

26 JAN 2019

DATE : _____

DAY : **Saturday** _____

DENR

IN THE NEWS

Strategic Communication and Initiative Service



Modern-day 'Battle for Manila Bay' starts

By Jhesset O. Enano
@JhessetEnanoINQ

It's all systems go for the "Battle for Manila Bay."

Unlike the historic combat that involved ships, cannons and guns, this modern-day battle will be waged against waste and pollution in the bay famous for its golden sunset.

On Sunday, various government agencies led by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will kick off the ambitious rehabilitation project, which seeks to restore the heavily polluted bay to its former glory.

5,000 participants

The rehabilitation program, which will cost P42.95 billion in the next three years, is expected to bring more than 5,000 participants.

While most personnel will come from the DENR, the program will also involve 12 other government agencies tasked by the Supreme Court through a writ of continuing mandamus issued in 2008 to clean up and

rehabilitate Manila Bay.

While environment officials had recognized the magnitude of the problem, Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu claimed that this battle "is not a lost cause."

Solidarity walk

"This is a battle that will be won not with force or arms, but with the firm resolve to bring Manila Bay back to life," Cimatu said in a statement on Friday.

Sunday's launch will begin with a solidarity walk at 7 a.m. from the Quirino Grandstand to the baywalk area in front of Rajah Sulayman Park.

Aside from Cimatu, expected to be at the kickoff are Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat and Interior Secretary Eduardo Año.

During the launch, simultaneous activities will also take place in other areas, including mangrove planting at the Marine Tree Park in Navotas City and clean-up activities at the Las Piñas-Parañaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area and in the rivers and other wa-

terways in the provinces of Cavite, Bulacan, Bataan and Pampanga.

Cimatu earlier said that during the kickoff, the DENR would also disclose the initial list of establishments found to be polluting Manila Bay.

These establishments would be issued notices of violation and would be given at least three months to put up sewerage treatment plants and comply with the standards under the Philippine Clean Water Act and other environment laws.

The massive cleanup will affect all the cities and towns surrounding Manila Bay.

Informal settlers

The project will also involve the removal of over 220,000 informal settler families living along the estuaries that discharge into Manila Bay.

The DENR is in talks with the National Housing Authority for proper relocation for these communities.

The rehabilitation aims to bring down the coliform level in

Manila Bay from the current level of 330 million most probable number (MPN) per 100 milliliters to the acceptable level of 100 MPN per 100 ml. The target is to reduce the level to 270 MPN per 100 ml by yearend.

Sewage treatment plants

The Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) is now working with its concessionaires, Manila Water and Maynilad Water Services, to ensure their full compliance with the Supreme Court continuing mandamus through the installation of more sewage treatment plants.

MWSS administrator Reynaldo Velasco said that Manila Water and Maynilad had agreed to fast-track their projects to attain 100-percent sewer and sanitation coverage by 2037.

He admitted that only 15 percent of water consumers are currently connected to sewer lines.

Manila Water currently operates and maintains 38 sewage treatment plants while Maynilad operates 19. INQ



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Manila Standard

A2
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

26 JAN 2010

DATE

Green and go for Bay cleanup this Sunday

THE Environment department said Friday it is all systems go for the start of the rehabilitation of Manila Bay on Jan. 27.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu called the rehabilitation the "Battle for Manila Bay," which would bring together more than 5,000 participants.

Most of the participants will come from his department and from 12 other government agencies who will execute the Supreme Court's order in 2008 to clean up the bay.

"This is a battle that will be won not with force or arms but with the firm resolve to bring Manila Bay back to life," Cimatu said.

"Manila Bay and the environment in general is not a lost cause."

The rehabilitation does not only involve cleaning up the bay but also relocating the illegal settlers around it and ensuring the establishments around the area observe the Clean Water Act of 2004 and other environmental laws.

Meanwhile, the Environment department is urging the participants of the Manila Bay rehabilitation launching at the Baywalk area on Sunday to use reusable containers in packing food and water.

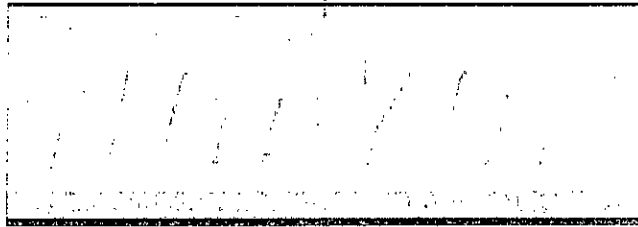
"We're encouraging them to bring their own reusable containers like bottles for water that they'll drink during the launch," the department's Strategic Alliance and Environmental Partnership Division Chief Raymond Virgino said.

He said they were promoting reusable materials as the plastic and paper containers people discard after use might end up at the Manila Bay, polluting its water and increasing the volume of trash there.

The participants could request water and refill their containers at the drinking stations of private water concessionaire Manila Water Company Inc., which serves the Baywalk area, Virgino said.

The authorities continue to warn against diseases that could be contracted from Manila Bay's waters as the department said the decades-long flow of solid waste and untreated discharge had raised the level of coliform bacteria there to more than 330 million most probable number per 100 milliliters.

The safe coliform level is 100 MPN per 100 milliliters only, according to the department. **Rio N. Araja and PNA**



26 JAN 2010

DATE

ROXAS BLVD. ISASARA BUKAS

Manila Bay Rehab Project, ilulunsad

Nakatakdang isara bukas, araw ng Linggo ang southbound lane ng Roxas Boulevard bunsod nang paglulunsad ng Manila Bay Rehabilitation Project.

Sa abiso kahapon ng MMDA, mula alas-5:00 ng umaga hanggang alas-9:00 ng umaga ay isasara nila sa mga motorista ang kaha-

baan ng southbound lane, mula T.M Kalaw hanggang President Qurino Avenue.

Samantala ang portion naman ng Roxas Boulevard (southbound) mula P. Burgos hanggang V. Sotto ay isasara ng alas-3:00 ng hapon para naman sa pagdiriwang ng 40th Fiesta Del Sto. Niño.

Hinikayat ng MMDA ang mga motorista na dumaan na lamang sa mga alternatibong ruta. Ang mga saksyang magmumula sa A. Bonifacio Drive/R-10 ay kumaliwa ng P. Burgos Avenue o TM Kalaw, kanan M.H Del Pilar o Taft Avenue hanggang destinasyon.
(Lordeth B. Bonilla)



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



15
PAGE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UPPER	PAGE 1	BANNER	EDITORIAL	CARTOON
LOWER	STORY	STORY		

26 JAN 2010

DATE

MANILA BAY REHAB SIMULA NA

SISIMULAN na ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay ngayong Linggo, Enero 27.

Mahigit 5,000 katao ang inaasahang makikisa sa iba't ibang aktibidad na gagawin sa

pangunguna ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa araw na iyon.

Kabilang dito ang mangrove planting sa Navotas City at clean-up drive sa Bacoor, Cavite,

Obando, Bulacan at Guagua, Pampanga.

Bukod sa DENR, inaasahang dadalo sa mga aktibidad ang mga opisyal ng Department of Tourism, Department of Interior and Local

Government at iba pang ahensiya ng gobyerno.

Nakatakdang ilabas ng DENR ang listahan ng mga establisimiyentong nagpaparumi sa Manila Bay.

Papangalanan ang

mga business establishment na walang sewerage treatment plant at direktang nagtatapon ng dumi sa dagat.

Una nang tinukoy ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang ilang malalaking hotel sa paligid ng Manila Bay na mga pangunahing pollutant.

Pansamantalang ipinasara ang Manila Zoo para isailalim sa rehabilitasyon matapos na mapag-alaman na direktang itinapon ang mga maruming tubig sa estero na dumadaloy naman sa Manila Bay. **DWIZ882**



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

PEOPLES JOURNAL Tonight

5
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

26 JAN 2010

DATE

All systems go for Manila Bay rehab

By **CORY MARTINEZ**

ALL systems go for the start of the Manila Bay rehabilitation tomorrow, Sunday.

This was announced yesterday by Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu, saying that the rehabilitation dubbed as the "Battle for Manila Bay," will bring together more than 5,000 participants, mostly personnel from the DENR and 12 other government agencies tasked by the Supreme Court to clean up and rehabilitate Manila Bay in 2008.

"This is a battle that will be won not with force or arms but with the firm resolve to bring Manila Bay back to life," Cimatu said.

He stressed that Manila Bay, and the environment in general, "is not a lost cause."

"With the commitment and determination of every Filipino to do his share in this rehabilitation effort, we have already won the bat-

tle for Manila Bay," Cimatu added.

After the launching, simultaneous cleanup activities will be held at the Las Piñas-Parañaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area or LPPCHEA and the Marine Tree Park in Navotas in the National Capital Region.

In Region 3, the rehabilitation will be launched in the towns of Obando, Mariveles and Guagua in Bulacan, Bataan and Pampanga provinces, respectively. Meanwhile, a silt curtain will be laid out around a bridge along Manila-Cavite Expressway or CAVITEX, and a cleanup activity at Talaba Dos in Bacor, Cavite.

Aside from the DENR, other agencies taking part in the rehabilitation are the Department of Tourism, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Trade and Industry, Department of National Defense, and Department of Science and

Technology.

Also joining the activities are the Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission, Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, National Housing Authority, Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor, Manila Water Company Inc., Maynilad Water Services Inc., various local government units, non-government organizations, and other stakeholders.

Cimatu said he was grateful for the overwhelming support given by these agencies and all stakeholders for the rehabilitation of Manila Bay.

He explained that the rehabilitation does not only involve cleanup, but also relocation of illegal settlers and ensuring compliance by establishments around Manila Bay to the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 and other environmental laws.

