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LTFRB 3 renews 'war' on colorum vans

Tarlac LTO lambasted anew

By Nelson Bolos

Tarlac City - "Mga corrupt, ayaw talaga nilang hulihin ang mga colorum." Thus, said when officials from the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB) region 3 came to resume their "war against colorum" UV vans here.

As this came about, an officer of a transport group lambasted the officials of the 3 Land Transportation Offices (LTO) here who refuse to apprehend the more

than 200 colorum vans plying the Mac Arthur highway north of this city.

Two colorum white vans were apprehended and impounded **Cont. on page 6**

Abangan sa mga susunod na issue

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What's Inside...

- DOLE conducts basic labor education to 2,000 graduating students in Tarlac ...p2
- CIDG nabs Paniqui's 'new big time' pusher ...p2
- Tarlac City Police intensifies crime-awareness program ...p2
- Mayor Cristy to POSO - Nobody is above the law ...p2
- PPOC-PADAC convenes to address peace and order in Tarlac ...p3
- CL posts highest economic growth rate in six years ...p3
- DILG Hotline 911 holds telecommunicators training for Luzon LGUs ...p6
- Cayetano doesn't have to resign until after CA confirmation ...p7
- With or without Nat'l Broadband Plan, free internet attainable ...p7
- SC set to implement continuous trial system nationwide ...p7
- Child in conflict with the law finds healing through music ...p8



IN ACTION - Officials of Barangay Care trooped to Senate on May 8 to support Congressman Victor Yap on the deliberation of H.B. No. 4937, or a law recognizing Brgy. Care. This proposal was initiated by Gov. Susan Yap during her stint as a district representative in the 16th Congress. Once approved, this law will grant Brgy. Care a portion of the IRA which it can use to fund vital local government services and improve the lives of the people in the barangay./Photo grabbed from FB: Susan Yap

City Health Office wins first place in Adobo Fest

TARLAC CITY — Mayor Cristy Angeles awarded the cash prize of P30,000.00 to Dr. Ma. Carmela Go, City Health Office, and CHO staff for beating the other entries at the First Adobo Fest Competition which was held in celebration of the 19th Charter Anniversary of Tarlac City.

The most sought-after Filipino dish was showcased at the said event, which was participated in by the employees of the different departments of the City Hall.

The competition held on April 28, 2017 at the San Sebastian-San Vicente Bypass Road which, was packed with spectators and visitors from all over the City, was also graced by the Senate Committee Chairman on Science and Technology and Committee Chairman on Education, Culture and Sports, Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino IV.

The traditional adobo recipe was tweaked by the participants with other ingredients such as seafood, egg (even 'balot'), chicken and **Cont. on page 2**

MAGKASANGGA TAYO

page 5 **Cimatu, Cayetano, at na ano lang!!!**



BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO

HATAW NA KAIBIGAN

page 6 **What's in a title? Madam Auring as Director for National Intelligence!**



BY: ROLDAN RAMOS

DOLE conducts basic labor education to 2,000 graduating students in Tarlac

TARLAC CITY - The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) has conducted basic labor education seminar to some 2,019 graduating students from two state universities in Tarlac.

DOLE Regional Director Ana Dione on Friday said that the seminar, dubbed "Labor Education for Graduation Students" or LEGS, is designed to guide "would-be workers" on their rights and responsibilities.

"As our graduating students are about to join the rest of the country's labor force, we encourage our them to engage an insightful learning session in our LEGS seminars so that they will fully understand their duties and responsibilities as they enter the world of work in the industry of their choice and career which they wish to pursue," Dione said.

DOLE Tarlac Field Office head Aurita Laxamana said the LEGS will prepare and develop students become responsible partners in establishing harmonious labor-management

relationships toward attaining decent and productive work.

The LEGS was organized by the DOLE and Provincial Public Employment Service Office (PESO) of Tarlac in partnership with the Tarlac State University and Tarlac Agricultural University.

Of the total number of participating graduating students, 1,566 from the Tarlac State University while the remaining 453 are from the Tarlac Agricultural University.

Laxamana said that the topics discussed include the labor code covering rights of workers on minimum wage, holiday/premium pay computation, hours of work, and monetary benefits.

Topics on management rights, as well as other topics on general labor standards and occupational safety and health standards were also discussed.

The DOLE has intensified the LEGS seminar program in colleges and universities in Central Luzon to prepare future workers on work ethics and culture of productive and decent work. (M. D. Del Rosario/PNA)

Tarlac City Police intensifies crime-awareness program

TARLAC CITY — The accomplishments and incessant determination of the Tarlac City Police in bolstering the anti-illegal drug and crime-awareness campaign of the government is starting to gain recognition from the media and the communities here.

In the interviews conducted at the Tarlac City Police Station, PSupt. Bayani Razalan,

Chief of Police, discussed the upcoming project of the station wherein the police will be actively involved in a strategic school-based crime-awareness campaign dubbed as "Bayaning Pulis ang Titser Ko".

The continuous operation in line with "Oplan Double Barrel Reloaded" was also discussed by the Police Chief in

Cont. on page 3

City Health Office...

from page 1

quail.

The competition was also made even more festive by the music and entertainment provided by the City Tourism Council and sponsors.

Mayor Cristy awarded the second prize of P20,000.00 with City Tourism Officer III, Wilfredo Toldanes, to the City Engineer's Office and

the third prize of P10,000.00 to the Public Order and Safety Office during the flag raising ceremony of the City Government Employees on May 8, 2017.

"This year's Adobo Fest is actually a dry run of a much bigger event of the same nature next year which may be participated →

CIDG nabs Paniqui's 'new big time' pusher

P.247 M shabu, gun, ammos confiscated

Paniqui, Tarlac - - New pusher in town?

This came as one among the so-called "new big time" drug personality was arrested in a raid at his house at Barangay Poblacion Sur yesterday morning by the personnel of the Tarlac Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (Tarlac-CIDG).

Among others, around 15 grams of shabu with an estimated street value of P247,000, a homemade rifle, live ammos and a digital micro weighing scale was confiscated from the house of Norberto Ramos who is described by a police asset as a new pusher in their neighborhood but is a native of this town .

In his report, PCInsp Jerrold Jake Manguerra, Tarlac CIDG provincial officer, identified the apprehended drug personality as Norberto Ramos, 47, of Barangay Poblacion Sur.

