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PHILIPPINE REVOLUTION'S FIRST VICTORY IN BATTLE OF IMUS A LESSON IN PATRIOTISM, ACCOUNTABILITY

IMUS CITY, Cavite (PIA) — A former lawmaker wants the Battle of Imus taught in schools, calling the historic event a crucial but often overlooked chapter in Philippine history.

In his message during the 130th anniversary of the Battle of Imus last September 3, former senator and Philippine Red Cross (PRC) chairperson Richard Gordon emphasized that today's generation should learn more about the battle's history, which was a decisive victory against the Spanish forces.

"Hindi lang ito isang

labanan na natutuwa tayo. Dapat malaman at maituro sa eskwela ito sapagkat itong labanang ito ang nagbigay-daan para sa ating kalayaan. It is important for us to remember na ang labanan na ito ay laban ng mga Pilipino sa ating bansa, labanan na kahit salat sa gamit at sa armas ay nabuo at lumago."

Gordon emphasized that the revolutionaries did not have the weaponry that matched that of their enemies, the Battle of Imus teaches a valuable lesson on perseverance and courage—values that

remain relevant amid the issues the country faces today.

"If we forget the sacrifices of our leaders ay walang mangyayari sa Pilipinas. That is why dapat maituro ito because this is the very first victory of our very poor Filipinos as they fought for a country that did not exist at that time."

For Mayor Alex Advincula, the Battle of Imus remains deeply relevant today, serving as a reminder of the unity and patriotism needed to face the country's current challenges.

"Ipagpatuloy natin ang malasakit at pagkakaisa.

Ito po 'yung nawawala ngayon, nawawala na po ang malasakit sa ating bayan. Alam naman po nating dugo at pawis ang puhunan ng ating mga ninuno kaya natin nakamtam ang ganitong kalayaan."

Advincula added, "Mayroon pong mga problema ang ating lungsod, pero hindi kaya nang nag-iisa ito, kailangan po nito ng tulong-tulong muli natin."

The mayor also noted that while the city faces its own challenges—such as flooding—it remains committed to transparency and accountability to help resolve broader issues affecting Philippine governance.

"Ipinapakita natin dito sa Imus 'yung transparency, [nilalaban natin] 'yung kurapsyon na inalis natin. Pero hindi natin kayang biglain at inuunti-unti natin, lahat naman ng mga kababayan natin ay sumuporta. Nakikita natin na ang may pagkakaisa."

Led by General Emilio Aguinaldo and Jose Tagle, the Battle of Imus was a three-day engagement between Spanish forces and Filipino revolutionaries that marked the first major victory of the Philippine Revolution. It is considered the most decisive early

with the City Government of Bacoor, the activity brought together various government agencies to provide essential frontline services, employment facilitation, and civil service programs in a single convenient venue.

The event aimed to make government services more accessible to job seekers, career aspirants, and the general public by providing multiple services in a

single location, eliminating the need for citizens to visit different government offices.

DOST Cavite joined other participating government agencies in bringing its programs and services closer to the people of Bacoor and nearby communities. The event was attended by more than 1,000 participants, reflecting the strong public interest in accessible government services and employment opportunities. The activity highlighted the commitment of government agencies to responsive, accessible, and citizen-centered public service, in line with the Philippine Civil Service Anniversary. **DOST CAVITE**

battle of the uprising and a key turning point in Philippine history. (PB-PIA CALABARZON) **BY PATRICIA BERMUDEZ**



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DASMARIÑAS PNP ARRESTS PROVINCIAL LEVEL MOST WANTED PERSON FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT, ACTS OF LASCIVIOUSNESS

Camp BGen Pantaleon Garcia, Imus City, Cavite – In its intensified campaign against wanted persons, personnel of the Dasmariñas City Component Police Station arrested a Provincial Level Most Wanted Person at around 4:00 PM on September 10, 2026, in San Marino City, Barangay Salawag, Dasmariñas City, Cavite.

PLTCOL MAC ARTHUR S MERCADER, Chief of Police of Dasmariñas CCPS the arrested accused as alias “Jonathan”, a resident of Barangay Salawag, Dasmariñas City, Cavite.

Warrant personnel of Dasmariñas CCPS served the Warrant of Arrest for Sexual Assault and Acts of Lasciviousness. The warrant was issued and signed by the Presiding Judge of the Regional Trial Court, Fourth Judicial Region, Branch 90, Dasmariñas City, dated November 4, 2022, with a recommended bail of ₱200,000.00.

The accused was duly informed of his

constitutional rights.

Following the arrest, the accused was brought to and is currently detained at the Custodial Facility of Dasmariñas CCPS. The Warrant of Arrest will be returned to the Court of Origin for proper documentation and appropriate legal proceedings.

PLTCOL WILLY B SALAZAR, Officer-in-Charge, Cavite PPO, emphasized the importance of sustained manhunt operations in ensuring that wanted persons are located and brought before the proper authorities to face the legal process.

“We will continue to strengthen our efforts in locating and apprehending wanted persons and ensure that every warrant issued by the courts is properly served. Our personnel remain committed to performing this duty with diligence, professionalism, and full respect for the law and the constitutional rights of every individual,” PLTCOL Salazar said.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT ARRESTS CITY LEVEL MOST WANTED PERSON FOR DRUG CASE

Camp BGen Pantaleon Garcia, Imus City, Cavite – In its intensified campaign against illegal drugs and wanted persons, personnel of the Provincial Intelligence Unit (lead unit) together with warrant personnel of Bacoor CCPS and PNP Cavite Maritime Group successfully arrested a City Level Most Wanted Person at around 6:40 PM on September 10, 2026, in Barangay Niog 3, Bacoor City, Cavite.

PLTCOL ALFONSO SALIGUMBA III, Chief PIU, Cavite PPO, identified the arrested accused as alias “Clark”, a resident of Barangay Niog 3, Bacoor City, Cavite.

The arrest was carried out by the Provincial Intelligence Unit (PIU), together with warrant personnel of Bacoor Component City Police Station and the PNP Cavite Maritime Group, that resulted in the arrest of the accused by virtue of a Warrant of Arrest for violation of Section 11, Article II of Republic Act No. 9165, docketed under Criminal Case No. B-2020-457.