During the launch of the Manila Bay rehabilitation, Cimatu is expected to reveal the names of establishments initially found to

be non-compliant with effluent standards under the country's clean water law.

"We will serve notices of violation to these establishments whose outfalls discharge untreated water to esteros, rivers and other tributaries that flow into Manila Bay," Cimatu said.

The launch will begin with a solidarity walk at 7 a.m. from the Quirino Grandstand to the baywalk area in front of the Rajah Sulayman Park.

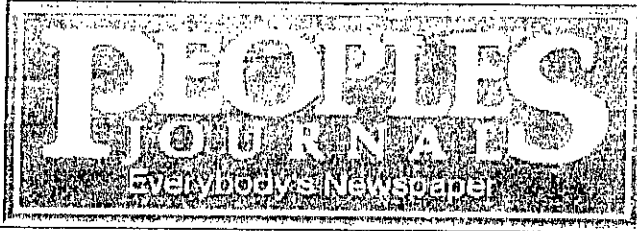
Cimatu will lead the Pledge of Commitment by all stakeholders and declare the start of the Manila Bay rehabilitation.

The DENR aims to reduce the coliform level in Manila Bay to less than 270 most probable number (MPN) per 100 milliliters (ml) and in all esteros to 100 mpn/100ml.

Earlier this month, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte approved the Manila Bay rehabilitation plan proposed by the DENR and gave a budget allocation of P42.95 billion for three years.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



11
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

GANER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

26 JAN 2010

DATE

SEC. CIMATU TO REVEAL POLLUTERS

'Battle for Manila Bay'

starts tomorrow

MORE than 5,000 participants, mostly personnel from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and 12 other government agencies, will start tomorrow the clean-up of Manila Bay in a bid to restore to pristine condition the famous body of water.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu is also expected to reveal the names of establishments initially found to be non-compliant with effluent standards under the country's clean water law.

"We will serve notices of violation to these establishments whose outfalls discharge untreated water to esteros, rivers and other tributaries that flow into Manila Bay," the DENR chief said.

A brief program will be held at the Quirino Grandstand before the campaign dubbed "Battle for Manila Bay" which starts with a solidarity walk at 7 a.m. going to baywalk area in front of the Rajah Sulayman Park.

Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu will lead the Pledge of Commitment by all stakeholders and will declare the start of the Manila Bay rehabilitation.

"It's all systems go for the 'Battle of Manila Bay'. This is a battle that will be won not with force but with firm resolve," Cimatu said.

After the launch, simultaneous clean-up activities will be held at the Las Piñas-Parañaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area and at the Marine Tree Park in Navotas.

In region 3, a separate clean-up activity will also be

launched in the towns of Obando, Mariveles and Guagua in Bulacan, Bataan and Pampanga provinces while another clean-up activity will take place in Talaba Dos in Bacoor, Cavite.

Cimatu said Manila Bay and its environment can still be revived with the commitment and determination of every Filipino to do their share.

Aside from the DENR, other agencies taking part in the rehabilitation are the departments of Tourism, Interior and Local Government, Social Welfare and Development, Trade and Industry, National Defense, and Science and Technology.

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission, Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, National Housing Authority, Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor, Manila Water Company Inc., Maynilad Water Services Inc., various local government units, non-government organizations, and other stakeholders will also join.

The Metropolitan Manila Development Authority said some portions of Roxas Boulevard will be closed to traffic tomorrow for the launching of Manila Bay Rehabilitation Project.

The southbound of Roxas Boulevard from T.M. Kalaw to President Quirino Avenue will be closed to traffic from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.

At around 3 p.m. onwards, the southbound lane of Roxas Boulevard from P. Burgos to V. Sotto will be closed for the 40th Fiesta Del Sto Niño procession.

With Edd Reyes



2 REMATE 26 ENERO 2019 SABADO

BATTLE FOR MANILA BAY SISIMULAN NA NG DENR

HANDANG-HANDA na ang Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) na simulan ang gagawing rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay sa dating na Linggo (Enero 27) upang maibalik ito sa dating ganda at linis.

Ang gagawing rehabilitasyon na tinawag ni DENR Secretary Roy A. Cimatu na "Battle for Manila Bay" ay sama-samang sisimulan ng mahigit sa limang libong katao mula sa nabanggit na ahensya at sa 12 pang government agencies na naatasan ng Supreme Court (SC) para sa Manila Bay rehabilitation noong 2008.

"This is a battle that will be won not with force or arms but with the firm resolve to bring Manila Bay back to life," sabi ni Cimatu.

Ayon pa sa dating hepe ng Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) na ang Manila Bay at ang kalikasan ay hindi kailanman dapat pabayaan.

"With the commitment and determination of every Filipino to do his share in this rehabili-

tation effort, we have already won the battle for Manila Bay," dagdag pa nito.

Pagkatapos ng launching, sisimulan na ang rehabilitation sa Las Piñas-Parañaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area (LPPCHEA) at sa Marine Tree Park sa Navotas City na kapwa nasa National Capital Region (NCR).

Sa Region 3, magkakasabay rin ang gagawing rehabilitasyon sa mga bayan ng Obando, Mariveles at Guagua na mga nasa probinsiya ng Bulacan, Bataan at Pangasinan.

Gagawin naman ang launching sa tulay ng Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX) at ang paglilinis sa Talaba Dos sa Bacoor, Cavite.

Bukod sa DENR, kabilang sa mga ahensyang makikibahagi sa rehabilitasyon ay ang Department of Tourism (DOT); Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG); Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD); Department of Trade and Industry (DTI); Department of National Defense (DND) at Department of

Science and Technology (DOST).

Kasama rin dito ang Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission; Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, National Housing Authority, Presidential Commission for the Urban Poor, Manila Water Company Inc.; Maynilad Water Services Inc.; local government units; non-government organizations at iba pang stakeholders.

Sinabi ni Cimatu na nagpapasalamat siya sa mga nabanggit na ahensya ng gobyerno at iba pang stakeholders dahil sa ibinibigay na suporta ng mga ito para sa rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay.

Bukod sa rehabilitas-

yon, kasama rin sa proyektong ito ang relokasyon sa mga iskwater na naninirahan sa gilid ng Manila Bay at ang pagtupad ng mga establisimiyento sa Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 at iba pang environmental laws.

Sa paglulunsad ng Manila Bay rehabilitation ay sasabihin rin ni Cimatu ang pangalan ng mga establisimiyentong hindi sumusunod sa clean water law.

"We will serve notices of violation to these establishments whose outfalls discharge untreated water to esteros, rivers and other tributaries that flow into Manila Bay," sabi pa ni Cimatu.

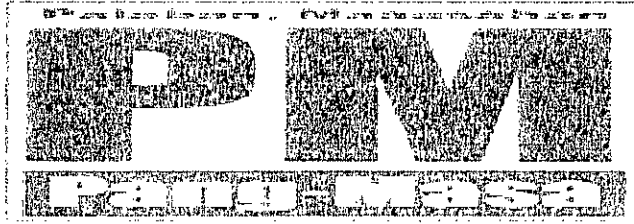
Sisimulan ang programa sa Solidarity Walk bandang

7:00 ng umaga sa Quirino Grandstand hanggang bay walk area sa harapan ng Rajah Sulayman Park.

Pangungunahan din ni Cimatu ang "Pledge of Commitment" ng lahat ng stakeholders bilang pagdedeklara na sisimulan na ang Manila Bay rehabilitation.

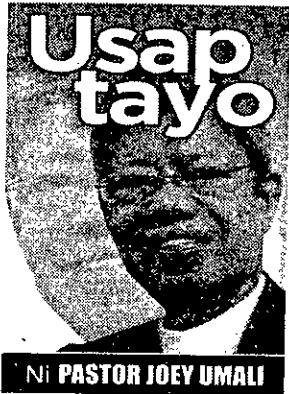
Layunin ng DENR na maibaba ang coliform level ng tubig sa Manila Bay sa 270 most probable number (MPN) kada 100 milliliters (ml) at sa lahat ng esteros sa 100 mpr/100ml.

Kamakailan ay inaprubahan ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte ang Manila Bay rehabilitation na iminungkahi ng DENR at nabigyan ng budget allocation na P47 billion.



26 JAN 2019

DATE



NI PASTOR JOEY UMALI

I-rehab ang Manila Bay; I-rehab ang ating isip

MAYROON pang isang nangangailangan ng rehab bukod sa mga drug addicts, ito'y ang ating mga ilog, dagat, at iba pang tourist destinations. Isa rito'y ang Manila Bay na itinuturing na isa sa pinakamagandang natural harbor o pier sa buong mundo. Mayroon itong sukat na 770 square miles o 2,000 square kilometers na bumabagtas hanggang sa Southwestern Luzon. Sinasabing ang Baseco sa Manila Bay ay kasingganda ng Boracay kung ito lamang ay pinangalagaan.

Bukod sa natural na ganda ng Manila Bay, ito'y isang makasaysayang lugar. Dito naganap ang pagsiklab ng digmaan ng Amerika at Espanya, kung saan sa tinaguriang "Battle of Manila Bay" noong May 1, 1898 ay pinasuko ng Amerika ang Espanya sa pangunguna ni Commodore George Dewey. Gayunman, ayon sa mga makabayang historiador, ito'y isa lamang "mock" o palabas na-giyera sa pagitan ng Amerika at Espanya, dahil hindi magagawang sumuko ng Espanya sa mga rebolusyonaryong Pilipino na noon ay nalalapit na ang panalo. Sa Manila Bay din naganap noong 1574 ang labanan ng mga Kastila at piratang Chinese na si Lim-ah-hong kasama ng tatlong libo niyang tauhan. Mabuti't tinalo ng mga Kastila si Lim-ah-hong, kung hindi, noon pa man ay nasakop na tayo ng China.