"When we received reports of Ramos' 'big time' drug dealing, we immediately focused on him. He is not a lowly pusher. He deals by the grams, by the bulk, not by small retail-size sachets", said Manguerra.

(A retail size P500-sachet of shabu weighs

around .030 gram. A gram of shabu is usually repacked into 33, or more, P500 worth sachets.)

Maguerra also disclosed that Ramos is among the "new network" of drug dealers who replaced the "old" group of pushers who most of them were already arrested or neutralized from the police's intensive campaign against drugs.

In an interview, Ramos claim he began using shabu only last year.

Ramos also said that his supplier, whom he named as "Pogi," is from Bulacan and regularly delivers to him the shabu on a consignment basis.

The raid on Ramos' house was based on the Search Warrant issued by Judge Ronald Leo Haban of Tarlac Regional Trial Court Branch 66

Ramos was charged of violation of section 11 of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act (RA 9165) and illegal possession of firearms.

Under the law, possession of more than 5 grams of shabu is a non-bailable offense.

The CIDG team was assisted by the Tarlac Public Safety Company (PPSC) commanded by PSupt Samuel Munoz./Nelson Bolos



New big time drug pusher? The house of Norberto Ramos, 47, at Brgy Poblacion Sur, Paniqui, Tarlac, was raided by the Tarlac Criminal Investigation and Detection Group, headed by PCInsp Jerrold Jake Manguerra, together with the Provincial Public Safety Company commanded by PSupt Samuel Munoz. From left, "New big time pusher" Norberto Ramos (back turned), media witness Nelson Bolos, SPO1 Anthony Daligdig, PO2 Jeniffer Datu, and Brgy Chairman JN De Guzman.

Mayor Cristy to POSO - Nobody is above the law

Tarlac City - "Nobody is above the law." This was stressed by Mayor Cristy Angeles during her meeting with the POSO officials and staff as she challenged to implement the traffic law regardless who is apprehended.

"Let us find ways to decongest traffic problem especially the bottle neck of it (8am to 11am and 1-5pm). "Magtulongan po tayo na masolusyunan ang problema sa trapiko. Tapos na ang palakasan system. Hulihin kahit sino pa ang nagkasala. kahit na kamagan-anak o pamilya ko pa. Walang exemption. Include LGU officials or City employees for that matter," stressed Cristy.

Moreover, the Mayor emphasized that, "kapag may nag-name drop sa pangalan ko, sabihin ninyo sa tao na 'pasensiya na po kasi kahit si Mayor tumutupad sa batas trapiko"

To accomplish our goal, she urged, "we have to be united. Magkaisa po tayo. Itabi

in by other prospective establishments or Tarlac City residents," Adrian Dennis Vega of the Tourism Council explained to those who were interested to join even before the competition./Tarlac CIO

na po natin ang pulitika. Nakikiusap ako sa inyo na mga permanent, i-welcome po natin ang mga JOs. Sila po ang makakatulong ninyo sa pagpapatupad ng batas trapiko."

For his part, Alejandro Listerio, Traffic Supervisor assured the lady Mayor of the department's fair treatment of personnel and the fair and equal implementation of the traffic law./Rem de Leon

Galang

THE tarlacweekender

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PPOC-PADAC convenes to address peace and order in Tarlac

TARLAC CITY - Members of the Provincial Peace and Order Council-Provincial Anti-drug Abuse Council (PPOC-PADAC) recently convened to discuss matters of peace and order in Tarlac.

Tarlac Vice Governor Carlito David, who represented Governor Susan Yap, disclosed that the attendance of key government agencies during the joint meeting is an indication of their continual support in peacekeeping.

During the meeting, Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Tarlac Provincial Director Belina Herman reiterated that such meetings complement the President's strategy in empowering the local government units against the pangs of corruption, drug abuse and criminality.

For its part, DILG Program Manager Angelo Alexis Barroga informed the council on the recently crafted Peace and Order and Public Safety (POPS) Plan and the adoption of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan to the POPS Plan.

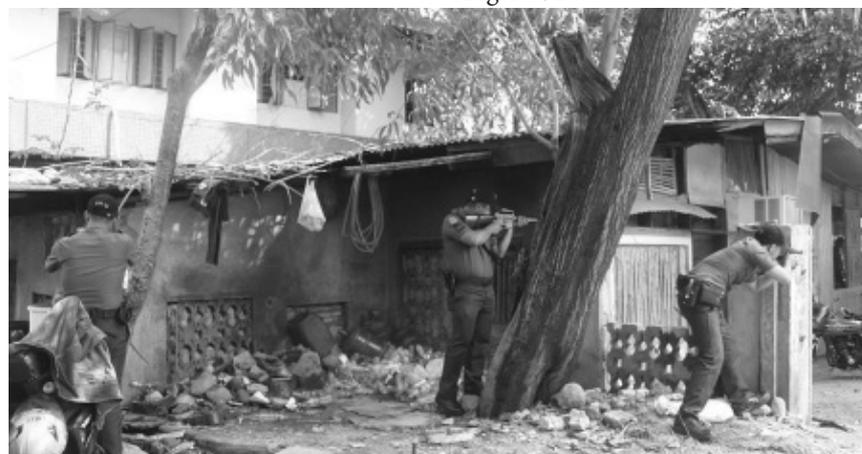
DILG Cluster Head Ener P. Cambronero shed light on the top-priority programs of the DILG like the Mamamayang Ayaw sa Anomalya, Mamamayang Ayaw sa Iligal na Droga or MASA MASID, submission of Presidential Daily Briefers to Malacanang, and the highly-coveted Seal of Good Local Governance, which is set to commence this month.

Tarlac City Police... from page 2

separate interviews conducted by correspondents/stingers from GMA 7 and Net 25 (Agila News).

PO3 Julius Apolonio, Police Community Precinct 3 member, conducted distribution of flyers on crime prevention and common modus operandi in eastern barangays such as Maliwalo, Matatalaib and San Jose, as police here constantly get deployed in the field doing information dissemination activities.

On May 3, 2017, a simulation exercise on Station Defense Plan was conducted to assess the readiness of every personnel in defending the Station during an enemy attack.



