meanwhile, Italy will host the 25th Winter Olympics in the cities of Milan and Cortina d’Ampezzo from Feb. 6 to 22, 2026. “The Winter Olympics are as extremely tough as the Summer Olympics, but we have proven that it could be done,” Tolentino said. Weightlifter Hidilyn Diaz-Naranjo produced the country’s first gold medal in Tokyo (2020) and gymnast Carlos Yulo delivered two golds in Paris (2024). (PNA)

DSWD-Calabarzon... from page 6

tion process for all financial transactions, including those under the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS) program. “This process is integral to the field office’s financial accountability report and ensures transparency in all financial transactions,” Arceo said. The DSWD-Calabarzon’s CIP continues to serve as a lifeline for vulnerable populations in the region, addressing urgent needs and supporting recovery during challenging times. (PNA)

AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION WITH DEED OF SALE

Notice is hereby given that the estate left by the deceased **MARCELA M. DE MALIMBAN** consisting of a residential land with no improvements covered by Tax Declaration No. 06-006-00837 situated at Castanos Cerca, Aguinaldo, Cavite has been the subject of an **AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION WITH DEED OF SALE** executed by the sole heir as per Doc. No. 243, Page No.80, Book No. XII, Series of 2024 of Notary Public Atty. Antonio T. Nicolas.

Sgd. By the sole heir

CN: Dec. 18, 25, 2024 and Jan. 1, 2025

Villar Honors the Top Cooperatives at 2024 Villar Foundation Awards

The Villar Foundation recognized cooperative champions at the 2024 Villar Foundation Awards on Poverty Reduction, honoring those that have made remarkable efforts to combat poverty in their communities. The awarding ceremony took place at the Villar Foundation Complex in Las Piñas City on December 12. Deputy Speaker Camille Villar, pledging to be the “new voice” in the Senate, stressed the crucial role of cooperatives in boosting the country’s financial wellness. “The cooperative groups are helping the government in forming and taking care of the financial wellness of the people under your jurisdiction,” Deputy Speaker Villar said. Former Senate President Manny Villar founding chairman of the Villar Foundation, committed to continuing support for organizations that have improved lives in their communities. Senator Cynthia Villar a strong advocate for cooperatives in the Senate, believes that cooperatives has always been an important contributor in the communities’ socio-economic advancement through its significant endeavors. “By honoring our Cooperatives, we are not only recognizing and acknowledging good work, but are also providing several noteworthy inspirations and blueprints for members and fellow cooperatives to follow.”

Senator Villar stated. This year’s awards received 120 nominations from cooperatives across the country, with 12 emerging as outstanding. Additionally, three cooperatives from Las Piñas were honored with special recognition for their contributions. The Villar family personally awarded trophies and cash prizes to the winners, with outstanding cooperatives-receiving P250,000 and special awardees getting P150,000 each for their contributions. Senator Cynthia Villar commended the winners for their consistent exemplary performance and the success of the implementation of their many community-centered programs. “I am pleased that you have not only secured the financial viability of your cooperative, but also led the way in fulfilling the dreams of many people from all walks of life” she said. “May all of you continue spreading opportunities, promoting inclusivity, and encouraging growth throughout the country,” she added. Since 2013, the Villar Foundation Awards for Poverty Reduction has celebrated the exceptional efforts of cooperatives and community enterprises in fostering financial self-reliance and driving sustainable growth and development within the communities they serve. The 2024 Villar Foundation Awards are given to the following:

- Outstanding Cooperatives
1. Aski Multipurpose Cooperative , Talavera, Nueva Ecija.
 2. Lipa City Parish Multi-purpose Cooperative, Lipa City, Batangas
 3. Bago (Ibaan) Multi-purpose Cooperative, Ibaan, Batangas
 4. Agro Industrial Cooperative of Mataas na kahoy, Mataas na Kahoy, Batangas
 5. Angono Credit and Development Cooperative, Angono, Rizal
 6. Calamba Parish Development Cooperative, Calamba, Laguna
 7. Sentrong Ug-nayan ng Mamayang, Pilipino Multi-Purpose Cooperative, Sta. Cruz, Laguna
 8. RHUDARDA Multi-Purpose Cooperative, Polilio, Quezon
 9. Pandan Multi-Purpose Cooperative Pandan, Antique
 10. Sibonga Multi-Purpose Cooperative Sibonga, Cebu
 11. Kabangasan-Mapua-Dahilig Agrarian Reform Community Cooperative-Binalingoan, Misamis Oriental
 12. Kisandal Multipurpose Cooperative Magpet, Cotabato
- Special Awardees
1. Las Piñas Parol Makers Credit Cooperative
 2. Las Piñas East National High School Consumer’s Cooperative
 3. Plaza Quezon. Sa Las Piñas Credit Cooperative

Trece Martires City



TMC Mayor Gemma Lubigan(Facebook)

*Mayor Gemma Buendia Lubigan's Recent Post

Trece Martires City: From 4th Class to 2nd Class Starting 2025!