Maganda at makasaysayan ang Manila Bay, ngunit pinabayaan natin. Ito ang isang malaki nating problema, wala tayong malasakit sa ating mga likas na yaman. Ang tabi ng Manila Bay ay pinagtayuan ng mahigit sa 200,000 squatters na walang patumangga sa pagtatapon ng dumi rito. Gayundin ang ginagawang pagdudumi ng ilang mga establisimentong itinayo malapit sa

Manila Bay. Noong isang araw, naging viral sa social media ang isang turistang Norwegian na namumulot sa kalsada ng mga basurang itinatapon ng mga Pinoy. Magkahalong hiya at inis ang aking nadama. Hiya sa mga turistang tila higit pa ang pagmamalasakit kaysa atin. Inis sa mga Pilipinong walang pagmamalasakit sa sariling atin.

Kaya napapanahon ang planong rehab ng Manila Bay sa pangunguna ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources. Ang isang malaking hamon ay kung saan illipat ang mahigit sa 200,000 informal settlers na naninirahan sa tabi ng Manila Bay. Ayon sa plano, pwede nang maligo sa Manila Bay pagdating ng Disyembre. Sana'y totoo. Sana'y may sapat na "political will" ang gobyerno na totohanang linisin ang Manila Bay. Sana'y hindi ito "ningas-kugon."

Kung maibabalik ang Manila Bay sa dati niyang ganda, ito'y magiging isang tourist attraction. Higit pa rito, ang karaniwang mamamayan sa Metro Manila ay mayroon nang pupuntahang lugar na kasing-

ganda ng Boracay.

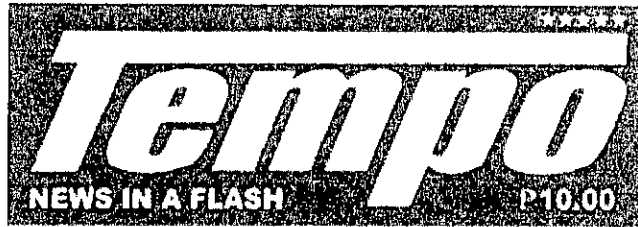
Ang mahigpit na pangangalaga sa ilog, dagat o mga tourist destinations ay dapat ipatupad ng gobyerno. Dapat lumikha ng mga batas na magpapataw ng mahigpit na parusa sa mga sumisira sa kalikasan. Kailangang maging determinado ang gobyerno sa pangangalaga sa kalikasan, katulad ng pagiging determinado nito sa paglaban sa ilegal na droga.

Gayunman, bawat Pilipino ay may responsibilidad sa tagumpay ng hakbanging ito. Hindi lamang ang ating mga "personal properties" ang dapat nating pinagmamalasakitan. Dapat nating ituring na sa atin ang mga kalsada, ilog, dagat at iba pang likas yaman ng ating bansa. Ang kasalanan natin sa kalikasan ay kasalanan natin sa Diyos.

Kung malaking kasalanan ang pagpatay ng tao, malaking kasalanan din ang pagpatay ng kalikasan. Ang pagre-rehab sa Manila Bay ay mangangailangan muna ng pagre-rehab sa takbo ng ating isip. Ang Manila Bay ay sa atin, kung paanong ang ating mga sariling bahay ay sa atin.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



4
PAGE

UPPER
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

26 JAN 2010

DATE

Manila Bay litterbugs face arrest

By ALEXANDRIA SAN JUAN

Ahead of the start of its rehabilitation tomorrow, National Capital Region Police Office chief Director Guillermo Eleazar said yesterday people or establishments caught littering on Manila Bay will be apprehended.

Eleazar said they are setting out plans on implementing the existing ordinances against littering, including the apprehension of litterbugs, in Manila Bay.

"Huhulihin natin 'yun. Nandiyan na ang mga batas, we only have to implement that," Eleazar said during his command visit to the Quezon City Police District.

On December 2008, the Supreme Court issued the mandamus directing government agencies, including the Philippine National Police-Maritime Group, to clean up, rehabilitate, and preserve Manila Bay in their different capacities.

Eleazar said they will implement all guidelines and enforce all existing laws against littering in Manila Bay.

"Basically, to implement the guidelines and existing laws, cops needed to be there. But more than that, we will also help in the rehabilitation to encourage the people to improve the environment situation in Manila Bay," Eleazar said.



Settlers give way to Manila Bay rehab

12,000 Cavite families up for relocation as DENR checks pollution from communities, farms

By Maricar Cinco
@maricarcincoINQ

CALAMBA CITY—Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu on Friday said one of the most difficult tasks in rehabilitating Manila Bay involved dealing with thousands of informal settlers around the water body.

Cimatu, in his speech at the inauguration of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' (DENR) regional office in Calabarzon (Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal and Quezon) here, said a big chunk of pollu-

tants comes from household and livestock waste thrown into water tributaries connected to Manila Bay.

Most households along estuaries also do not have septic tanks or are not connected to proper sewage systems, he said.

Simultaneous cleanup

The government's rehabilitation of the 2,000-square-kilometer Manila Bay kicks off Sunday with a simultaneous coastal cleanup in Metro Manila and Cavite province.

Environment Undersecretary Benny Antiporda, in a separate interview, said the DENR would also begin issuing closure orders to at least four hotels and establishments along Manila Bay found to be violating environmental laws.

The government has set aside P47 billion for the program, which it targets to complete by the end of the administration of President Duterte in 2022.

Cimatu said that in Cavite alone, about 12,000 families of informal settlers along the coastline from Bacoor City to

Ternate town would have to be relocated.

Cimatu also ordered the suspension of environmental compliance certificates issued to livestock and poultry farms in the provinces of Laguna, Batangas and Rizal found to be contributing to pollution in Manila Bay.

Ruth Unlayao, DENR provincial director in Cavite, said the local government planned to move the families to Naic town, but completing the relocation might take them until the end of the year.

In the meantime, Cimatu suggested the use of bucket containers, a method of collecting human waste in buckets filled with organic material as compost, for households lacking toilets.

"I tell you this will not be an easy task for all of us," Cimatu said.

Earning Duzo confidence

But he said the DENR had earned the "President's confidence," especially after the successful rehabilitation of Boracay, the world-famous resort is-

land that the government shut down for six months.

Coliform level in Manila Bay currently tests as high as 330 million most probable number per 100 milliliters.

The government aims to bring it down to a "compliance level" of at least 100 MPN per 100 ml.

Cimatu said coliform level around Boracay used to be at 1 million MPN per 100 ml before the island's closure.

"As you can see the required effort (for Manila Bay) will be about 330 times more," he added. INQ

26 JAN 2010



PAGE

PAGE

UPPER HALF

LOWER HALF

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

Magkakalat sa Manila Bay, aarestuhin

Bago pa simulan ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay sa Linggo, inihayag ni National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) Director Chief Supt. Guillermo Eleazar na aarestuhin ang sinumang tao o establisimyento na mahuhuli sa aktor o mapatutunayang nagtatapon ng basura sa lawa.

Sinabin kahapon ni Eleazar na inilalatag na nila ang mga panuntunan sa pagpapatupad ng mga umiiral nang

ordinansa laban sa pagtatapon ng basura sa Manila Bay, kabilang na ang pag-aaresto sa mga maaaktuhang dinudumihan ang lawa.

"Huhulihin natin 'yun. Nandiyan na ang mga batas, we only have to implement that," sinabi ni Eleazar nang bumisita siya sa Quezon City Police District (QCPD).

Disyembre 2008 nang ipag-utos ng Korte Suprema sa kinauukulang ahensiya

ng gobyerno, kabilang ang Philippine National Police-Maritime Group, na linisin at pangalagaan ang Manila Bay.

"Basically, to implement the guidelines and existing laws, cops needed to be there. But more than that, we will also help [sa rehabilitasyon] to encourage the people to improve the environment situation in Manila Bay," sabi ni Eleazar.

Alexandria Dennise San Juan



4 REMATE 26 ENERO 2019 SABADO



Pindot At Sundot

ni JR Reyes

MAY POLITICAL WILL SI DIGONG SA MANILA BAY

WALA nang duda ang pagkakaroon ng political will ng administrasyon ni Pangulong Rodrigo Duterte dahil sa loob ng mahabang panahon na hindi naipatupad ang paglilinis sa Manila Bay, simulanan na ngayong Enero 27 ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources ang puspung paglilinis nito.

Tiyak na may tata-maang malalaking hotel, establisimiyento, pabrika at maging gusali ng pamahalaan at ospital sa Metro Manila sa gagawing paglilinis pero walang pakialam si Pangulong Duterte dahil kinakailangan na talagang malinis ang Manila Bay dahil umabot na sa bilyon ang lebel ng coliform sa naturang baybayin na malayo sa 100 normal level.

Kung tutuusin, dapat ay noon pa sa panahon ni dating Pang. Benigno "Noy" Aquino III sinimulan ang paglilinis ng Manila Bay dahil noon pa mang 2008 ay may inilabas nang kautusan ang Korte Suprema na nag-

aatas sa mga ahensya ng pamahalaan na linisin at ibalik sa dating ningning ang naturang baybayin pero dahil sa kawalan ng paninindigang pulitikal, hindi ito nangyari at wala rin namang napatawan ng parusa.

Kasalanan din ito, hindi lang ng mga pambansa at lokal na pamahalaan kundi maging ng mga mahistrado dahil wala isa mang ahensya ng pamahalaan ang pinatawan ng parusa batay sa nakasaad sa kanilang kautusan dahil sa hindi pagtatalima sa inilabas nilang Mandamus:

Mabuti na lang at nansin na ito ng kasalukuyang administrasyon at naniniwala tayo na sa ilalim ng pamumuno ni Secretary Roy Cimatu, magagampanang mabuti ng DENR ang paglilinis sa Manila Bay kahit sino pang Poncio Pilato ang tamaan.