Meanwhile, Tarlac Police Provincial Director Ritchie Posadas highlighted the notable accomplishments of Tarlac Provincial Police Office in the return of Oplan Tokhang or Double Barrel Reloaded.

Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) Jail Officer Isabel Pantig presented the activities of BJMP such as livelihood programs, alternative learning system, infrastructure projects and anti-illegal drug campaigns.

Moreover, Acting Provincial Jail Warden Elsa Miranda noted that the facility of Tarlac Provincial Jail has significantly improved in terms of infrastructure, convenience, safety and overall inmate welfare through the initiative of the local government.

As for the Bureau of Fire Protection, Provincial Fire Marshall Mary Anthonette Buenconsejo enumerated their agency's activities including the mandatory drug-testing activities, earthquake drills and the observance of the Fire Prevention Month.

Newly-minted PDEA Provincial Officer Bonifacio Craig Lomas-E, Jr., provided updates of anti-illegal drug operations in the province indicating shabu and marijuana as the top two choices of illegal substance.

Also, Efrén Rodriguez of NAPOLCOM informed the council of NAPOLCOM's efforts to ensure the integrity and credibility of the police force by conducting investigations and providing adjudication services. (PIA 3)

PCInsp. Jim Tayag, Deputy Chief of Police and Police Community Relations Officer conducted a briefing on the simulation exercise of the station's defense plan, a proactive measure for possible sabotage.

On May 4, 2017, the Police Community Relations personnel led by PCInsp. Tayag, together with PCP 5 Commander PCInsp. Herolito Teria and PCP 5 policemen, conducted a lecture on Republic Act 9165, also known as Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 in Barangay San Luis.

The same activity was held in Barangay Armenia on May 5, 2017.

The programs of the Tarlac City Police Station is fully supported by the administration of Mayor Cristy Angeles. /Tarlac CIO

CL posts highest economic growth rate in six years

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, Pampanga - Central Luzon recorded its highest economic growth rate from 2011-2016 at 9.5%, surpassing the national economy at 6.9%.

PSA Regional Director Edgardo Pare said the gross regional domestic product (GRDP) of Central Luzon was pegged at Php773.28 billion in 2016, which is approximately P67 billion more than the region's economic output in 2015 pegged at P706.34 billion.

"This expansion which contributed 0.9 percentage point to the country's 6.9% growth, is primarily driven by the manufacturing industry, particularly from the manufacture of food, beverage and other transport equipment," the director shared.

GRDP measures the economic performance of a region in terms of goods and services produced. It measures the relative contribution of the three major economic industries namely Agriculture, Hunting, Forestry, and Fishing (AHFF), Industry, and Services.

Pare noted that this increase in the GRDP's nominal value is almost double compared to its growth rate last year at 5.3 percent, brought about by significant revenue increase from the three major economic sectors.

"Industry doubled from 7.1 per cent in 2015 to 16.0 per cent in 2016, while AHFF maintained its 0.6 per cent growth rate for two consecutive years," he said.

Manufacturing, which accounted for the biggest share in the industry sector, also posted a double-digit increase from 7.0% in 2015 to 17.4% in the previous year.

"In terms of services sector, Central Luzon posted a growth of 5.9 per cent. This is because four of its sub-industry posted expansions for the said year. These include financial intermediation (6.5%); public administration and defense; compulsory social services (5.8%); trade and repair of motor vehicles, motorcycles, personal and household goods (5.4%); and other services (8.1%),"

Pare announced.

For AHFF, agriculture and forestry accelerated from 0.8 to 0.9 point, however, a slight drop of 0.1 percent for the same period was observed in the fishing industry.

"The good news, however, is that for 2016, Central Luzon overtakes Calabarzon in terms of economic growth rate and ranked second among the 17 regions in terms of GRDP. At the same time, it remained among the top three regions nationwide in terms of regional shares to the national economy," the PSA chief said.

However, despite these achievements, he stressed that there is still a need to provide a more disaggregated data that will be used by national government agencies and non-government organizations towards poverty reduction for a more inclusive growth.

This is the third year that the PSA conducted simultaneous news conference on the gross regional domestic products nationwide. (CLJD/MJLS-PIA 3)

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A press under siege

Under Duterte's draconian regime, press freedom in particular is under siege. He keeps shoving it, and it keeps retreating, not even digging in, or defending, much less fighting back.

Doubtless many of us, not just in this town but in many other places, have become anxiously preoccupied by the thought of freedom.

Indeed, there would seem an anti-freedom virus going around if you observed the temperament of present-day leaders; these, by the way, are no power-grabbers, as were the previous kind, but leaders installed by popular vote, which is why the phenomenon is called populism, a generous, though not altogether unsuitable, description.

Strictly, populism is a kind of party movement in itself, as such organized; it's not people making an accidental common choice.

At any rate, we have, as it happens, an example of each kind. Of the previous kind, there was Ferdinand Marcos, who simply took power one day and ruled for 14 years as a martial-law dictator. And of the present kind, there's Rodrigo Duterte, who received his popular mandate under no pretense; those who may regret having voted for him have no excuse: from the beginning, he has not only professed idolatry for Marcos, but anointed Ferdinand Jr. as his successor.

The phenomenon proving intractable, it is put down to "something in the air", and, World Press Freedom Day falling around this time, it should particularly concern the very profession called upon by the Constitution to stand up to the likes of Duterte and Marcos – the press.

As a journalist who has known no other profession, thus always anxious for self-assurance and jealous with his freedom, I seize freedom as a birth-right. Admittedly, freedom does not work so simplistically; it has to be fought for, constantly. Anyway, what choice do I really have? What choice does the press have?

Editorial

Enemy of freedom
On May 3, the day declared by the United Nations as World Press Freedom Day, two journalists asked me for a meeting for the same day for whatever I, as an old hand, might have to say of any worth about press freedom. One came, the other cancelled, saying "they" – whom I took to be his superiors – voted down, "for obvious reasons", his idea for a commemorative piece.

The reasons are not really so obvious to me, but, observing how the press covers President Duterte, I may have an idea. I've watched the press let him say anything little challenged. If only it felt less cowed and probed more, his word might just prove not good enough, if not outright inaccurate.