The warrant was issued and signed by the Presiding Judge of the Regional Trial Court, Fourth Judicial Region, Branch 113, Bacoor City, Cavite, dated August 12, 2026, with no

bail indicated.

The accused was duly informed of his constitutional rights and was turned over to the Bacoor Component City Police Station Custodial Facility for temporary custody pending the issuance of a Commitment Order. The Warrant of Arrest will be returned to the Court of Origin for proper documentation and appropriate legal proceedings.

PLTCOL WILLY B SALAZAR, Officer-in-Charge, Cavite Police Provincial Office, emphasized that the successful arrest demonstrates the Cavite PNP's sustained commitment to locating wanted persons and ensuring that individuals with standing warrants are brought before the proper courts to face the legal process.

“We remain relentless in our efforts to locate and apprehend wanted persons, particularly those involved in illegal drug activities. Every successful operation is a step toward a safer community, and we will continue to carry out our duties with diligence, professionalism, and full respect for the law and the constitutional rights of every individual,” PLTCOL SALAZAR said.

IMUS PNP NABS PROVINCIAL LEVEL MOST WANTED PERSON IN KAWIT

Camp BGen Pantaleon Garcia, Imus City, Cavite – A Provincial Level Most Wanted Person, identified by the alias “ELAI,” a resident of Imus City, Cavite, was arrested during a police operation at about 1:00 PM on September 11, 2026, in Brgy. Magdalo Pitol, Kawit, Cavite.

Personnel of the Imus Component City Police Station, the lead unit, under the direct supervision of PLTCOL CHEY CHEY I. SAULOG, Chief of Police, together with personnel of the 401st A Maneuver Company, RMFB 4A, conducted the operation against the said wanted person by virtue of a Warrant of Arrest for Violation of Republic Act No. 10175, or the Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012.

The Warrant of Arrest was issued and signed by the Presiding Judge of the First Judicial Region, Regional Trial Court, Branch 59, Baguio City, Benguet, with bail fixed at Php120,000.00 for each count, dated August 24, 2026.

Upon arrest, the accused

was apprised of her constitutional rights in a dialect known to and understood by her. However, she opted to remain silent in the absence of her chosen counsel.

The accused is currently detained at the Imus Detention Facility pending the return of the Warrant of Arrest to the Court of Origin for proper disposition.

According to PLTCOL WILLY B SALAZAR, Officer-in-Charge, Cavite PPO, the arrest underscores the Cavite Police Provincial Office's continuing commitment to locating and apprehending wanted persons and ensuring that individuals with standing warrants are brought before the proper courts.

“The Cavite PNP will remain relentless in the pursuit of wanted persons. Through intensified police operations and close coordination among our units, we will continue to ensure the proper implementation of warrants of arrest and hold accountable those who violate the law,” PLTCOL Salazar said.

MAGALLANES PNP SERVE WARRANTS AGAINST REGIONAL LEVEL MOST WANTED PERSON

Camp BGen Pantaleon Garcia, City of Imus, Cavite - In its intensified campaign against wanted persons, the personnel of Magallanes Municipal Police Station served Warrants of Arrest against a Regional Level Most Wanted Person September 9, 2026, at Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, Barangay Halang, Naic, Cavite.

PMAJ MELVIN B ISIDRO, Chief of Police of Magallanes MPS, identified the accused as alias ALDO, 47 and a resident of Magallanes, Cavite.

The accused was already under detention at the BJMP Naic when the Warrants of Arrest were served against him by the personnel of Magallanes MPS. The warrants were issued in connection with the crime of Qualified Rape under Article 266-A(1), in relation to Article 266-B of the Revised Penal Code. The

Warrants of Arrest were dated September 7, 2026, and issued and signed by the Presiding Judge of the Regional Trial Court, Fourth Judicial Region, Branch 132, Naic, Cavite,

with no recommended bail. During the service of the warrants, he was duly apprised of his constitutional rights. The appropriate documentation and legal procedures will be undertaken in coordination with the concerned authorities and the court of origin.

PLTCOL WILLY B SALAZAR, Officer-in-Charge, Cavite PPO, emphasized that being able to account for wanted persons, even those already under detention for another matter, is part of the police responsibility to ensure that court-issued warrants are properly served.

“Our duty is to make sure that no warrant is left unserved and that every person who is wanted by the court is properly accounted for. Even when an individual is already under detention, we have to ensure that the legal process continues and that the proper authorities are informed. I commend our personnel for their diligence and for carrying out this responsibility with professionalism and respect for the law,” PLTCOL Salazar said.



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NOT YOUR ORDINARY DRAGONFRUIT FARM: SILAN AGRIFARM'S BAYANIHAN SPIRIT PUSHES AGRITOURISM TO A NEW LEVEL

Over the years, agritourism in the Philippines has gained prominence by providing agriculture-related training for local farmers. But in Indang, Cavite, these spots are a necessity for survival during times of disaster.

Known for producing the famous red royal dragon fruit, Silan AgriFarm has become a saving grace for Caviteños when access to fresh and healthy produce was scarce.

Owned and managed by couple Edilberto and Shirley Silan of Indang, Silan AgriFarm was passed down from Edilberto's parents and was later developed to become a pioneer in producing red royal dragon fruit.

To ensure soil and produce quality, Silan AgriFarm practices mono-cropping, intercropping, multiple cropping and cash cropping, making their farmlands profitable and fertile for healthy agriproducts.

Amplaya and tomatoes were alternated to ensure fertile soil for growing dragonfruits.

With different nutritional needs, intercropping them with dragon fruit maximizes land productivity, improves soil health, and minimizes crop damage caused by bad weather, pests and diseases.

In 2018, Silan AgriFarm was among the local farmers, processors, and entrepreneurs in Indang that were part of the Science and Technology-based Convergence of Agriculture and Tourism (SciCAT) program of the Department of Science and Technology-Philippine Council for Agriculture, Aquatic and Natural Resources Research and Development (DOST-PCAARRD).

The partnership between Silan AgriFarm and DOST started two decades ago, when Edilberto was

recognized as one of their Magsasaka Siyentista or farmer-scientists. Since then, they have collaborated with various research institutes such as the Cavite State University to transform it into a premier SciCAT site.