Isang mapagpalang araw, Treceños! ☐☐

Sa nagan ng buong City Government, ako po’y lubos na nagpapasalamat sa pagkakataong maipahayag ang isang napakagandang balita at milestone para sa ating lungsod! Simula 2025, ang Trece Martires City ay opisyal nang 2nd Class City sa ilalim ng bagong batas na Republic Act (RA) No. 11964. Ang batas na ito ay nagtatakda ng mas responsableng income classification para sa mga LGUs upang mas mapagting ang kaunlaran sa bawat komunidad. At higit sa lahat, alinsunod sa Department of Finance Order No. 23-08, pormal nang itinalaga ang pag-angat ng ating lungsod bilang Second Class City. Ang pagkilalang ito ay patunay sa patuloy nating pagsusumikap at maayos na pamamahala na nagresulta sa mas mataas na kita at mas malakas na ekonomiya ng ating lungsod. Ang tagumpay na ito ay hindi lamang tagumpay ng inyong City Government—tagumpay ito ng bawat Treceño! Dahil sa inyong walang sawang suporta, tiwala, at pakikipagtulungan, naabot natin ang bagong antas ng progreso. Noong 2018, ang ating lungsod ay may annual income lamang na Php 701,643,095. Sa loob ng halos anim na taon, sa ilalim ng masinop na pamumuno, pinaigting na koleksyon ng buwis, at makabagong mga inisyatibo, umangat ito sa Php 1,268,572,511 sa taong 2023. Ngayong 2024 ay inaasahan na aangat pa lalo ng hanggang Php 1,502,865,827. Dahil dito, pasok na pasok tayo sa panibagong income classification na magbibigay-daan sa mas maraming proyekto at mas malawak na tulong sa bawat Treceño. Ang mas mataas na income classification ay magbukas din ng pinto para sa financial grants at iba pang suporta mula sa national government. At sa ating tagumpay, hindi tayo titigil dito. Sa mga darating pang taon, inaasahan nating muling aakyat ang ating classification bilang isang 1st Class City! Ito na ang simula ng ating mas maunlad, at mas maipagmamalaking lungsod ng Trece Martires!

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, NOW A 2ND-CLASS CITY!

Mula sa Fourth-Class City, ang Trece Martires City ay itinalaga bilang Second-Class City sa bisa ng Republic Act No. 11964 at Department of Finance Order No. 23-08. Ang tagumpay na ito ay isang makasaysayang hakbang tungo sa kaunlaran para sa mga Treceño.

Sa ilalim ng matatag na pamumuno ni Mayor Gemma Buendia Lubigan at sa tulong ng mga dedikadong opisyal at mamamayan, ang ating lungsod ay naging simbulo ng progreso at pagbabago. Mula sa Php 701,643,095 na kita noong 2018, umakyat ito sa Php 1,502,865,827 ngayong 2024, at inaasahang abot sa Php 1,731,031,204 sa 2025, na magdadala ng mas maraming proyekto at mas mahusay na serbisyo.

MGBL VMEM

Ang tagumpay na ito ay hindi lamang tagumpay ng inyong City Government—tagumpay ito ng bawat Treceño! Dahil sa inyong walang sawang suporta, tiwala, at pakikipagtulungan, naabot natin ang bagong antas ng progreso. Noong 2018, ang ating lungsod ay may annual income lamang na Php 701,643,095. Sa loob ng halos anim na taon, sa ilalim ng masinop na pamumuno, pinaigting na koleksyon ng buwis, at makabagong mga inisyatibo, umangat ito sa Php 1,268,572,511 sa taong 2023. Ngayong 2024 ay inaasahan na aangat pa lalo ng hanggang

☐☐ Ano ang kahulugan nito para sa ating lungsod? ☐Ang pagiging 2nd Class City ay nangan-