As it is, much of his word stands as he has passed it off, as fact – drugs are the plague of the times and that plague translates into 3 million addicts and, until those 3 million are exterminated, this nation will continue to languish in poverty (where did he get that number when the last credibly sourced one was 1.8 million?); or as credible promise – 8 trillion pesos will be spent on infrastructure during his six-year term (where will he get that money?) and there will be no poor Filipino by 2040 (wouldn't he be safely dead by then?).

To be sure, Duterte could be an intimidating figure – profane, narcissistic, authoritarian. But then he is precisely the sort of character press freedom is ranged against. In fact he personifies power, the natural enemy of freedom, in the extreme.

And, under Duterte's draconian regime, press freedom in particular is under siege. He keeps shoving it, and it keeps retreating, not even digging in, or defending, much less fighting back.

Yes, indeed, part of the exercise of any democratic freedom is fighting back, and, for the press it consists in asking questions in the very least. As one newspaper motto goes, "If you ask no questions you will be told no truths."/
Vergel O. Santos /Rappler.com



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SG 11 Php19,620*

Qualifications

Bachelor of Elementary/Secondary/
Early Childhood or
Bachelor's degree plus 18 units in Education
PBET/LET Passer

"Every Filipino should deserve a
chance or whatever." - President Duterte

Also: "Pag wala kayong trabaho bigyan ko kayo, patayin ninyo lahat ng addict."



Mocha Uson. INQUIRER FILE PHOTO/

PCOO Assistant Secretary

SG 29 Php106,454*

Qualifications

"Utang na loob" ni Duterte
Offers free trolling services
Knows effective fake news dissemination
strategies

*EO 201, s. 2016

KAKAMPI MO ANG BATAS

Napoles acquittal, a C.A.
collegial decision



BY: ATTY. BATAS MAURICIO

LIFE'S INSPIRATIONS: "... An honest witness does not deceive, but a false witness pours out lies..." (Proverbs 14:5, the Holy Bible).

-000-

NAPOLLES ACQUITTAL, A C.A. COLLEGIAL DECISION: While it maybe assumed that certain things are happening "behind the scenes" in the acquittal of Janet Lim Napoles by the Court of Appeals relative to her conviction by a Makati City court of the charge of serious illegal detention, it should not be forgotten that the decision of acquittal was arrived at by highly learned justices of the appellate court after a serious study of the facts and the evidence.

What cannot be denied is that the verdict of conviction against Napoles was reversed through a unanimous decision of the three justices who composed the Court of Appeals division that reviewed the conviction. There was no dissenting vote, and this presupposes that the three magistrates fully agreed with one another to set Napoles free.

Of course, it helped Napoles greatly that Solicitor General Jose Calida submitted a brief explaining why Makati City Regional Trial Court Judge Elmo Alameda erred in convicting her, but, in point of law, with or without that Calida brief, the Court of Appeals justices who voted in her favor had to decide one way or another. Ultimately, it was their own perception of the facts and the law that truly carried the day for Napoles.

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CRITICISMS VS. NAPOLLES DECISION UNFAIR: It is therefore highly contemptuous and highly disrespectful for certain persons and groups to be attributing malice to the Napoles acquittal, on the theory that this was a maneuver of the Duterte government to enable the erstwhile businesswoman who is now derisively called the "pork barrel queen" to become a state witness in the pork barrel cases and subsequently implicate former President Aquino and his officials in the scam.

That may indeed be the end result of her having been given a favorable decision by the Court of Appeals, but it is absolutely unfair, and is a gross assault against the integrity of the existing justice system, to say that Napoles is now being given special treatment by the Duterte government to achieve its purposes, with the aid of the judiciary.

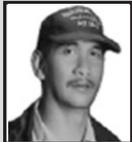
I would like to believe that, despite its many weaknesses and imperfections, the Philippine justice system is still working, upholding the majesty of the law, and dispensing justice to everyone, whether rich or poor, or whether strong or weak, without fear or favor. There maybe some rotten bad eggs, yes, but the good ones far outnumber those whom a former president of the country labeled as "hoodlums in robes".

-000-

OMBUDSMAN IS AN OBSTACLE TO NAPOLLES AS A STATE WITNESS: Having said that here, I would like to add, quite urgently, that there is a very formidable obstacle that must be hurdled by the Duterte government before Napoles could be utilized as a state witness in the on-going trial of

Cont. on page 5

*Cimatu, Cayetano, at
na ano lang!!!*



BY: NESTOR "PAKEN" CASTRO

Former AFP Cheap este Chief of Staff Ret. General Roy Cimatu ang bagong appointed na DENR Secretary. Kuwalipikado kaya siya para sa isang napa-ka-tinding posisyon at responsibilidad? Kung sabagay ay wala nang ibang makukuha pa kung hindi mga ex-military. Alam naman natin na lahat ng magagaling ay ex-military na Pmayer pa, at sa pribadong sektor ay wala namang may kagalingan na katangi-tangi lamang na nasa ex-military na Pmayer, tama ba mga Ayer? Kayo lang naman ang anak ng diyos hindi ba??? Kaya ating aabangan sa mga darating na araw ang mga magagandang gawain at hakbangin nitong si bagong DENR Secretary Cimatu. Isang bagay lang ang aking matitiyak sa inyo at sigurado ko na wala nang Mining Company ang magreklamo mula ngayon. Hi ! Hi !Hi ! Mabuhay ang mga milyonyaryo at bilyonyaryong Mining Magnates and Businessmen!

####

Secretary Cayetano unang sabak pa lamang sa UN ay palpak na. Hindi pa man naa-appoint formally ay sinubukan na siya bagama't palpak ang ipinakita niya at hindi niya kayang depensahan ang mga EJK. Kaya ayang ang ating bagong DFA Secretary na siguradong susunod sa kagustuhan ng ating mahal na Presidente na parating pakatatandaan nating lahat na hindi kayang labanan ng Pinas ang China kaya kalimutan na ninyo ang mga isla at teritoryo na dapat ay tunay na sa atin. Hi Hi Hi!. Kaya nga para sa akin ay mas magiging maunlad ang ating bansa if we become a province of China at masakupan na rin tayo ng China. Anong say ninyo mga dear readers. Palayasin na lahat ng mga Kano at ibang mga banyaga at welcome to the Philippines a sovereign Province of the Republic of China or PPROC (Philippine Province of the Republic of China). Why not, that's surely a nice thought. Sigurado ko kapag mangyari ito ay unang bibitayin ay ang halos lahat (hindi lahat) ng mga Senador, Tongressmen, Governors at Mayors. Hi! Hi ! Hi ! Pinag-iisipan ko nga na mag-umpisa ng isang petisyon kontra Federalismo or Federalism but instead ay ang aking petisyon ay para gawin probinsya ng China ang Pinas. Tandaan niyo, sa ilang taon na lang, mga 5 to 10 years ay ang China na ang magiging number 1 economy; right now ay No. 2 na sila at siguradong malalampasan na ng China ang Amerika. Kaya wala tayong dapat na ikatakot at magiging parang Hong Kong na lang tayo na isang maunlad na probinsya. Remember the DOT slogan, it's More Fun in China (Gèng duō lèqù 更多乐趣).