Through this project, Silan AgriFarm became the showcase for CvSU and DOST's sustainable farming technologies, agricultural innovation, and transitioning production farms into agritourism destinations.

The real groundwork for Silan started in April 2020 when the SciCAT Project Team launched a series of distribution of fresh fruits harvested from the farm. During the Covid-19 pandemic, they provided fresh produce for frontliners from the Philippine National Police (PNP), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO), Traffic Enforcers Unit, Interagency Task Force (IATF) operations, Engineering Office and the Rural Health Office, among many others.

In a press release, CvSU recognized the Silan couple's contribution in giving communities access to healthy produce despite the restraints of a pandemic.

"The advantage of having a farm is not only that it can supply a family's needs but it can also share the harvest to others especially during this time of crisis."

In her 2020 thesis, farm manager Shiela Elaine Silan wrote that the pandemic opened Silan Agri Farm for opportunities to help their community.

Aside from providing fresh produce for their townspeople, they also gave 700 kilograms of papaya for the people of Cagayan Province who were severely affected by typhoon Ulysses.

NAIC LGU CALLS FOR PBBM'S AID TO ADDRESS SOLID WASTE WOES

NAIC, Cavite (PIA) — Faced with a rapidly growing population and solid waste management concerns, the Municipal Government of Naic has called for guidance from the national government in creating long-term solutions to its environmental challenges.

In a video message addressed to President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., Mayor Rommel Magbitang has called for guidance to address their town's waste disposal crisis.

"Mahal na Pangulong Ferdinand Marcos Jr., ako po ay nagpapakumbabang lumalapit sa inyo hindi bilang mayor, kundi bilang kinatawan ng isang bayan na matagal nang tumutulong sa ating pamahalaan. Kailangan po namin ang tulong ninyo. Ang hinihiling lang namin ay gabay at suporta upang makahanap kami ng pangmatagalang solusyon para sa problema sa basura."

Naic currently hosts multiple government housing projects, including those under the Pamahalaan ng Pambansang Pabahay Para sa Pamilyang Pilipino (4PH) and other agency-led relocations. Some of these developments, such as the Pasinaya Homes Series, were personally unveiled by the President.

While the town remained supportive of national

Currently, Silan AgriFarm is expanding to become an integrated and zero-waste farm, and is venturing into vegetable production.

What started out as a bid to continue a family farm slowly became a keystone in the survival of the people of Indang. Silan AgriFarm was not only a source of livelihood for the Silan family—it also saved countless people during catastrophic typhoons and worldwide health crises. (PB-PIA CALABARZON, with reports from Cavite State University and De La Salle University) **BY PATRICIA BERMUDEZ**

housing projects, Magbitang emphasized that the growing population has significantly strained local waste management systems.

"Kasabay ng paglaki ng ating populasyon ang paglaki ng pangangailangan sa mga pangunahing serbisyo, at isa po sa pinakamabigat na hamon na kinakaharap natin ngayon ay ang problema sa basura."

Representative Aniela Tolentino of Cavite's Eighth District backed Magbitang's appeal and called on the concerned agencies such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) to help identify practical solutions to address the town's needs.

"The appeal of Naic, Cavite Mayor Rommel Magbitang for the national government's guidance and support deserves our attention not only because of the urgency of the situation, but more importantly because it reflects a problem confronting many of our local government units."

Meanwhile, Magbitang assured that they will cooperate on solutions that the national government will propose.

Based on LGU records, Naic produces around 96.74 metric tonnes of waste daily, and up to 2,902 tonnes of waste each month or 35,310 tonnes in a year.

The Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) classified Naic as a first-class income municipality and mainly a coastal and agricultural town with a population of 160, 987 based on the 2020 census.

But over the years, Naic's population ballooned to nearly 276,411 residents. Tolentino said the surge was driven by national relocations from Metro Manila which resulted in more resettlement housing and private residential development. (PB-PIA CALABARZON) **BY PATRICIA BERMUDEZ**

EDITORIAL

Kabataan at Wastong Paggabay sa Social Media

Hindi nararapat na malantad ang mga kabataan sa mga pampublikong alitan at suliraning kinahaharap ng mga nakatatanda.

Sa murang edad, maaari silang maapektuhan ng pambabatikos, puna, at iba pang negatibong reaksiyon na nakikita sa social media. Nararapat na gabayan sila ng mga magulang at nakatatanda upang matutuhan nilang gamitin ang social media nang responsable at naaayon sa kanilang edad.

Hindi rin dapat sila isinasangkot o hinahayaang makialam sa mga suliraning hindi naman nila pananagutan. Sa halip, dapat silang bigyan ng tiyak na kaligtasan kung saan mapangangalagaan ang kanilang kapakanan at dignidad.

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48% OF FILIPINOS HOPEFUL OF BETTER LIVING CONDITIONS - SURVEY

MANILA – Nearly half, or 48 percent of Filipinos, are optimistic that their quality of life will improve in the next 12 months, a recent study by the Social Weather Survey (SWS) showed.

The pollster's June 20 to 29, 2026 survey also found that at least 31 percent of Filipinos expect their living conditions to stay the same, 8 percent said they will worsen, and 12 percent did not answer.

The survey firm said the resulting "net personal optimism" score was +40, classified as excellent.

"This is 17 points up from the high +23 in March 2026, and slightly above the 2025 average net personal optimism score of very high +39," it said.

The SWS said this

June 2026 net personal optimism score of excellent +40 is the highest since the excellent +41 in June 2025.

The SWS classifies net personal optimism scores of +40 and higher as excellent; +30 to +39 as very high; +20 to +29 as high; +10 to +19 as fair; +1 to +9 as mediocre; -9 and net zero as low; and -10 and below as very low.

Since initiating the survey in 1984, SWS said the net personal optimism only turned negative 11 times, hitting a record low of -19 in May 2020 at the height of the coronavirus pandemic.

It has since recovered to pre-pandemic levels, falling to +23 in March 2026 before rebounding to +40 in June 2026.

The SWS said optimism

rose in both rural and urban areas among both women and men in all age groups.

Compared to March 2026, the net personal optimism rose from high to excellent in Balance Luzon, up by 27 points from +22 to +49.