Idagdag ko lang na sa gagawing Manila Bay Clean-Up ng DENR, umaasa tayo na maaaksyunan na rin ang rek-

lamo ng mga estudyante, magulang at mga residente sa area ng Binondo sa umaalingasaw sa baho na poso negro ng isang gusali kung saan nag-oopisina ang Emphasis Travel and Tours Inc. sa kanto ng Madrid at Jaboneros Sts. na sakop ng Brgy. 284, Zone 26 District III.

Dito kasi dumaraan ang mga estudyante ng Marcela Agoncillo at Pedro Guevarra Elementary Schools kaya sila ang apektado sa nakasusulasok na amoy at nakadidiring tagas ng dumi ng tao na nagmula sa nasirang sewer ng naturang establisimiyento.

Ipinaililinis naman daw ng may-ari ng gusali ang nasirang sewer at sa katunayan, tinakpan pa ito ng sirang gulong bago sinementuhan pero tumatagas pa rin ang maruming tubig na may dumi ng tao.

Dapat sigurong kumilos na rito, hindi lang ang DENR kundi ang lokal na pamahalaan at ang Maynilad dahil sila ang water concessionaire na nakakasakop sa lugar.

o0o

Maaaring magpadala ng inyong puna at reklamo sa aking email address na jrreyes.0428@gmail.com o pwede rin magpadala ng mensahe sa 0998-2025510.



DATE
PAGE
UPPER HALF
LOWER HALF

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION AND INITIATIVES SERVICE

Reusables, isinulong sa paglulunsad ng rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay

HINHIKAYAT ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang mga makikilahok sa paglulunsad ng rehabilitasyon ng Manila sa Baywalk sa Linggo na simulan ang paggamit ng mga reusable na lalagyan sa pagbabaon ng mga pagkain at tubig.

"We're encouraging them to bring their own reusable containers, like bottles for water they'll drink during the launch," paghihikayat ni DENR Strategic Alliance and Environmental Partnership Division Chief Raymond Virgino.

Ayon kay Virgino, ang pagsusulong nila ng paggamit ng mga reusables ay dahil maaaring mapadpad sa Manila Bay ang mga plastik at papel na lalagyan na itinatapon ng mga tao matapos gamitin, at nakakadagdag sa polusyon sa tubig at nagpaparami sa tam bak na ngang basura.

"Drinking from and packing food in reusable containers instead will help reduce such a volume and pollution in Manila Bay," saad pa ng opisyal.

Patuloy namang nagpaalala ang mga awtoridad laban sa mga sakit na maaaring makuha mula sa tubig ng Manila Bay, lalo na dahil ayon sa DENR, ang ilang dekada nang pagdaloy ng basura at maruming tubig sa lawa ay nagpataas sa antas ng coliform bacteria roon sa mahigit 330 million most probable number (MPN) per 100 milliliters.

Ang ligtas na coliform level ay nasa 100 MPN kada 100 milliliters, ayon sa DENR.

Layunin ng kagawaran at ng mga katuwang nitong sektor na maibaba ang coliform level sa Manila Bay sa ligtas na antas. Ayon sa mga eksperto, matatagpuan ang coliform bacteria sa dumi ng mga tao at hayop, at ang kontaminadong tubig ay maaaring magdulot ng karamdaman.

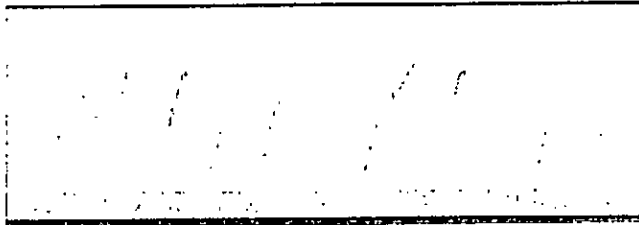
Nakaangkla ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay sa desisyon ng Korte Suprema noon pang 2008 na nag-uutos sa 13 ahensiya ng pamahalaan na linisin, ayusin, at pangalagaan ang Manila Bay.

Ayon pa kay Virgino, bukod sa mga katuwang na sektor, inimbitahan din nila sa paglulunsad ng rehabilitasyon ang iba't ibang stakeholders, lokal na pamahalaan, iba't ibang industriya, at mga paaralan upang lumahok sa pagdiriwang.

Maasayang makikibahagi sa paglulunsad ng programa sina Environment Secretary Roy Cimatu, Interior Secretary Eduardo Año, at Tourism Secretary Bernadette Romulo-Puyat.

Ang kalihim din ng DENR ang nakatakdang opisyal na magdeklara ng pagsisimula ng rehabilitasyon ng Manila Bay, kung saan magkakaroon ng sabay-sabay na clean-up activities sa Metro Manila, Central Luzon, at Calabarzon.

PNA



26 JAN 2013

DATE



Editorial

Daming establishment na nagsusuka ng lason

DESIDIDO si DENR Sec. Roy Cimatu na linisin ang Manila Bay at gusto na niyang umplisahan ito sa lalong madaling panahon. Nang inspeksiyunin niya ang mga estero na nakasubo sa Manila Bay, natuklasan niyang ang Estero de San Antonio Abad sa Malate, Manila ang nagluluwa ng mga dumi at basura. At ang mga dumi at basura ay galing sa Manila Zoo. Kaya mabilis ang babala niya sa management ng Manila Zoo na gumawa ng sariling sewage treatment plant (STP) o kasuhan sila. Ayon kay Cimatu, nakasaad sa batas na dapat may sariling STPs ang lahat nang establishment. Sa ilalim ng Republic Act 9275 o ang Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, nararapat na masiguro ang kalidad ng tubig na dumadaloy sa Manila Bay.

Dahil sa babala ni Cimatu, ipinasara ni Manila mayor Joseph Estrada ang Manila Zoo. Susunod umano sa direktiba na dapat ay mayroong STP ang Manila Zoo. Sa pagpapasara, aminado na tala-gang nagluluwa ng maruming tubig at basura ang Manila Zoo sa Manila Bay. Dapat nga lang isara ito at tuparin ang nakasaad sa batas. Kakatwa na kung hindi pa nagkaroon ng direktiba sa DENR si President Duterte na linisin ang Manila Bay, hindi matutuklasan na pawang dumi ang isinusuka ng Manila Zoo. Mahigit 50 taon na ang Manila Zoo at ganito na rin kahaba ang panahon na nagsusuka ito ng lason. Grabe!

Kung naging matigas naman si Cimatu laban sa Manila Zoo, dapat ganito rin ang ipakita niya laban sa iba pang nagpaparumi at nagsusuka ng lason sa makasaysayang Manila Bay. Maraming nakapaligid na establishments na wala ring STP at tapon na lang nang tapon ng kanilang dumi sa dagat. Walang ipinagkaiba sa Boracay na dinumihan ng mga walang disiplinang resort owners. Pero dahil desidido si Cimatu, nagawa niyang linisin ang Boracay at binantaan ang mga magdudumi roon.

Maraming malalaking establishments, pabrika, hotel, malls ang nasa baybayin ng Manila Bay. Ito ang dapat bigyang babala ni Cimatu sapagkat mas makapangyarihan ang mga ito. Katitling lang ang Manila Zoo kung tutuusin. Kapag nagawa ni Cimatu na banggain ang mga "higante" sa baybayin ng Manila Bay, pupurihin siya nang mamamayan.



Kailangan ng mga ospital ng common waste treatment facility—DoH

PANAHON na upang magkaroon ang mga ospital sa central Visayas, na pinatatakbo ng pambansa at probinsiyal na pamahalaan, ng isang common machine para sa treatment pathogenic waste materials.

Ito ang sinabi ni Department of Health (DoH) 7 (Central Visayas) director Dr. Jaime Bernadas,

kamakailan.

Ayon sa opisyal, iminungkahi na ng DoH-7 sa central office ang pagbili ng mga makina na kakayanin ang arawang produksiyon ng mga basura na nagmumula sa mga ospital na pinapatakbo ng DoH at ng probinsiyal na pamahalaan.

"Although the machine may not be easy to procure because it is costly, we need it because I see that there is also a need to protect our environment," pagbabahagi ni Bernadas, sa isang panayam sa radyo.

Aniya, hindi na kinakaya ng mga pribadong service providers ang bulto ng araw-araw na basura na inilalabas ng mga pribado at pampublikong ospital.

"Under our health facility enhancement

program, we will assist our national (government) and private hospitals (in) their waste disposal," paiwanag ni Bernadas.

Pagbabahagi ng direktor, bawat isang ospital ay naglalabas ng 500 hanggang 1,000 kilo ng dumi kada buwan.

May anim na ospital ang nasa pamamahala ng pamahalaan sa pamamagitan ng DoH, aniya.

Aminado naman ang regional health director na maraming ospital ang nagnanais na matayo ng isang hospital waste treatment facility, ngunit hindi ito maisakatuparan dahil sa halaga ng mga makina.

Dahil naman sa bulto ng basura mula sa mga pribado at pampublikong ospital, hindi na makayanan ng mga pribadong kontraktor

na pamahalaan ang koleksiyon at paglili sa mga kagamitan na inilalabas ng ospital.

Nitong Huwebes, inanunsiyo Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Central Visayas (DENR) director Gilbert Gonzales na plano nila inspeksyunin ang mga waste management at treatment facilities sa lahat ng mga resort hotel at malls sa buong rehiyon.

Ang aksiyong ito ng DoH ay tug makaraang maharap sa P250,000 mu ang Davao City Environment Care Inc. ng Environmental Management Bureau nang madiskubre ang mahigit 100 kilo basura mula sa mga ospital na nakaluta sa baybayin ng Mactan Island.

PH



Manila Zoo ng ating kabataan

HALA BIRA!