####

Na ano lang kaya ang utak nitong si Senador Sotto? Unang palusot niya ay ayon sa kanya pagdating sa Commission on Appointments is anything under the sun ay pu-puwedeng tanungin sa isang aplikante. Pangalawang palusot niya is nagbibiro lang naman daw siya.

Para mas maintindihan natin ang ibig sabihin ng na ano lang ang utak at pagkatao ni Sotto, hinggil sa kanyang unang palusot na "anything under the sun can be asked" ay tutuo naman, ang problema nga lang is hindi naman tanong yung binitiwang niyang salita kung hindi ay isang nakakainsultong komento. Jok nga lang daw.

Sa pangalawang palusot niya na nagbibiro lamang siya ay ang aking masasabi ay dapat lang na mag resign ka na lang Mr. Sotto at atupagin mo na lang ang pagiging komendyante mo ng sa ganuon ay sa bawat bukas ng iyong bunganga ay puros jok jok ang lalabas. You like my suggestion Mr. Senator Na Ano

All Good News



BY: REM DE LEON GALANG

GOOD NEWS

The SOLIMAN family in Barangay Balanti has donated a lot for the construction of Integrated School to accommodate Grade 7-10. This project proves that the DepEd aims to bring the opportunity for our people, especially those in the far flung areas, to have access to quality education with the end in view of providing necessary skill and knowledge for them to be prepared as they face life and build their own homes and establish their own families in the future and hopefully become positive influence and partners in nation building. Thus, the core objective of education per se is attained. Again, thank you sa mga heirs and family of the SOLIMANS for such generosity and concern for the plight of the young learners in the area.

ANOTHER GOOD NEWS

A total of 6 drug personalities were recently arrested SDEU/INTEL operatives led by INSP WILHELMINO A. ALCANTARA under the supervision of PSUPT BAYANI T. RAZALAN, COP-TCPS. The suspects were later identified as NAPOLEON LINSAY Y ESTRADA of Brgy. Dolores, San Fernando, Pampanga; MARK ARIES MAPANAO Y VALDEZ of Brgy. Abugadso, Paniqui, Tarlac; LOURDES LANTOC Y LAO of Cacamingan Norte, Camiling, Tarlac; YOLANDA BATAK Y BAMBANG of Brgy. Estacion, Paniqui, Tarlac; MYRNA DELMO Y TAWATAO of Brgy. Poblacion Norte, Paniqui, Tarlac; and MICHELLE MANOLOTO Y GALLERMO of Brgy. Estacion, Paniqui, Tarlac.

Investigation conducted shows that prior to their arrest, PO2 WALTER CASTANEDA, acting as poseur buyer, was able to buy one piece of shabu from MARK MAPANAO and upon consummation of the deal, a dropped call was made by PO2 CASTANEDA as a signal for the operatives to apprehend the suspects with his cohorts at Brgy. Matatalaib that led to the arrest of the said suspects. Procedural body search was later conducted in the presence of Brgy Kgd. DANILO CANALE and Aida Tabamo, Media Representative. After informing them of their constitutional rights, the suspects together with the confiscated pieces of evidence were brought to the Tarlac Crime Laboratory, TPPO for drug testing and laboratory analysis. A violation of Section 5, 11, 13 and 14 Article 2 of RA 9165 is being readied against the suspects. According to the operatives, the said suspects especially MARK MAPANAO is the one who supplies the shabu to his alleged cohorts who distribute in their respective areas. Indeed, this is a BIG CATCH as far as war on drugs is concerned.

Lang Joker?!

Ang problema kasi sa mga tuta ni Digong na katulad ni Cheap Bato, Sotto, Gordon, Lacson etc ay sinusubukan nilang gayahin ang istayl ng kanilang amo, bagama't hindi naman talaga nila kaya. Ipaubaya niyo na lang ang mga biro at nonsense na komento kay PDigong at huwag na kayong gumaya at hindi ninyo kaya!

Kakampi Mo Ang Batas

...from page 4

some lawmakers in connection with the P10 billion pork barrel scam. This obstacle is Ombudsman Conchita Carpio Morales.

With due respect, her record as graft buster relative to these pork barrel scams does not inspire the belief that she would be interested to make Napoles a state witness. First, in the early stages of the pork barrel cases, she

EL MAESTRO SPEAKS

The teacher's cross



BY: CLYDE B. SACPA

When the k-12 was implemented years ago, the government promised that everything has been well- thought off and there is enough budget for the materials needed. That was five years ago. Fast forward to this moment, the materials for the implementation of k-12 curriculum for grade 5 and grade 6 is still not available. The reason? Well there's a lot of reasons. And as the years go by, the teachers at the field are suffering.

Teachers at the Department of Education are the most hardworking, the most innovative, the most patient, the most flexible, the most resourceful and more. You name a great characteristic that a person must have and for sure these teachers at the DepEd have it.

But like our non-renewable resources, these traits can also become depleted if we force and pressure people to demonstrate it all the time. This is the situation teachers of Deped are in right now. When the teachers ask for materials needed for the implementation of the new curriculum, the reply they'll get is; "you don't need materials to teach this, be resourceful." "We don't have the materials yet, be resourceful." And sometimes, they'll question the dedication of the teacher.