It rose from high to very high in Metro Manila, up by 8 points from +28 to +36; by six points in the Visayas from +27 to +33; and by 11 points in Mindanao from +20 to +31.

The June 2026 survey also found that 33 percent of adult Filipinos think their quality of life got better, 34 percent said it stayed the same, while 33 percent said it got worse compared to 12 months ago. (PNA)

BY JOYCE ANN L. ROCAMORA

PH PUSHES FOR STRONGER ASEAN-INDIA COOPERATION VS FOOD SECURITY RISKS

MANILA – The Philippines pushed for stronger regional cooperation between the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and India to alleviate risks in food security, the Department of Agriculture (DA) said on Thursday.

This comes as the Philippine delegation, led by Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr., joined the 9th ASEAN-India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry on Wednesday in New Delhi, India.

Tiu Laurel, who also serves as the ASEAN chairperson for 2026, said risks in food security no longer remain a "domestic concern."

"Geopolitical and economic uncertainties, climate-related tragedies, and volatility in energy, transport, food and agricultural input markets continue to test the resilience of our food

systems and supply chains," he said in a statement.

Tiu Laurel said tensions prompting shocks to trade, transport, energy and even agricultural inputs are being felt beyond states' borders.

"These challenges reinforce the very importance of practical regional cooperation, open communication and sustained partnerships," he said.

He added global disruptions in markets and logistics "quickly affect" farmers and consumers.

Tiu Laurel, meanwhile, highlighted the significance of cooperation with India, citing its expertise in agriculture, food systems, research, technology and capacity development.

During the meeting, he said deepening coordination will advance proper regional preparedness ahead of global disruptions or "full-blown" supply crises.

"I am confident that today's discussions will further strengthen the ASEAN-India partnership and translate our shared priorities into concrete and mutually beneficial cooperation," Tiu Laurel earlier said.

"As we move into the next phase of ASEAN-India cooperation, we look forward to practical, results-oriented activities that contribute to food security, sustainability, resilience, innovation, knowledge exchange and the well-being of our agricultural communities."

During the meeting, leaders reviewed the ASEAN-India Medium-Term Plan of Action for Cooperation in Agriculture and Forestry for 2021 to 2025, as well as the next five-year plan from 2026 to 2030.

Other discussions include those from the 47th ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry

PUNLANG PINALAGO NG SIPAG

CARD Inc.
A Microfinance NGO

Lumaki si Teresita D. Dita sa Sta. Maria, Laguna. Bagama't elementarya lamang ang natapos sa pag-aaral, maaga niyang natutuhang tumayo sa sariling mga paa. Maaga siyang naghanapbuhay sa pamamagitan ng pagluluto at paglalako ng mga kakanin sa kanilang bayan kasama ang kanyang ina. Dahil sa kaniyang paglalako at sariling paggawa, naging pamilyar ang lasa ng kaniyang mga kakanin sa kanilang komunidad, at ang kaniyang kahusayan sa paggawa ng mga ito ay kinilala sa kanilang bayan. Sa katunayan, ang kaniyang sariling gawang suman ay dalawang beses na nagwagi sa Marilag Festival, isang pagdiriwang ng agrikultura at kultura sa Sta. Maria, Laguna.

Subalit nang siya ay nagkaroon na ng sariling pamilya, hindi na naging sapat ang kita ni Teresita sa kaniyang kakanin para sa pagpapalaki ng kanilang anim na anak. Upang mapagkasya ang kita, lakas-loob na pinasimulan niya, kasama ng kaniyang asawa, ang pagmamanukan at pagbebenta ng mga itlog nito. Naging matapang ang mag-asawa na ipinuhunan ang kanilang ipon upang masimulan ang kanilang unang negosyo.

At hindi naging madali ang mga unang araw ng pag-aalaga ng manok at paghihintay sa pangingitlog

meeting in 2025 and the special AMAF meeting in April 2026 on the Middle East situation.

Manila also included matters focusing on extreme weather, geopolitical disruptions and price adjustments and availability of fuel, fertilizer, feed and other farm inputs within the Philippine setting.

(PNA) **BY STEPHANIE SEVILLANO**

nito. Kailangan din nilang mamuhunan sa pagpapanatiling ligtas ng mga manok laban sa mga peste at virus na maaaring magdulot ng sakit sa kanila.

Subalit sa kanilang patuloy na pagsisikap, nakapagsusuplay na sila sa kanilang bayan ng mga itlog na nagkakahalaga ng PHP 280 hanggang PHP 290 sa bawat tray nito. Kasabay ng patuloy na pagtitinda ni Teresita ng kakanin, ang negosyong ito ang bumuhay sa kanilang pamilya.

Noong 2016, nakilala ni Teresita ang CARD, Inc. (A Microfinance NGO) at naging kliyente nito. Bilang isang bagong kliyente, kumuha siya ng kanyang unang loan na nagkakahalaga ng PHP 3,000 na siyang sumuporta sa kanilang paitlutan.

Taong 2021 naman, kumuha siya ng PHP 20,000 loan at nagdagdag ng isa pang negosyo: ang pagpapalago ng mga punla. Katulong ang kaniyang asawa. Nag-alaga sila ng mga punla ng lansones at ibinebenta ang mga ito sa halagang PHP 130 hanggang PHP 150 bawat isa.

Subalit tuwing tag-init, nagiging mahirap para sa kanila ang pag-aalaga ng mga ito dahil sa matinding init at mabilis na pagkatuyo ng lupa. Gayunpaman, patuloy nilang binantayan at diniligan nang mabuti ang mga punla. Patuloy nilang pinatubo ang mga ito kung kaya hindi natigil ang kanilang pagsu-supply hanggang sa makarating

ang kanilang mga punla sa iba't ibang bahagi ng lalawigan ng Laguna at Batangas.

Tulad ng kanilang mga manok na matiyagang nag-abang sa panahon ng pangingitlog, ang buhay ni Teresita ay unti-unti na ring nagbubunga. Lahat ng kanilang mga anak ay mayroon na ngayong sariling mga pamilya, at siya ngayon ay isa nang lola sa kaniyang walong apo. Kahit na narating na niya ang ganitong yugto ng buhay, patuloy pa rin niyang pinatatakbo ang kanilang negosyo.