NI ALLAN ENCARNACION

SINO ba naman sa atin ang hindi nakapunta sa Manila Zoo na nasa kanato ng Adriatico at Quirino Avenue?

Lahat ng henerasyon ng batang Pilipino ay may picture na katabi ng lokong Giraffe na pagkahababaha ng leeg at nakakulong sa hawla na gawa sa cyclone wire.

Tanda ko pa ang isang salbaheng unggoy sa Manila Zoo na dudumi siya tapos ibabato sa mga taping nanonood sa kanya. Para sa akin, ang bago sa populasyon ng mga hayup sa zoo ay si Mali na higitang elepante.

May elepante na rin naman, pero hindi ko

natatandaan kung may pangalan. Deon din ako nakakita ng mga Parrot na nagsasalita at ang unang isisigaw kapag dumaan ka, "pangit, pangit. Akala ko, galit lang sa akin ang Parrot dahil nasigawan din ako. Lahat pala ng dumaan ay ganoon ang kanyang isinisigaw kaya lumakas ang loob ko, hindi pala talaga ako pangit!

May dati ring Martinez bird dyan na walang alam sabihin kung hindi "kumain ka na, kumain ka na."

Hindi ko na kabisado ang populasyon ng Manila Zoo ngayon dahil ang senaryo na ikinukuwento ko ay dekada 70 pa. Baka grade 2 or grade 3 lang ako nang una kong mapuntahan ang zoo na ito.

Nitong Wednesday lang ulit ako napunta sa Manila Zoo -- saktong sarado pa! May paskil sa labas na Paunawa sa Publiko mula kay Mayor Joseph Estrada. Kailangang ipasara ang alkalde ang zoo dahil sa rekomendasyon ng DENR. Kung si Mayor Erap ang tatanungin, 'ayaw niyang

isara dahil alam ng alkalde na pinakamurang entertainment ang Manila Zoo para sa lahat ng uri ng populasyon ng bansa, lalo na sa Maynila.

Pero sa pag-aaral ng DENR, isa sa mga pollutant sa Manila Bay ang zoo. May direktiba si Pangulong Duterte na ayusin at linisin ang Manila Bay sa tulong ng pondong P47 bilyon.

Suportado ni Mayor Erap ang proyektong ito kaya nga siya mismo ang nagkusang nag-utos ng clearing operations sa baywalk na pintuan ng Manila Bay at isagawa ang rehabilitasyon ng Manila Zoo.

Hindi madali ang desisyon ni Mayor Erap na pansamantalang ipasara ang Manila Zoo pero kailangan niyang ipagawa ang waste treatment facility. Ang ibig sabihin, iyong mga dumi ng mga hayup sa zoo ay kailangang mapunta sa central sewerage system treatment para malinis muna bago pakawalan patungo sa Manila Bay.

Napabayaan talaga ang

Manila Zoo at lahat halos ng pasilidad sa Maynila kaya sobrang laki ng problema ni Erap nang maging alkalde siya.

Dinatnan din ni Erap na simot ang pondo ng lungsod at may utang pa na P8 bilyon. Siguro katulad ng Manila Zoo, naisip na rin ni Erap na ipasara sana ang city hall sa unang araw ng kanyang pagka-alkalde noong 2013 dahil walang kapera-pera.

Pero katulad ng Manila Zoo, major rehabilitation din ang ginawa ni Erap kaya financially sound na ang city matapos ang kanyang dalawang termino at nabayaran pa ang lahat ng utang.

Umaasa tayong katulad ng ginawang pagsasaayos ni Mayor Erap sa city hall, ganoon din ang mangyayari sa Manila Zoo para muli itong mabuhay at mapakinabangan ng ating mga kabataan, lalo na ang mga mag-aaral na madalas ay doon ang educational tour.

See you soon Manila Zoo!

allanpunglo@gmail.com



...While cautious Boracay task force eyes 'close-out' dates for cruise trips

By MA. STELLA F. ARNALDO
Special to the BUSINESSMIRROR

THE Boracay Inter-Agency Task Force (BIATF) is proposing to prohibit cruise ships from traveling to the resort island during major Philippine holidays, in an effort to stick to recommended carrying capacity numbers.

Environment Undersecretary for Attached Agencies Sherwin S. Rigor told the BusinessMirror that during a recent meeting of the task force, one of the measures

discussed was "a close-out schedule, such that during Philippine holidays, no cruise ships will be allowed to dock."

SEE "BORACAY TASK FORCE," A2



VIEW of the Boracay Island from Mount Luho, October 11, 2015. TEE JUN HUIEI | DREAMSTIME.COM



Boracay task force

CONTINUED FROM A1

A separate source who attended the meeting confirmed this proposal, adding that among the close-out periods mulled are: January 29-February 12, 2019 (Chinese New Year); April 16-23, 2019 (Holy Week); April-May 2019 (Summer); October 26-November 8, 2019 (All Saints' Day/All Souls' Day); and December 20, 2019-January 5, 2020 (Christmas).

A study commissioned last year by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources indicated that Boracay, considered by many foreign travel publications as among the best islands in the world, can only support 19,125 tourists at any given time.

"There will be a scheduling [of cruise trips]; but for now the travel of cruise ships are held in abeyance. There will be decisions made how many passengers will be allowed to disembark from the ship," said Rigor, adding that, "even if the ship has a 4,000 passenger capacity, not all of them will disembark. Limiting the tourists to the island will be part of the guidelines. If you're just going on an island tour, that's fine."

Those who attended said meeting were cruise ship agents, shore excursion representatives, as well as Boracay Island stakeholders.

During said meeting, the source said tourism officials averred, "average arrivals in Boracay by all transportation methods

since it reopened has been [plus or minus] 4,500 per day. There was a peak of 7,000 arrivals on the day Genting Cruises' MS *World Dream* cruise ship arrived in Boracay last December." The tourism officials stressed that at no time did the carrying capacity of 19,125 tourists was exceeded.

The BIATF is also considering to direct large cruise ships to urban ports while expedition ships, which usually carry not more than 200 passengers, could dock in Boracay, Camiguin and Palawan. Alternative cruise destinations include Subic, Bataan, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, Bohol (Tagbilaran Port) and Bacolod, according to the Department of Tourism's (DOT) presentation during the meeting.

For his part, Rigor said the DENR will be installing pontoons in two stations and at island-hopping destinations to ease the embarkation and disembarkation of cruise passengers. "One pontoon will be brought shipside.... Island-hopping tourist will start offshore from the pontoons. Another will be positioned at Station 3 for disembarkation of passengers to the main beach. The tender boats will not approach the shore," said a separate source. "Other cruise tourists who will tour other areas of Boracay will use the Cagban port," the source added.

Rigor stressed, "What's important is that many hotels and tour

operators handling island-hopping activities, will benefit from the new guidelines. The cruise passengers no longer have to go to the island directly just to avail of these tours."

He added, the agency will also be identifying "alternative anchor sites." There were no discussions on the pollution caused by cruise ships during the meeting, he noted.

The Boracay Cruise Ship Assessment Team, chaired by the DOT, will have as its members officials from the DENR, Department of the Interior and Local Government, local and provincial governments, the Philippine Ports Authority, and the private sector (e.g., Tourism Congress of the Philippines and Boracay Foundation Inc.).

As per the DOT presentation, the agency will publish a travel guide for day trips for cruise tourists. "All cruise tourists will be guided by local guides or will be on local tour excursions," according to the source present at the meeting.

DOT Undersecretary for Tourism Regulation Coordination and Resource Generation Arturo P. Boncato Jr., who chairs the cruise ship assessment team, said the guidelines on cruises to Boracay will be issued "very soon." According to the Clean Cruising web site, there were some 26 cruise tours scheduled from January to October this year, which included Boracay on their itineraries.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Balita

ANG NANGUNDAKANG PAKAYAGANG TAGALOG SA BANGSA



DATE

DENR employee, pinatay

Patuloy ang imbestigasyon ng mga awtoridad sa kaso ng pagpatay sa isang kawani ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) sa Nasipit, Agusan del Norte, kamakailan.

Kinilala ng Nasipit Municipal Police, ang biktima na si Imee Tampan, 34, ng Bgy. Punta ng nabanggit na bayan.

Ang bangkay ni Tampan ay natagpuan na lumulutang sa ilog sa naturang lugar, nitong Huwebes ng umaga, ayon sa mga imbestigador.

Sa paunang ulat, natuklasang hinampas ng matigas na bagay ang ulo ni Tampan bago ito itinapon sa dagat.

Naniniwala naman si Felix Tampan na pinatay ng dating nobyo ang kanyang anak matapos umano itong makipaghiwalay sa kanya.

Agad na inaresto ng mga awtoridad ang suspek na hindi muna binanggit ang pagkakakilanlan.

Fer Taboy



Trusted Since 1898

The Manila Times

A3
PAGE

UPPER
TOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BATTER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

26 JAN 2019

DATE

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Miners want action vs ^{A3} illegal small-scale mining

THE Chamber of Mines of the Philippines (COMP) on Friday urged government anew to intensify the campaign against illegal small-scale mining activities after a landslide left four people dead and three miners missing during the height of Tropical Depression "Amang" in Mount Mahupaw, Agusan del Norte.

In a statement, COMP said such incidents could have been avoided if small-scale mining activities, including their safety practices and environmental performance, were closely monitored under the *Minahang Bayan* setup recognized by the government.

Minahang Bayan refers to a common area where small-scale miners are permitted.

COMP, composed of the country's largest mining companies, argued that small-scale mining does not follow the same stringent safety and environment standards required of legitimate large-scale mining operators.

It said the operations of small-scale

mining were the main contributors to the poor image of the entire mining industry in the Philippines.