Please stop treating the teacher as a mule. Instead of telling them to be resourceful, which they already are, why not press the Department to do everything in its disposal to produce the material that the teachers and pupils need? Being resourceful WITH materials yield a result which has more quality than being resourceful without the necessary tools. You say that the k-12 curriculum is a modern curriculum which can be compared to a modern tourist who has all the things he needs in going to a virgin island but as to my observation it is now akin to a person who is in an island without anything, struggling for his survival.

If this continues to happen, regardless of the effort our dear teachers; regardless of changes in our curriculum; the quality of our education will continue to diminish. To move forward, our teachers need a tool. Provide them the tool if you cannot give the tools. Don't send a soldier to war without weapons, because no matter how good he is, he won't be as useful as the soldier with a weapon.

chose to investigate and then prosecute only those who opposed the government of the president that appointed her as Ombudsman, leaving out this president and his allies from the cases.

Second, she chose to remain silent and not to pursue, vigorously or otherwise, the Supreme Court's directive clearly addressed to her to investigate and then hold liable the officials of the Aquino government who masterminded and executed the biggest scam of all time, which was the diversion of some P150 or so billion in government funds to favor lawmakers who voted to oust Chief Justice Renato Corona.

-ooo-

OBSTACLE MUST BE SIDETRACKED: This diversion was carried out under a high-sounding name, "disbursement acceleration program", but the Supreme Court struck it down as being unconstitutional. Morales then employed legal gobbledygook---or legal mambo-jumbo, if you will---to allow Aquino to escape from any liability, and to charge then Budget Secretary Florencio Abad with a very insignificant criminal case. Because she is an obstacle, the Ombudsman must be sidetracked!

HATAW NA KAIBIGAN

- *What's in a title?*
- *Madam Auring as Director for National Intelligence!*



BY: ROLDAN RAMOS

What is all the brouhaha about Mocha Usón's appointment as Assistant Secretary? What is the job of an assistant secretary anyway, what is expected of her, what are her qualifications? These and many more questions are actually irrelevant. For a political appointee appointed by no less than the President, no other qualification is necessary as the appointee works and serves at the **"pleasure of the President"**. Let me repeat myself, "pleasure of the President." When we speak of pleasure, I guess Miss Usón is capable and qualified to provide ample "pleasure" to the President, therefore knowing that, all these noise, nasty comments and what have you are all out of line. Inggit lang kayo at hindi kayo ang na-appoint as Ass Sec. Don't get me wrong, I personally am not in favor of this appointment, but then again who are we to judge? Why don't we first give her the benefit of the doubt and see how she "performs?" Ha! Ha! Ha! She is after all used to "performing," ha ha ha ha ha. But seriously speaking, all that is needed to be appointed to these lofty positions is the trust and confidence of the appointing authority, in this case the president, therefore, we are safe to assume that Ass Sec Mocha usón most definitely has the trust and confidence of the President. How deep and how wide this thrust I mean trust is for Mocha and PDigong to let us know. Who knows, perhaps in one of the forthcoming speeches of the President he just might talk about the depth of the thrust, I mean trust and confidence he did I mean he has in Mocha Usón, which the Sec Andanar most definitely cannot provide.

After all the President is not an AC-DC or attack and collect, defend and collect, like a lot of media practitioners are. Ha Ha Ha Ha Ha.

Actually, I would like to see our dear President appoint Madam Auring also as an Ass Sec for National Security and/or Director for Intelligence. I am sure Madam Auring would be highly qualified. Just imagine, all she has to do is look into her crystal ball and in seconds crystal clear intel is what you get. How about my suggestion Mr. President? Please consider Madam Auring as Director for National Intelligence.

DILG Hotline 911 holds training for Luzon LGUs

MANILA - After the successful run of the internationally certified training for 911 emergency telecommunicators in Metro Manila, the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) did a second round of the same program, this time in Luzon.

DILG officer-in-charge Catalino Cuy on Thursday said that the second batch of trainees is composed of 25 personnel from 911 National Capital Region, 10 from 911 Ilocos Norte, nine each for 911 Tarlac and 911 La Union, three for 911 Bataan, and two uniformed personnel from the Philippine Air Force 505th Search and Rescue Group.

"We are inching closer towards our goal of creating a country-wide team of efficient telecommunicators who will help facilitate emergency assistance by tapping the right government agencies and institutions," Cuy said in a statement.

The five-day Emergency Telecommunicators Certification (ETC) training focused on the roles and responsibilities of an emergency telecommunicator, emergency telecommunication technologies, call management, law enforcement/police call classification, fire/rescue/medical call classification, dispatch stress, disaster preparedness and readiness of ETCs, and legal aspects of public safety communication among others.

"We want the ETC course to be cascaded to the local government units (LGUs) in order to equip them with the latest knowledge and skills in emergency response in times of calamities and disasters within their communities," Cuy said.

At the same time, the course enabled **Cont. on page 7**



FROM 1 HOUR TO 10 MINUTES. Photo shows the ongoing construction of the PHP10.5-billion NLEX Harbor Link Segment 10 project -- from MacArthur Highway in Valenzuela, and will proceed to Malabon and C3 Road in Caloocan extending to Road 10. With the completion of Segment 10, cargo trucks only need 10 minutes going from the port to NLEX compared to the usual 1-hour travel through the busy streets of Metro Manila. Since NLEX is not covered by truck ban, trucks will have 24/7 access from the ports to the North and South. (PNA photo by Joey O. Razon)

LTFRB 3 Renews... at the LTO Impounding Center at

Barangay San Isidro here which were the white Toyota Lite Ace van (AHA 9216) registered in the name of Kristina Iglesia and another white Toyota L300 (YX 0255).

The apprehending team was headed by LTFRB Assistant Regional Director Atty. Jess Sison, head of the anti-colorum task group, and was assisted by the Regional Public Battalion sent by PNP Region 3 Director PCSupt Aaron Aquino.

From January to March this year, the LTFRB 3 has launched an "intensified campaign against colorum" in Tarlac, Nueva Ecija, and Bulacan. But anti-colorum operation stopped last April.

Iglesia is the wife of retired policeman Tomas Iglesia while the other van is said to be actually owned by a certain police officer Julito Nool, from Brgy Abagon, Gerona.

Early last year, Iglesia gave a team of apprehending police and LTO officials a copy of a supposed Provisional Authority (Temporary Permit to Operate). But upon verification, former LTFRB Regional Director Atty. Zona Russet Tamayo denied ever issuing a Provisional Authority and declared the PA as fake and her signature forged. Despite this, Iglesia continues to ply the Tarlac City to Paniqui route daily.