Kalaunan ay kumuha muli ng PHP 50,000 na loan si Teresita na kanyang hinati-hati bilang working capital para sa kanyang tatlong negosyo upang matiyak ang patuloy na operasyon at paglago ng mga ito.

Sa ngayon, kumikita sila ng halos PHP 60,000 kada buwan mula sa pagdistribute ng mga itlog. Dahil kilala si Teresita sa mga masarap niyang kakanin, tuloy-tuloy ang kanyang paggawa ng mga pre-order nito kung saan siya kumikita ng PHP 2,000 kada batch ng order. Ang kanilang mga punla ng lansones ay kumikita naman ng humigit-kumulang PHP 20,000 buwan-buwan.

Sapat at kontento man ang buhay niya ngayon, ngunit para kay Teresita, ang pag-abot sa ganitong yugto ay bunga ng mahabang panahon na walang patid na sipag, at matiyagang pagpapahalaga at pagpapalago sa kung ano ang mayroon sila.



Si Teresita D. Dita, 72 taong gulang, sa mga kabuhayang matiyaga nilang pinalago ng kanyang asawa: ang kanilang taniman ng punla ng lansones (kanan) at ang kanilang manukan.

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.
Ephesians 2:8-9

SSS LOANLITE NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH UNIONDIGITAL BANK MOBILE APP

QUEZON CITY, – The Social Security System (SSS) announced that UnionDigital Bank (UD) has officially begun accepting applications for the SSS Micro Loan Program, also known as SSS LoanLite, through its mobile application, giving qualified SSS members a convenient and secure digital channel to access short-term financial assistance. SSS President and Chief Executive Officer Robert Joseph M. de Claro said UD is the first of the four participating financial institutions (PFIs) to make SSS LoanLite available through its digital platform. "After months of preparation, SSS LoanLite is finally here. Qualified members can now apply through the UnionDigital Bank mobile application, making access to short-term financial assistance more convenient and secure," de Claro said.

"We are also working with our other PFIs, which will soon make SSS LoanLite available through their respective digital platforms." SSS LoanLite is a digital microloan facility designed to provide qualified members with accessible, secure, and affordable short-term financial assistance for immediate needs. It is part of SSS' continuing efforts to promote financial inclusion, strengthen member services, and provide members a safer alternative to informal and potentially predatory lending arrangements.

First SSS loan facility for employed members with fully digital application SSS LoanLite is the first SSS loan facility for employed members that allows qualified private-sector employees to apply through a PFI's mobile application without the employer certification normally required for conventional SSS loans.

The application and related transactions are facilitated through the UD mobile application, eliminating the need for members to secure and submit the

usual employer certification for conventional SSS short-term loans. Qualified members may apply for loans ranging from ₱1,000 to ₱20,000, depending on the average of their 12 latest Monthly Salary Credits. Available repayment periods are 15, 30, 60, or 90 days, with an interest rate of 8% per annum, equivalent to approximately 0.67% per month. The fully digital process is designed to make loan application more convenient and may allow eligible applications to be processed and approved within minutes, subject to the applicable SSS and PFI requirements, verification procedures, and system processing.

Eligibility and other requirements to qualify for SSS LoanLite, members must meet the eligibility requirements under SSS Circular No. 2026-005, including the applicable age, with at least 36 total contributions, including at least six posted monthly contributions within the 12-month period immediately preceding the loan application, having no past-due Short-Term Member Loans or active SSS Micro Loan, maintaining an account with the PFI enrolled in its online facility, and meeting the other requirements on existing loans, benefit claims, and SSS account status.

All eligibility requirements under SSS Circular No. 2026-005 shall apply. Members are encouraged to review the Circular for the complete eligibility requirements, loan terms, conditions, and other program details. The Circular is available on the official SSS website.

Repayments will be collected according to the agreed schedule through an automatic debit arrangement, which will serve as the default collection mode. Deductions will mainly be made from the account where the loan proceeds were credited. Members are encouraged to repay

DILG EYES REGION 4B SETUP 'OVERHAUL' FOR FASTER GOV'T SERVICES

MANILA – The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) is proposing a reorganization of the Region 4B (Mimaropa) setup to make government response faster and more practical for island provinces, Secretary Jonvic Remulla told senators Thursday.

Remulla raised the proposal during the Senate Finance Subcommittee J hearing after Sen. Erwin Tulfo asked if the Philippine National Police (PNP) could provide sea transport for the Mimaropa regional director, who has to cover

on time to maintain good standing and remain eligible for future SSS LoanLite availment, subject to applicable requirements. Safer alternative to informal lending De Claro said SSS LoanLite is intended to help address members' short-term financing needs while encouraging them to use formal financial services. "SSS LoanLite is part of our broader effort to expand access to formal financial services and protect our members from predatory lending.

Through our partnership with UD, we are supporting faster, safer, and more convenient access to credit for qualified members," de Claro said. SSS reminded members to use only the official UD mobile application when applying for SSS LoanLite and not to transact with individuals or third parties offering to process their loan applications.

Members are advised to carefully review the loan disclosure statement before accepting the loan, including the applicable interest, fees, repayment schedule, and other terms and conditions. SSS will continue to work with its other PFIs to make SSS LoanLite available through their respective digital platforms, providing more qualified members with convenient access to formal short-term credit.

By SSS

Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan.

"If it were part of our wish list, we would like to reform the concept of Region 4B and revise the entire system as it is," Remulla said.

He said the present setup makes it difficult for regional directors and agencies to operate effectively because many regional offices are not actually based in Calapan City, the regional center.

"As of now, sir, it's almost impossible to be regional director of any agency to be in 4B. And no one is in Calapan except for the PNP," Remulla said.

He said some agencies serving the island region are based elsewhere, with the DILG Region 4B office in Quezon City and other offices operating from areas outside Calapan.

"What we propose is that we bring it back to Region 4, into one region, but divide it into different command centers," Remulla said.

Under the proposal, Cavite and Palawan would form one subregion; Batangas and Mindoro another; Laguna and Rizal another; and Quezon, Marinduque and Romblon another cluster.