"The Mines and Geosciences Bureau estimates that more than 60 percent of the gold mined in the Philippines are from unregulated [small-scale mining] operations. Apart from endangering the lives of poor mining workers and destroying the environment, illegal [small-scale mining] do not pay taxes," COMP said.

Under the law for small-scale mining, only three metallic minerals are allowed — gold, silver and chromite.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources designates the Minahang Bayan upon the endorsement of the Provincial Mining Regulatory Boards (PMRBs). Republic Act 7076 or the Minahang Bayan Law gives the PMRB the authority to, among others, formulate and implement rules and regulations related to small-scale mining.

EIREENE JAIRÉE GOMEZ



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

PEOPLES JOURNAL Tonight

6
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

26 JAN 2010

DATE

SGMA to help 5K families get titles

By **RYAN PONCE PACPACO**

SPEAKER Gloria Macapagal Arroyo has vowed to help more than 5,000 urban poor families in Parola, Manila get their land titles.

Speaking during yesterday's awarding ceremonies of Certificate of Land Awards to some 80 beneficiaries in Parola, Binondo, Arroyo said in a statement that she will ask Negros Occidental Rep. Albee Benitez to convene the Oversight Committee Housing which he heads to facilitate the awarding of titles to the urban poor beneficiaries in Parola, both in Binondo and Tondo.

"Magpapa-convene tayo ng Oversight sa Committee on Housing kay Cong. Benitez para maayos natin ang mga titulo ninyo," Arroyo told the residents.

Arroyo went to Parola

yesterday to lead the awarding of CELAs to beneficiaries. It was the first time the first batch of CELAs were distributed to residents since 2004.

Arroyo first went to the house of Lucy Santos in Gate 15, Area D to see condition of the community. Santos was the resident who first talked to then President Arroyo in 2004 when she asked for help to give housing security in their barangay.

As a result of her consultations with Santos and the homeowners' organization in the area, Arroyo issued Presidential Proclamation 581 in March 2004 setting aside more than 5 hectares in Parola in Tondo and in Binondo for socialized housing for the informal settlers in the area.

But since she issued the proclamation, the giving of titles was delayed as several government agencies had laid their claims over

the property.

Arroyo was told that both the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and the Philippine National Railways were both claiming ownership over the Tondo side of Parola which has delayed the purchase of the lot areas by the residents.

"Nalaman ko na pinag-aagawan pala ng DENR at PNR kasi kapag nabayaran na ninyo ang inyong lupa sino raw ang tatanggap ng pera? DENR ba o PNR?" She told the residents.

The Binondo side of Parola is also experiencing the same problem because a portion of the land is being claimed by the Government Service Insurance System.

As a result, Arroyo said she has instructed Manila Reps. Yul Servo and Manuel Lopez to coordinate with Benitez to convene his Oversight Committee on Housing to summon the said

government offices and other attached agencies to thresh out the issues with respect to the land titling in Parola. "Hingin natin sa Chairman ng Housing, si Albee Benitez na tawagin ang GSIS, ang PNR at ang DENR sa Kongreso sa ganon doon na mismo ayusin natin ang pagmamay-ari at doon na mismo na ipaliwanag natin sa GSIS na ang tanging pwede nilang bentahan ng lupa ay yung mga maralitang nakatira doon," she said.

She said the oversight committee hearings will be held despite the start of the campaign period.

Speaker Arroyo also clarified that by going around the country, she is not after any post. "Muli hindi ako naghahabol ng kahit anong pwesto, tapos na ako. Hinahabol ko na lang ang mga puso ninyo para maalala ninyo ako pagkababa ko sa pwesto," she pointed out.



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Founded Since 1938

The Manila Times

A 7
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

EDITORIAL
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

26 JAN 2013

DATE

Nation in briefs ^{A-7}

TROOPS SENT FOR TRAPPED MINERS IN AGUSAN

ZAMBOANGA CITY: The military has dispatched more soldiers on Friday to help search for three missing miners buried in landslide inside tunnels in Mount Manhupao in Jabonga, Agusan del Norte. The three were missing since January 20 after torrential rains triggered the landslide in Barangay Bangonay that killed four people, according to Lt. Col. Ezra Balagtey, spokesman for the Eastern Mindanao Command. He said Maj. Gen. Felimon Santos, division commander, ordered the deployment of additional military rescuers to help search for the missing miners. They were identified as Rex Penig, Jay-ay Matanog and another known only by his first name Gang-gang. Mount Manhupao is a known gold rush area in Agusan del Norte where small-scale miners dug holes despite the dangers posed by landslides and collapse of makeshift tunnels. **AL JACINTO**



PARA sa katulad ko na kinalakihan ang isdang tawilis, nakalulungkot na malaman na ang isa sa masasabi natin na uri ng isda na makikita lamang sa Filipinas ay nanganganib na maubos o mawala na nang tuluyan sa mundo. Ito ay batay sa ulat ng International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) na isinama nila ang sari ng *Sardinella tawilis* o tinatawag din na *Bombon Sardines* sa listahan ng mga endangered species.

Isa sa pinakapaborito kung ulam ay ang pritong tawilis. Lalo na kung maganda ang pagkaprito nito at malutong sabay sa sawsawan ng

suka na may toyo at siling labuyo. Kasabay nito ay ginisang monggo at mainit na kanin. Talo-talo na itong pangtanghalian o panghapunan. Subalit dahil sa nasabing ulat ng IUCN, tila hindi ko na madalas na matitikman ang paborito kong ulam.

Ang uri ng *Sardinella* ay kadalasang makikita lamang sa tubig alat. Kaya ang mga sardinas ay nahuhuli lamang sa karagatan. Subalit ayon sa mga teyorya, ang tawilis noon ay makikita sa dalampasigan at karagatan ng Balayan Bay sa Batangas. Ngunit noong tatlong siglong nakaraan, pumutok ang Bulkang Taal na nagdulot sa paggawa ng isang lawa o dagat-dagatan. Nakulong

ISALBA ANG TAWILIS

ang uri ng tawilis dito na tawag natin ngayon ay Taal Lake. Dahil dito, nagbago at umakma ang nasabing isda upang mabuhay sa tubig tabang. Kaya ang tawilis ay makikita lamang sa Taal Lake.

Noong araw ay napakarami ang tawilis sa Taal Lake. Ang huli ng mga mangingisda noon ay sagana. Umaabot ang tawilis sa Visayas at Mindanao. Katunayan, ang tawag sa tawilis sa Visaya ay tunsoy nguni't hindi mo mahahanap ang tawilis kahit saan man sa Filipinas. Sa Taal Lake sa lalawigan ng Batangas lamang.

Hindi kataka-taka ang mga dahilan kung bakit nanganganib na ang tawilis. Unang dahilan ay ang 'over fishing'. Tila walang regulasyon ang ating pamahalaan sa paghuli ng tawilis. Wala

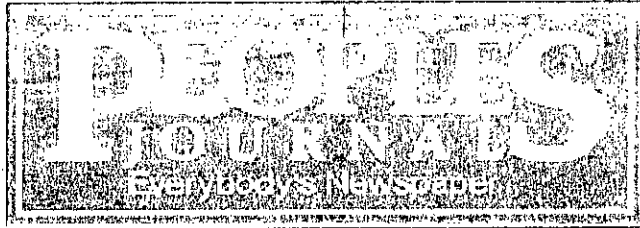
kasing regulasyon sa sukat ng laki ng tawilis. Kaya maski na maliit o bata pa ang edad ng isda ay nilalambat nila. Aba'y talaga namang mauubos nga ang tawilis dahil dito. Sa ibang bansa, mahigpit sila rito. May sukat ang mga butas ng lambat upang ang mga bata o maliliit na isda ay makalusot sa lambat at may pagkakataon para lumaki at makapagsilang pa ng kanilang uri upang patuloy ang paglaganap nila.

Ang isa pang dahilan, ayon sa IUCN, ay ang polusyon ng Taal Lake. Tulad din sa nangyayari sa Manila Bay, ang walang habas na pagtapon ng basura at dumi sa dagat ay nagresulta sa kawalan ng marine life sa Manila Bay. Dahil sa paglaki ng populasyon sa paligid ng Taal Lake, kasunod nito ay ang pagdami rin ng mga itinapon na basura at dumi rito. Mabuti pa ang Manila Bay, may lusutan ito sa West Philippine Sea. Samantala ang Taal Lake ay wala. Ang pagdami rin ng mga resort at kabahayan sa paligid ng Taal Lake ay maaari ring sanhi ng pagsira ng paglaganap ng tawilis.

May batayan ang IUCN upang isama ang tawilis sa endangered species. Ang laki raw ng ibinawas ng populasyon ng tawilis simula noong 1998. At halos 49% daw ang bawas ng huli sa nakaraang 10 taon.

Huwag sanang balewalain ng pamahalaan ang ulat ng IUCN, lalo na ang DENR. May mandato silang protektahan ang tawilis. Tulad ng Tamaraw na makikita lamang sa Filipinas sa isla ng Mindoro, nagsikap ang pamahalaan kasama ang pribadong sektor upang matagumpay na palaganapin muli ang Tamaraw na nanganiib noon na mabura ang lahi sa mundo.

May panahon pa upang maisalba ang tawilis ng hindi ito mabura sa mundo. Kailangan lamang ay magsakripisyo muna tayong lahat na huwag hulihin at kumain ng tawilis. Hayaan muna na ito upang manganak at dumami ulit. Oo nga pala, ano na rin ba ang nangyari sa isdang Maliputo na makikita rin lamang sa Taal Lake? Kilala ang Maliputo sa sarap ng lasa nito. Mahirap na ring makahuli ng Maliputo. Sana ay mabigyang-pansin din ito.