"They are incurable law-breakers. They have no respect of the law and to traffic law enforcers but we will continue our 'war' against these colorum vehicles," said Sison.

Barely 2 months ago, the colorum van of PInsp Jeffrey De Guzman, along with another, were also apprehended and impounded by Sison's LTFRB team but De Guzman continues to operate his

other van.

De Guzman is an active police officer assigned at the Paniqui, Tarlac, police station. According to sources many active and retired police and army personnel own and operate colorum vans.

Sought for comment, Tarlac-Moncada-Gerona-Paniqui Transport Service Cooperative (TAMOGPEA) chairman Bernie Fajarado said, "Talamak na talamak ang protection racket ng mga LTO sa mga colorum, pitong taon na naming nire-reklamo sa kanila ang mga colorum pero ayaw nilang hulihin ang mga ito."

"Ang sabwatan ng mga LTO at mga colorum drivers-operators ang pumapatay sa aming lehitimong hanapbuhay. Dapat tanggalin at kasuhan ang lahat ng mga taga-LTO dito," also said Fajardo referring to the LTO Paniqui Office, The LTO Tarlac City office and the Tarlac City LTO Licensing office located at Metrotown mall where several colorum vans park daily.

"If the LTO people are only doing their mandate, we should not be apprehending these colorums. There are LTO offices here (Tarlac) and we are based in San Fernando City, Pampanga, they (LTO) should be the one doing the apprehending of the colorums," added Sison.

In Paniqui, the LTO office is located along Mac Arthur highway where all the colorum vans pass daily. In Tarlac City, the colorum vans park at the Palm Plaza Mall, Metrotown Mall, and in front of the SM Tarlac City.

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With or without Nat'l Broadband Plan, free internet attainable

MANILA - The Free Internet Access Act can still be implemented even without a National Broadband Plan, the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) said.

DITC Undersecretary Denis Villoriente made this confirmation during a Senate hearing where he was asked by Sen. Paolo Benigno Aquino IV if the plan was necessary to implement free internet in public spaces.

"Can the Free Internet Access Act be fulfilled even without a National Broadband Plan?" Aquino asked Villoriente, who replied in the affirmative.

At present, the Free Internet Access in Public Places Act (Senate Bill No. 1277) has been approved by the Senate on third and final reading via 18-0 vote. Aquino is principal sponsor and co-author of

the measure.

Aquino said that the Free Internet Access in Public Places Act has a provision where its purposes should be fulfilled within two years after its passage into law.

Meanwhile, the NBP is expected to take three years to finish. It will be put up starting 2018 and it is expected to be fully operational in 2020.

The senator also the failure or success of the Free Internet Access in Public Places Act should not be contingent on the NBP and assured the DICT that funding will be not be a problem once the measure is enacted into law.

He was also hopeful that once finished, the NBP can be a cheaper option in the implementation of the Free Internet Access in Public Places Act.

DICT was supportive of the Free Internet Access in Public Places Act and

committed to work with both Houses of Congress during the bicameral conference committee to craft the final version of the measure.

The House recently passed its own version on third and final reading last week. After both Houses ratify the version from the bicameral conference committee, it will be transmitted to Malacanang for Pres. Duterte's signature.

Aquino also encouraged the DICT to also encourage more internet providers to improve the Philippine's slow internet service.

"We need to work on parallel efforts to achieve faster, cheaper and more reliable internet services in our country. Let's work on the implementation of the National Broadband Plan, but let's also encourage more players and internet providers," Aquino said. (Azer N. Parrocha/PNA)

SC set to implement continuous trial system nationwide

MANILA - After the successful pilot testing in 52 first and second level courts in Metro Manila since its launch in September 2014, the continuous trial system will now be implemented in all trial courts nationwide starting this September, according to the Supreme Court.

The SC approved the nationwide implementation of the project upon recommendation of its special committee on speedy trial chaired by Associate Justice Diosdado Peralta.

Under the system, trials should be held from Monday to Thursday and courts must call the cases at exactly 8:30 a.m. for morning hearings and 2 p.m. for afternoon hearings.

The project is designed to cut trial duration in criminal cases from the usual three to five years to just around three months.

In the revised guidelines approved last April 25, the Supreme Court has extended the

implementation of the system formulated to expedite resolution of criminal cases and declog court dockets.

"The Revised Guidelines for Continuous Trial of Criminal Cases shall apply to all newly-filed criminal cases, including those governed by special laws and rules, in the first and second level courts, the Sandiganbayan and the Court of Tax Appeals as of effectivity date. The Revised Guidelines shall also apply to pending criminal cases with respect to pending proceedings," read the new guidelines published in newspapers.

"Hearing on motions, arraignment and pre-trial, and promulgation of decisions shall be held in the morning of Fridays," according to the new guidelines.

The high court cited the finding of the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative, which conducted a results analysis on the project testing in 2015, "that

specific procedural and case management reforms have a notable effect in reducing case processing time."

This finding was affirmed by another development partner, The Asia Foundation, in a report last year showing a "clear and significant improvement in reducing the duration of criminal proceedings and improving the trial courts' compliance with the periods and timelines for trial set in the Rules of Court and Laws."

The continuous trial project, initiated by the SC under Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno and supported by the United States Agency for International Development, aims to protect and advance the constitutional right of litigants to speedy disposition of their criminal cases.

It is also part of the innovations and reforms implemented by the high court to expedite wheels of justice in the country and modernize the judicial system in the country. (Christopher Lloyd T. Caliwang/PNA)

Cayetano doesn't have to resign until after CA confirmation

MANILA - A senator on Thursday said Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano does not need to resign as senator until after the Commission on Appointments (CA) confirms his nomination as Foreign Affairs Secretary.

In a Kapihan press conference, Sen. Francis Escudero said that it is up to Cayetano to decide whether he wanted to wait until confirmation before he resigns as senator or he could resign and assume functions of Foreign Affairs Secretary but only with limited functions.