Remulla said the arrangement would make government functions more rationalized and responsive, instead of forcing agencies to operate under a structure that does not match geography, travel time and actual service delivery.

"In that way, sir, the government functions will be more rationalized," he said.

Tulfo earlier cited the difficulty faced by the PNP Mimaropa regional director in visiting island provinces, saying travel from Mindoro to Palawan often requires passing through Manila.

He asked whether the PNP could acquire sea transport that would allow the

TIGHT POWER SUPPLY TRIGGERS ALERTS OVER VISAYAS, MINDANAO GRIDS

MANILA – The capacity of the Visayas and Mindanao grids remains way below the contingency and regulating requirements, resulting in red and yellow alerts on Friday.

The Visayas grid is on red alert from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m., and on yellow alert from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m., according to an advisory from the National Grid Corp. of the Philippines (NGCP).

Available capacity is estimated at 2,330 megawatts (MW) while peak demand is expected to reach 2,002 MW.

The low capacity regional director to inspect island provinces directly from Mindoro instead of flying through Manila.

PNP chief Gen. Jose Melencio Nartatez Jr. said the acquisition of vehicles and watercraft, including their maintenance requirements, is among the considerations in the police procurement program.

Remulla, however, said the problem requires a broader structural solution beyond buying more vehicles or boats.

He said the DILG would submit the proposed Region 4 reorganization to the Senate within the year.

"We will propose it to the Senate this coming year, sir. And hopefully it will be supported," Remulla said. (PNA) **BY WILNARD BACELONIA**

was attributed to the unavailability of Units 1 and 2 of Therma Visayas, Inc. and Unit 2 of Panay Energy Development Corp., as well as fewer imports from the Mindanao grid.

The NGCP said nine power plants are unavailable this month alone, while 22 others have been on forced outage since 2021.

It said 14 others are operating on derated capacity, reducing capacity by 1,030.1 MW.

For Mindanao, the yellow alert is from 1 p.m. to 8 p.m., primarily traced to the unavailability of Units 2 and 3 of the coal-fired GNPow Kauswagan.

Available capacity is at 2,652 MW while peak demand is projected to reach 2,545 MW.

The NGCP said 17 power plants in Mindanao are not operating; 16 have been unavailable since 2024; and seven others are operating at derated capacity, for a total of 859.8 MW.

A yellow alert is issued when a grid's operating margin is short of contingency requirements, while a red alert is issued when the supply is not enough to meet both the demand and the grid's regulating requirement.

Energy officials expect the capacity in both grids to increase this month due to the scheduled resumption of several power plants. (PNA) **BY JOANN VILLANUEVA**

EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF GERARDO SACNAHON PAUG

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **GERARDO SACNAHON PAUG**, a resident of **Section 1, Block 34 Lot 10 Sunny Brooke II Subdivision, Brgy. San Francisco, General Trias, Cavite 4107** who died on August 04, 2024 at Las Pinas General Hospital & Satellite Trauma Center, Diego Cera Avenue, Bernabe Compound, Pulang Lupa I, Las Pinas City, Metro Manila, 1742 Philippines left one (1) parcel of land located in Sunny Brooke II, San Francisco City of General Trias Cavite, covered by **TCT No. 057-2025046977** of the Registry of Deeds Province of Cavite was extra-judicially settled by the legitimate heirs, executed before Notary Public Atty. Emmie C. Sanchez as per Doc.No.89; Page No. 18; Book No. XIV; Series of 2026. Publication: **CAVITE GAZETTE PUBLISHING** September 1, 8 & 15, 2026

KAHANDAAN NG PAARALAN SA BENGUET SA ACTIVE ATTACK, PINALALAKAS

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet (PIA) — Bilang pagpapalakas ng kahandaan ng mga paaralan sa anumang hindi inaasahang pangyayari, isinagawa sa Benguet National High School (BeNHS) ang School Safety Drill for Active Attack Incidents nitong Setyembre 9, 2026.

Tatlong senaryo ang isinagawa sa drill, kabilang ang initial detection and warning o lockdown, banta sa loob ng paaralan kabilang na ang run response to emergency communication, at hide response.

Nagkaroon din ng controlled movement sa reunification area, psychological first aid, at pagsasagawa ng reunification procedure.

Ayon kay Department of Education (DepEd)-Benguet OIC Schools Division Superintendent Carmel Meris, sa pamamagitan ng drill ay nasusubok ang kahandaan ng paaralan. Nabibigyang-diin din aniya ang kahalagahan ng pagtutulungan ng lahat ng stakeholder.

"We gauge how ready our learners are, how ready our teachers are when things like active shooting will happen.. although we always want safety for our learning environment and our learners," sabi ni Meris.

Ang resulta ng aktibidad ay nadokumento at isinailalim sa After-Action Review upang malaman ang mga kalakasan, mga pagkukulang, mga aral, at dapat pang gawin para sa pagpapahusay ng contingency plans, emergency procedures, training requirements, at iba pang school safety at disaster risk reduction and management interventions ng paaralan.

Ayon kay BeNHS assistant school principal Eugene Espiritu, mainam na ma-incorporate din ang nasabing drill kagaya ng national simultaneous earthquake drill na isinasagawa quarterly.

"If we incorporate that drill, at least we have something na puwedeng sabihin na

ready tayo in case na magkaroon ng ganung attack pero hopefully, hindi magkaroon pero at least, we have to be prepared," saad ni Espiritu.

Sinabi naman ni Lt. Col. Zacarias Caloy Dausen, hepe ng La Trinidad Philippine National Police (PNP), na magandang gawing regular ang nasabing drill, hindi lamang sa BeNHS kundi maging sa iba pang paaralan sa Benguet upang alam ng mga kinauukulan kung ano dapat nilang gawin kung magkaroon mang insidente ng pag-atake sa paaralan.

Binigyang-diin din ng opisyal ang mahigpit na pagsunod sa mga polisiya ng paaralan gaya ng maigting na seguridad sa entrance at exit.

"Implement sana talaga natin 'yung mga policy natin. Just for example, 'yung 'no ID, no entry', maliwasan natin 'yung pagpasok or mag-aalangan ang ating mga estudyante na magpasok ng contrabands kung istrikto 'yung ating main entrance and exit. So mas ma-pre-prevent din natin na may mangyari dun sa loob ng school," ani Dausen.