26 JAN 2010

DATE

P46B from road users' fund to develop Bicol River Basin

President Rodrigo Duterte's plan to revive the Bicol River Basin Development Program to solve the perennial flooding in the Bicol River Basin area is an example of a Disaster Risk Reduction-led sustainable development initiative, according to Albay Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda.

During his recent visit to Bicol, the President pledged to fund a massive flood control program with some P46 billion from the road user's tax to solve the frequent disastrous floods that destroy huge agricultural crops in the Bicol River Basin (BRB) area comprising 317,103 hectares straddling Albay, Camarines Sur and Camarines Norte. The area has abundant resources and provides the ecological services support of communities in the area, with

about 77% or 243,800 hectares of it cultivated as agricultural lands. Close to 81% of the areas within the BRB are relatively flat and prone to flooding.

After 40 years of neglect, Salceda said, Bicolanos are glad the BRB -- a most central economic pillar of Bicol's development -- is finally getting serious government attention. He proposed that instead of focusing only on solving the flooding alone, "the government should focus on its comprehensive integrated area development, which has received little national funding despite robust lobbying by the Regional Development Council."

This development, Salceda noted, has turned the adversity of Usman into an opportunity to fix national attention and funding on a long-term

development program for Bicol. The lawmaker is a member of the House Committee on Bicol Recovery and Economic Development. He chaired and steered the Bicol Regional Development Council from 2007 to 2016 when he was Albay governor.

Salceda said the government's long-term Bicol River Basin Development Program (BRBDP) masterplan, started in the '70s, would bring the BRB area into the "mainstream of national development by increasing rice production, improving rural income, creating employment opportunities, and upgrading the living standards of the local population through a combination of irrigation development, watershed development and flood control."



SABADO 26 ENERO 2019 REMATE 9

MAYNILAD GUMASTOS NG P23.3 BILLION PARA SA WASTEWATER PROJECTS MULA NOONG 2007

ANG West Zone concessionaire na Maynilad Water Services, Inc. (Maynilad) ay namuhunan ng P23.3 bilyon upang mapabuti ang imprastruktura ng wastewater at mas pinalawig ang sewerage coverage sa West Zone mula noong nare-privatization ang kompanya noong 2007.

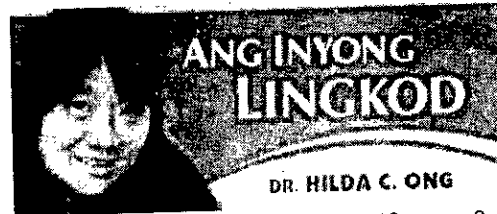
Ang pamumuhunan na ito na nagtataguyod ng mga bagong wastewater treatment facilities at rehabilitasyon ng mga umiiral na pagkuha ng mga bagong vacuum trak para sa paglilinis ng septic tank at pag-install ng mga bagong linya ng alkantariya, bukod pa dyan, mas tumaas ang sewerage coverage mula sa 6% noong 2007 hanggang 20% sa pagtatapos ng 2018.

"Increasing sewerage coverage by just one percent

requires an average investment of about P1.6 billion, so the level of investment to enhance the wastewater infrastructure is huge. Nevertheless, this is something we have to do to ensure environmental sustainability," sabi ni Maynilad President and CEO Ramoncito S. Fernandez.

"We have a roadmap towards the attainment of 100% coverage by the end of the concession period, and we are working with our government partners to facilitate completion of our sewerage projects despite right-of-way conflicts, permit issuance delays, and lot acquisition issues," dagdag ni Fernandez.

Kamakailan lamang, nakumpleto ang mga bagong sewage treatment plant sa Pasay at Parañaque, sa ngayon, ang Maynilad ay nagpapatukbo ng 19 Sewage Treatment Plants, dalawang Sewage and Septage Treatment



Plants, at isang Plantage Treatment Plant na may pinagsamang treatment capacity na tinatayang 662,000 kubiko metro ng wastewater kada araw.

Kasalukuyan, ang Maynilad ay gumagawa rin ng karagdagang wastewater treatment facilities sa Valenzuela, Cavite City, Tunasan at Culpang sa Muntinlupa. Kapag makumpleto sa 2020, maaaring mapataas ng Maynilad ang sewerage coverage sa West Zone hanggang 26%. Samantala, ang mga lugar na hindi nakakonekta sa sewer network ng Maynilad, bibigyan naman sila ng mga serbisyong paglilinis ng septic tank.

Ang Maynilad ay ang pinakamalaking pribadong konsesyoner sa tubig sa Pilipinas sa mga tuntunin ng customer base. Ito ang ahente at kontratista ng Metropolitan Wa-

terWorks and Sewerage System (MWSS) para sa West Zone ng Greater Manila Area, na binubuo ng mga lungsod ng Manila (ilang bahagi), Quezon City (ilang bahagi), Makati (kanluran ng South Super Highway), Caloocan, Pasay, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa, Valenzuela, Navotas at Malabon, lahat sa Metro Manila; mga lungsod ng Cavite, Bacoor at Imus, at mga bayan ng Kawit, Noveleta at Rosario, lahat sa Cavite Province.



Trusted Since 1898

The Manila Times

blp
PAGE

UPPER
LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

CORONAL

CARTOON

26 JAN 2018

DATE

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Rare pangolins perish in wildlife rescue

WASHINGTON, D.C.: When Chinese police found them in the trunk of a smuggler's car, 33 of the trafficked pangolins — endangered scaly mammals from southern China — were still alive, wrapped in plastic bags soaked with their own urine.

But the fate of the creatures — whose scales are worth nearly their weight in silver on the black market — was not a happy one. Every last pangolin died in government captivity within a few months of the August 2017 seizure.

A pioneering environmental nonprofit in Beijing has launched an investigation, called "counting pangolins," to figure out what happens to such animals recovered from the illegal wildlife trade. Its findings so far highlight discrepancies between environmental laws and outcomes.

China is hardly unique. The number of environmental laws on the books worldwide has increased 38-fold since 1972, according to an exhaustive UN Environment report released Thursday. But the political will and capacity to enforce those laws often lags — undermining global efforts to curb issues like wildlife trafficking, air pollution and climate change, the report found.

"The law doesn't self-execute," said Carl Bruch, a study co-author and director of international programs at the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C.

Each of the 33 pangolins transferred to the care of a government-run wildlife rescue center in China's Guangxi province died within three months — according to records obtained by the nonprofit China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation and shown to the Associated Press.

What's still unclear is what happened to their bodies.

Pangolins are insect-eating, scaly mammals — playfully described by the International Union for Conservation of Nature as "resembling an artichoke with legs and a tail." Their scales — made of keratin, the same material in human finger nails — are in high demand for Chinese traditional medicine, to purportedly cure arthritis, promote breast-feeding for mothers, and boost male virility, although there is no scientific backing for these beliefs.

The price of pangolin scales in China has risen from \$11 per kilogram in the 1990s to \$470 in 2014, according to researchers at Beijing Forestry University.

Scientists have designated all eight species of pangolins as being at risk of extinction — four species in Asia, and four in Africa. More than 1 million pangolins were trafficked between 2004 and 2014 — for their scales, meat and



HIGH DEMAND In this March 16, 2018 file photo, a pangolin from the Johannesburg Wildlife Veterinary Hospital is taken to a nearby field to forage for food near Johannesburg. Their scales — made of keratin, the same material as in human finger nails — are in high demand for Chinese traditional medicine, to allegedly cure several ailments, although there is no scientific backing for these beliefs. AP PHOTO

blood — with China and Vietnam as the largest markets. In the last two decades, the number of pangolins worldwide has dropped by about 90 percent.

In 2016, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) adopted a worldwide ban on commercial trade in pangolins, and China later approved that ban. Pangolins are also listed as a protected species in China. While Chinese state-run media have publicized a few high-profile poacher busts, watchdogs say a thriving black market for endangered-animal parts persists.

In November 2017, customs officials in Shenzhen seized 13.1 tons (11.9 metric tonnes) of pangolin scales — reportedly the largest-ever seizure of scales from Africa — according to state media. The penalties offenders face are not always publicized, but in another case involving a smaller shipment of scales, two smugglers received prison sentences of five years, state media said.

"It's significant that China has adopted laws against trade in many endangered species, but the law itself isn't enough to protect a species from extinction," said Jinfeng Zhou, director of the China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation.

Zhou wants the government to issue public records tracking all living and dead pangolins seized by authorities — and to offer evidence that contraband, including pangolin scales, is destroyed before it enters black markets.

"We are determined to know what happens to the pangolins," said Sophia Zhang, a researcher at the biodiversity group. After reading news reports about the August 2017 poaching bust, she filed information requests to government agencies and traveled to Guangxi to visit the wildlife rescue center. AP



Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



26 JAN 2019

DATE

NCR-TODA members binigyan ng TESDA scholarships

TUMULONG ang Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) sa pagtugon sa mga hinang at isyu ng mga miyembro ng National Capital Region - Tricycle Operators and Drivers' Association (NCR-TODA) Coalition.

Ito ay sa pamamagitan ng paglaan ng paunang 200 TESDA scholarship slots para sa mga miyembro ng NCR-TODA Coalition upang madagdagan ang kanilang kaalaman at magkaroon ng iba pang oportunidad upang kumita.

Ang TESDA Certificate of Scholarship Commitment para sa TODA ay iginawad nina TESDA Scholarships Management Office Director-in-Charge Sonia S. Lipio at Pasay/Makati District Director Angelina M. Carreon kasama si dating Special Assistant to the President,

Sec. Bong Go na tinanggap naman, sa ngalan ng kowalisyon, ni Mr. Ismael O. Sevilla, presidente ng NCR-TODA Coalition.

Ito ay naganap sa idinaos na 3rd TODA Summit sa Cuneta Astrodome, Pasay City noong Enero 23, 2019.