"... Hindi niya kailangan magbitiw

hangga't hindi siya nako-confirm...or pwede siyang magbitiw na, assume the functions of the secretary immediately but there are certain acts that he cannot perform until he is confirmed (He doesn't need to resign until he hasn't been confirmed...or he can resign now, assume the functions of the secretary immediately but there are certain acts that he cannot perform until he is confirmed)," Escudero said.

Escudero, however, pointed out that if Cayetano resigns before his confirmation, he might lose his spot in the Senate if his confirmation

is rejected.

"Para maiwasan yung nangyari gaya nga nung nasabi ko kanina na nag-resign na tapos hindi na-confirm e hindi ka na secretary, hindi ka pa senador (This is to avoid what I said that you resign and then you were not confirmed. You're not secretary, you're not senator either)," he added.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson earlier expressed hope that Cayetano could be easily confirmed as he is seating Senator and member of the appointments body.

However, Escudero said that this is possible but did not rule out the possibility that Cayetano could still be rejected.

"Sa kasaysayan ng Commission on Appointments, may mga pagkakataon na ginawayan pero may pagkakataon din na ni-reject nila ang isang dating miyembro particular (In the history of the Commission on Appointments, there are instances that (acclamation) was done but there are also instances that they rejected a former member)," Escudero said.

Escudero said it is still the CA to decide if the process of confirming Cayetano would be speedy or would have to be as lengthy as other nominees.

"So desisyon at pasya ng

Commission on Appointments and kung by acclamation o kung papadaanin nila sa butas ng karayom (It's still the decision of the CA if they'll confirm him by acclamation or if they let him pass though the eye of a needle)," he explained.

Once Cayetano vacates his seat, Escudero said that it is possible to replace him but only if a law is passed in the Congress calling for "special elections" which rarely happens since it is costly.

He also dispelled the notion that

the 13th senator elected during the last May 2016 elections -- in this case, former Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) chairman Francis Tolentino -- could take his place.

"Hindi pwedeng maupo yung ika-labintatlo dahil talo siya. Hindi pwedeng maupo at pumalit sa pwesto ng isang nawala, nag-resign o namatay ang isang

kandidatong natalo sa halalan (It is not possible for the 13th senator to sit because he lost. A candidate who lost in the elections cannot sit and replace the senator who left, resigned or died)," Escudero explained.

Escudero said that he doesn't see any problems that may prevent his Cayetano from getting CA's nod. (Azer N. Parrocha/PNA)

DILG Hotline...

from page 6

participating LGUs to observe the same protocols and standards in handling emergency calls.

The training was a collaboration among PATROL 117 Commission, Pilipinas911, telecommunication conglomerates PLDT and Smart, and produced by the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch (IAED), a non-profit organization promoting safe and effective emergency dispatch services that maintains the international standard of the 911 protocol worldwide. (SFM/PNA)

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Child in conflict with the law finds healing through music

Music is known to have therapeutic effects, aiding in a person's healing and in the promotion of improved and more positive health.

Miko is a Child in Conflict with the Law (CICL) and a resident of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Regional Rehabilitation Center for Youth (RRCY) in Nueva Valencia, Guimaras. He can attest to the healing power of music. RRCY serves CICL who are nine years old to below 18 years old. DSWD has 14 RRCYs nationwide.

According to Miko, music has played a big part in his life, especially during its darkest moments.

"I express my suppressed feelings and emotions through music. I compose lyrics of songs based on what I feel, think, and have experienced in the past. Music helped me recover from my dark past," he shared.

Miko was only 17 years old when he was transferred to RRCY in Guimaras. He comes from a broken family; his parents separated when he was still a child, each has a new family. His two half siblings from his mother are presently covered by the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program (4Ps), a poverty alleviation program of the DSWD.

Music has been Miko's source of strength since he transferred to RRCY. He considers it a medium through which he can express all of his emotions, including the loneliness, pain, and regret that he felt for what he went through. He composed songs about his life, with his family as his inspiration.

With the encouragement of his fellow residents and RRCY houseparents, Miko joined the center's band and eventually became one of the vocalists of the group. He was able to compose two songs for the band, including "Sana Dito Ka Lang" and "Break Up," which he and his bandmates usually play whenever there's an important occasion inside the rehabilitation center. Both of these songs are dedicated to his family.

"I dedicate the songs I wrote to my family. I long for them so badly. I wish I could be reunited with them," Miko said.

Miko's longing for his parents and siblings is being filled up by RRCY staff who serve as house parents to him and to other youth residents in the center. Miko, along with other teens, call the staff their "Nanay" and "Tatay."

The interventions provided inside the rehabilitation center gave Miko an opportunity to go back to school.

He has just passed the Alternative Learning System (ALS) exam and now plans to pursue his studies in college.

"I want to be a police officer to protect and serve the people, and to defend the innocent," he said.

A chance to renew one's life

For Miko, being transferred to the rehabilitation center gave him a chance to renew his life. It slowly restored his social functioning, which made him realize that it is possible to live a normal life again after what he went through.

He also shared that RRCY has helped him have another family through the staff in the center who treated him and his fellow residents as their own.

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"I can say that the staff at the center are like my real family because of how they treat me," he said.

Providing an ambiance of a home for children's reformation, the Department's RRCYs help enable youth offenders to restore their social functioning and live a normal life again through reunification to their family, eventually making them productive members of the community.

Some of the services and intervention provided in RRCYs include counselling, values formation sessions, formal and non-formal education, psychotherapy sessions, health services, and recreational and cultural activities, among others.

No to lowering of minimum age of criminal responsibility

According to DSWD Undersecretary for Protective Services Hope V. Hervilla, Filipino children who are in conflict with the law can be rehabilitated and led away from a life of crime.

"With the provision of enough intervention and the support of their families and the community, Filipino children can straighten the path they are treading and live a normal life again. This is why we continue to join the call against lowering the minimum age of criminal responsibility (MACR)," Usec. Hervilla said.

The welfare official reiterated that lowering the MACR violates the fundamental principles of social protection of children, as provided for by law, and by international treaties, and internationally-accepted standards and principles.

"Lower age of criminal responsibility results in more children being detained; substantially higher public expenditures; and an even higher social cost of re-offending and graver offending, which simply demonstrates that such a measure is not cost effective. What we want is better support services for Filipino children and a holistic approach to the implementation of laws protecting them. We want to protect them, not criminalize them," Usec. Hervilla said. (DSWD)