Sa pamamagitan ng nasabing drill, layunin ng Schools Division Office ng Benguet na mapalakas pa ang kahandaan at pagtutulungan upang masiguro na handa ang mga paaralan sa pag-alam ng mga banta, pagresponde, pakikipag-ugnayan, pagprotekta ng buhay, at pagrekober mula sa active-attack incidents.

Katuwang ng DepEd Benguet at BeNHS ang DepEd-CAR, Benguet PNP, La Trinidad PNP, La Trinidad Fire Station, Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, Benguet Provincial Health Office, Department of the Interior and Local Government - CAR, La Trinidad municipal government, Benguet provincial government, at iba pang ahensiya at stakeholders. (DEG-PIA CAR) **BY DEBBIE E. GASINGAN**

PGC'S MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION GOES TO INDANG

On September 3, 2026, residents of Brgy. Alulod in Indang benefited from a Medical and Dental Mission that brought much-needed healthcare services directly to the community.

A total of 500 patients were assisted during the activity with healthcare services which included medical and dental consultations, Fasting Blood Sugar (FBS) tests and ECG procedures, giving residents access to basic health screening and assessment.

The activity was made possible through the

joint efforts of healthcare workers from GEAMH, AMIGA District Hospital, and Barangay Health Workers (BHWs), with the support of 7th District Board Member Aldrin Anacan, and Indang local officials.

The successful mission highlights the importance of continued cooperation among healthcare providers, community workers, and local leaders in making quality healthcare more accessible to residents. — **OPIO**

MEDICAL AND DENTAL MISSION SERVES 529 PATIENTS IN BRGY. SANTIAGO

On August 27, the Provincial Government of Cavite, through the Office of the Provincial Governor (OPG) Medical Mission Team, successfully conducted a Medical and Dental Mission in Barangay Santiago, General Trias City, providing essential healthcare services to 529 patients from the community.

The mission provided medical consultations and dental services, including tooth extraction, as well as additional diagnostic procedures such as Fasting Blood Sugar (FBS) tests and electrocardiogram (ECG) procedures.

The activity was made

possible through the collaborative efforts of healthcare professionals from the General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital (GEAMH), AMIGA District Hospital, Naic Medicare Hospital, Cavite Municipal Hospital, the Rural Health Unit (RHU) of General Trias City, and Barangay Health Workers (BHWs), who provided valuable assistance throughout the mission.

The mission reflects the continued commitment of the provincial government, participating healthcare teams and partners to bring accessible healthcare services closer to the community. — **OPIO**

CVSU RENEWABLE POWER SHIFT BACKS PH GREEN ENERGY AGENDA

INDANG, Cavite (PIA) — More than saving funds for student-centered programs, Cavite State University (CVSU) is shifting towards clean energy sources to support the country's push towards renewable energy.

Last September 7, CvSU commissioned its campus-wide Rooftop Photovoltaic (PV) System Program for its main campus and 13 branches across the province.

Commissioned under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) with PhilKo 18 Group of Companies, Inc. and the Office of the Presidential Adviser for Poverty Alleviation (OPAPA), the Rooftop PV system is part of country's initiative to expand the use of alternative energy sources in government institutions.

Driven by the Marcos administration's thrust towards renewable energy sources, Secretary Larry Gadon noted that the initiative forms part of the OPAPA's solarization efforts, which aims to reduce electricity costs without requiring

government capital.

"Our [the OPAPA's] concerns is not about ayuda or giving aid to the poor. Our mandate is to uplift the lives of the Filipinos. Poverty doesn't mean you are poor in food, mayroon na kaming bagong measurement and standards on measuring poverty which is the Multi-dimensional poverty index."

Despite being a state university, the PV System Program comes with no cost to the government.

Moreover, the project also supports the government's commitment in achieving a 35 percent alternative energy mix by 2030.

For CvSU, the PV System Program is expected to provide additional revenues from the excess electricity fed into the power grid, ultimately providing more electricity for households and establishments.

With its savings, CvSU will instead allocate its resources to students, facilities, and other essential services. (PB-PIA CALABARZON, with reports from Cavite State University) **BY PATRICIA BERMUDEZ**



HEALTHCARE SERVICES FOR PDLs

continuing commitment to making healthcare accessible to all sectors of the community.

The mission provided medical consultations to 507 patients, while 54 individuals received dental services. Meanwhile, 11 patients underwent electrocardiogram (ECG) procedures as part of the health assessment services provided during the activity.

The successful conduct

of the mission was made possible through the collaborative efforts of medical practitioners from General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital (GEAMH), in coordination with AMIGA District Hospital and other participating personnel.

The PGC likewise recognized the support and cooperation of Provincial Warden Candelario Warllie R. Hermo in facilitating the delivery of healthcare

services within the provincial jail facility.

Board Member Aldrin Anacan also supported the initiative, highlighting the importance of strong coordination among provincial officials, partner offices, and local stakeholders in bringing government services directly to communities and sectors requiring assistance. — **OPIO**

GOVERNANCE REFORMS, EXPORT SURGE TO ANCHOR WEAK PESO – ECONOMIST

MANILA – Continuous improvements in governance policies to attract foreign investment are expected to buffer the Philippine peso against its current weakness against the United States dollar, according to an economist.

Rizal Commercial Banking Corporation (RCBC) chief economist Michael Ricafort said it is difficult to project the future level of the local currency.

“(Its movements are) largely a function of BSP (Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas) intervention/smoothening of market volatility,” he said in a reply to questions from the Philippine News Agency.

Monetary officials have maintained that the central bank participates in currency trading not to determine where the Philippine peso should be against the U.S. dollar, but to temper extreme volatility.

On Thursday, the local currency ended almost unchanged against the greenback, closing at PHP62.53.

Ricafort underscored the need for aggressive trade strategies to back the local currency.

“(We need to) boost more exports through more export products and destinations, as most of our neighbors in ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and Asia are net goods exporting countries,” he said.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) is actively working to provide Filipino entrepreneurs additional market access for their products.

In 2025, the country registered record-high exports growth after expanding 15.3 percent year-on-year to USD84.48 billion.