Magkakaroon pa ng pag-uusap para matukoy ang mga training na angkop sa mga benepisyaryo at kung saan ito gaganapin.

Si Pangulong Rodrigo Roa Duterte ang nag-ing pangunahing tagapagsalita sa nasabing summit na dinaluhan ng may 7,000 NCR-TODA Coalition members, mga bisita at empleyado ng mga kalahok na national government agencies (NGAs) at local government units (LGUs).

"We are here to serve. Wala kaming ginagawa diyan kung hin-

di magtrabaho. Iyan ang buhay namin. It's just a matter of telling us na, 'ganito ang problema,'" sabi ng Presidente sa kanyang talumpati.

Ang NCR-TODA Coalition ay binubuo ng may 965 TODA organizations sa buong rehiyon.

Kabilang sa mga rek-lamo at isyu na ipinaring ng grupo sa gobyerno ay ang hindi umano pagpansin ng gobyerno sa kanilang kalagayan; walang matatag na pinagkukunan ng pagkakakitaan; limitadong livelihood opportunities; at nahihirapan sa pagkuha ng mga health benefits.

Ang mga kalahok na NGAs ay kinabibilangan ng TESDA, Social Security System (SSS), Phil-Health, Pag-IBIG Fund, Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Department of Trade and

Industry (DTI), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Department of Energy (DOE), Department of Internal and Local Government, Department of Transportation, at Cooperative Development Authority.

Sa nasabing summit, ang mga kalahok na NGAs ay naglagay ng kani-kanilang booth para ipaalam sa mga miyembro ng TODA ang mga programa, proyekto at serbisyo na ipinagkaloob ng gobyerno na pwede nilang mapakinabangan.

Ang mga tricycle drivers ay itinuturing ng TESDA na bahagi ng mga informal sector na kailangang matulungan ng ahensya.



26 JAN 2019

Manila Standard

B3
PAGE

HPP
 LOWER

PAGE 1
STORY

BANNER
STORY

EDITORIAL

CARTOON

26 JAN 2019

DATE

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE

Liberia wrestles with poverty to protect sharks

MONROVIA—George Toe reflects on the good old days, when catching a couple of sharks helped fill a fisherman's pocket and feed a hungry family.

Fifteen years or so ago, local fishermen who ventured off the coast of Liberia could expect to come back with 200, maybe 300, of the fish in their boats, the 45-year-old recalls.

"Now it is difficult to get even 10," he said. "Now you have to go 72 kilometers in the water before you meet up with any."

Toe's worry encapsulates the dilemma facing Liberia, one of the world's poorest countries, as it seeks to protect these beautiful, endangered but often under-estimated species.

Each year, tens of millions of sharks

and rays are hauled from the sea, typically to meet a voracious demand in East and Southeast Asia for shark fin soup, or products used in traditional medicine.

Experts say the plunder is having a devastating effect on the health of the sea—but protecting the species often meets resistance from fishermen, who see the catch as a vital source of income.

Fishing provides a livelihood to more than 30,000 people in Liberia and accounts for two-thirds of all animal proteins consumed nationally.

On the UN's Human Development Index, the country ranks a lowly 181 out of 189 nations. The average salary is \$100 per month, and many Liberians survive on

just \$1 a day.

What's at stake in shark and ray conservation is not just the survival of these ancient species but supporting commercial fish stocks.

"Loss of sharks can lead to dramatic imbalances in the ecosystem," says campaign group Environmental Justice Foundation.

Catching sharks ricochets down the food chain as big fish decimate small fish in the absence of the apex predator.

Under a three-year initiative, the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority will collect data on shark and ray populations, monitoring their numbers and location, and track fishing, both legal and illegal. **AFP**



E-vehicles alleviate air quality, mobility issues



The Z Perspective Joe Zaldarriaga

COMMENTARY

“*EV development can also provide an opportunity for the country to leapfrog in terms of technology adoption.*”

According to the World Health Organization, the country had the third highest number of deaths to air pollution, or about 45.3 deaths per 100 individuals. The quality of our air is 80 percent higher than the safe levels indicated by WHO.

The increasing number of vehicles on our roads is one of the main reasons for poor air quality. Based on the Land Transportation Office's 2017 data, more than 10.4 million vehicles traverse the country's road network, with 2.5 million congesting Metro Manila alone.

Indeed, the deterioration of urban air quality is the most obvious concern alongside extremely high import bills for oil-importing countries. Electric vehicles (EV) appear to be in the sweet spot of alleviating a slew of mobility issues.

Turn to page 11

From page 9

EV have zero tailpipe emission, are virtually noiseless, can reduce dependence on oil and utilize greener or locally available fuels. These vehicles are an important piece in solving the smart city puzzle. Zero tailpipe emission can have a profound impact on air quality in cities and better air quality results in higher productivity and lower healthcare costs.

In addition, EV development can also provide an opportunity for the country to leapfrog in terms of technology adoption. With EV, we can keep abreast with our Asian region neighbors such as Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore and India where a substantial number of EV are now plying their roads.

Adoption of EV in the country is still in its early stages. According to the Department of Trade and Industry's Board of Investments, some 1,400 e-jeepneys and e-trikes ply the roads in 19 locations with "known" charging stations also in these locations. The Electric Vehicle Association of the Philippines envisions to have 200 of these in place by 2022.

The number of EV on our roads got another boost when eSakay, an end-to-end electric transport solutions provider, was launched last week. In support of the Department of Transportation's Public Utility Vehicle Modernization Program (PUVMP), eSakay is projected to help address the country's snowballing transportation concerns.

eSakay, a Meralco subsidiary incorporated in 2018, has applied and secured the provisional authority to operate 15 eJeeps for the Buendia MRT Station-Mandaluyong City Hall via Jupiter St. developmental route. This will benefit not only the LGU but also the country as a whole. This is a big first step into modernizing and improving the state of our transportation and addressing the deteriorating urban air quality.

The timing could not have been any better. And the need for a project like this could not have been any greater than now. More people are now starting to realize that the need for EV and green technology has never been more relevant today.

The environment-friendly eSakay jeepneys are compliant with Euro-4 emission standards and PUVMP specifications and since they run on electricity they produce no emissions.

eSakay e-jeepneys feature side entrances, on-board Wi-Fi,

GPS tracking systems, automated fare collection systems, CCTV cameras and USB charging ports. The e-vehicles also have priority seats for senior citizens and persons with disabilities.



PAGE



UPPER
LOWER



PAGE 1
STORY



BANNER
STORY



EDITORIAL



CARTOON

DATE

E-vehicles alleviate...

The electric jeepneys have a charging time of 8-10 hours and can travel up to 100 kilometers with a maximum speed of 60 kph. An eSakay jeepney can accommodate up to 40 passengers.

eSakay officials made it clear that the program will greatly benefit everybody involved and will provide commuters convenience and safe transport service.

"We advocate the wider use of electric vehicles in the country with our internal EV shuttling service and electric bike sharing program. EV were indeed a viable transport solution; hence, we partnered with private companies, government institutions and now, public transport operators who expressed keen interest in utilizing EV for their transport needs," eSakay chairman and Meralco senior vice president Al Panlilio said.

"Beyond supporting transport operators by supplying ePUV and building charging stations, we realized that we could create a greater impact by being one with them. From this was born our project to operate an electric jeepney route connecting Mandaluyong to the Makati CBD," Panlilio added.

Another benefit of the eSakay project is that EV jeepney drivers earn a fixed monthly income which removes the boundary system in accordance with the aim of the PUV modernization program to provide drivers and operators with a stable and decent livelihood.

This project is just one of many steps in our efforts to spur EV adoption. To further promote this initiative, there is a pending bill in the Senate that would implement an excise-duty exemption on sales of battery-only electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles. The exemption may also apply to hybrid vehicles with a battery that has a range of at least 30 kilometers on one charge.

As we work towards a common goal of nation-building, sustainable growth and inclusive development, let us hope that similar projects are rolled out in other cities of Metro Manila. It is a long, challenging and arduous journey but we are gradually getting closer to solving the transportation conundrum that has faced us for so many years.



EU amends food contact plastics packing regulation

FILIPINO stakeholders are advised to comply with the latest requirements for food contact plastics in the European Union after the EU recently amended its "Food Contact Plastics" Regulation, the latest revision becoming effective on January 31, 2019.

The European Commission published the 12th amendment to the Plastics Regulation (EU) 10/2011 on January 11, 2019, in the Official Journal of the European Union.

This amendment, Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/37, adds new items to the list of substances that may be used in food contact materials (also referred to as the positive list or the Union list), makes corrections to preexisting substances on the positive list, and clarifies what food simulants should be used for the overall migration testing of milk products.

Specifically, Commission Regulation (EU) 2019/37 (<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32019R0037>) makes the following amendments, among others:

- Replaces four substances and adds three completely new substances to the Union list of authorized substances.
- Adds one completely new entry

for a group restriction of three substances. These are to be expressed as crotonic acid.

- Replaces the specification for 3-hydroxybutanoic acid-3-hydroxypentanoic acid, copolymer (FCM substance 744) with a specific migration limit for crotonic acid.

- Replaces two rows on the use of food simulants for certain foods.

Based on favorable scientific opinions from the European Food Safety Authority, the substances added to the positive list in Annex 1 of the Plastics Regulation are:

- Poly((R)-3-hydroxybutyrate-co-(R)-3-hydroxyhexanoate), a biodegradable (co)polymer obtained from microbial fermentation used in the manufacture of packaging articles intended to be in contact with whole fruit and vegetables;
- Dimethyl carbonate as a monomer; and
- Isobutane as a foaming/blowing agent only.

According to the latest regulation, food contact plastics that are compliant with Regulation (EU) 10/2011 before the entry into force of this new regulation may be placed on the market until January 31, 2020 and may remain on the market until stocks are exhausted.