This expansion continues, with the end-July export level rising 12.9 percent to USD54.92 billion, according to data from the Philippine Statistics Authority.

This growth has already surpassed the government's 3 percent target for goods exports and the 4 percent goal for services exports this year.

Further, Ricafort urged

consumers to prioritize locally produced items over imported goods to reduce dollar outflows and support the peso.

He also underscored the importance of reducing the country's dependence on debt denominated in U.S. dollars and other foreign currencies “in view of risk of forex losses involved, learning from mistakes in past crisis periods.”

“(There is also a need to) further accelerate renewable power sources such as solar, wind, geothermal, hydro, WTE (waste-to-energy), (and) nuclear, (as well as the use of) EVs (electric vehicles) to structurally reduce reliance on imported oil/fuels/petroleum,” he added. (PNA) **BY JOANN VILLANUEVA**

BIR SEALS 385 CASH REGISTERS IN NATIONWIDE TAX CRACKDOWN

MANILA – The Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) flagged 842 establishments and sealed 385 unregistered or non-compliant cash registers and point-of-sale (POS) machines during a recent nationwide sweep.

In a statement on Thursday, the BIR reported that its revenue officers evaluated 7,685 businesses and inspected 14,806 sales machines across various regions from Aug. 24 to 28.

“Enforcement is primarily a deterrent. It sends a message to those who deliberately violate the law that there are consequences, and encourages those who have been remiss to return to compliance,” BIR Commissioner Charlito

MANILA – The benchmark Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) fell on Thursday as investors locked in profits from a two-day rally, while the peso closed almost unchanged against the United States dollar amid concerns over surging global oil prices.

The local bourse's main index declined by 0.28 percent to 6,099.23 points, while the broader All Shares index dipped by 0.08 percent to 3,383.31 points.

In a market report, Philstocks Research said the local market pulled back as investors booked gains after a two-day rise.

“Worries over rising global oil prices and its impact on our country's inflation also weighed on sentiment,” it said, adding increased military actions in the

Mendoza said.

“What we want is for taxpayers to correct deficiencies, properly record their sales, and comply moving forward. When an establishment that has been flagged corrects its practices, we consider that a positive result.”

The cash register machines/POS post-evaluation was one of four major initiatives under the BIR's month-long, heightened nationwide enforcement operations.

The other initiatives included fuel testing and marking, the destruction of illicit vapes, and crackdowns on illegal cockpit (sabong) operations. (ANNA LEAH GONZALES/PNA)

PSEI UP ANEW, PESO RECOVERS ON IMPROVED MARKET SENTIMENT

MANILA – Bargain-hunting sustained the rise of the Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) on Wednesday and the Philippine peso improved against the U.S. dollar.

The local bourse's main index rose 0.17 percent to 6,116.53 points, and the broader All Shares by 0.04 percent to 3,385.85 points,

Half of the sectoral gauges followed, namely the Services, up 1.59 percent; Mining and Oil, 0.55 percent; and Industrial, 0.05 percent.

On the other hand, Holding Firms slipped 1.29 percent, Property, 0.82 percent; and Financials, 0.12 percent. Volume reached nearly 940 million shares, amounting

Middle East pushed Brent crude prices past USD100 a barrel.

Most sectoral gauges also finished in the red, led by Holding Firms which dropped 1.17 percent, followed by Industrial (0.60 percent), Property (0.55 percent), and Financials (0.33 percent).

In contrast, Mining and Oil climbed 2.59 percent, while Services advanced by 0.74 percent.

Trading volume reached 1.03 billion shares valued at PHP7.3 billion.

Decliners outnumbered advancers, 93 to 83, while 67 shares remained unchanged.

Meanwhile, the local currency ended almost unchanged at 62.53 against the U.S. dollar from 62.51 Wednesday.

It opened the day unchanged at 62.5, and traded between 62.5 and 62.58, resulting in an average of 62.54.

Volume declined to USD1.19 billion from USD1.68 billion a day ago. (PNA) **BY JOANN VILLANUEVA**

FDI NET INFLOWS HIT \$447M IN JUNE

MANILA – Foreign direct investments (FDI) recorded net inflows of USD447 million in June this year, data released by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) on Thursday showed.

The amount was down from the USD638 million recorded in June last year.

For the first six months of the year, FDI net inflows also declined to USD3.38 billion from USD4.11 billion in January to June 2025.

FDI includes investments by a non-resident direct

MANILA – The European Union and Spain have officially joined the Luzon Economic Corridor (LEC) partnership, expanding the international coalition to 13 members.

LEC Co-Chair and Finance Secretary Frederick Go announced the newest members during the inaugural Luzon Economic Corridor Investment Forum on Thursday.

As part of its entry, the EU is aligning its Global Gateway initiative — which includes a 60-million euro Green Economy Programme and a 20-million euro Digital Economy Package — with LEC priorities. This alignment will support green and circular development, renewable energy, energy efficiency, secure digital connectivity, innovation and skills development.

Spain, meanwhile, will bring public- and private-sector expertise to advance potential LEC projects in railways, modular infrastructure, aviation, shipbuilding, air-navigation management

and renewable-energy connectivity.

“We are very pleased to welcome the European Union and Spain to the partnership,” Go said. “Their participation brings additional expertise, technology, capital, and global business networks that can help accelerate investments and develop the infrastructure to support the Philippines' growth. This is a strong vote of confidence in the Philippines and in the opportunities that our economy offers.”

The LEC was launched by the Philippines, the United States and Japan to accelerate strategic infrastructure investments, strengthen connectivity and supply chains, and enhance the Philippines' competitiveness as an investment and production hub.

Other partners include Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Italy, the Republic of Korea, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

“The LEC is about building projects that generate jobs, strengthen our industries, and create lasting economic value for the Philippines,” Go said. (PNA) **BY ANNA LEAH GONZALES**

earnings.

“Near-term FDI flows may remain soft, but the longer-term story will depend on how effectively the country converts reforms into actual investment projects,” Reyes Tacandong & Co. Senior Adviser Jonathan Ravelas, said.

Equity capital investments, however, went up.

The BSP said capital placements mostly came from Japan, United States, and Singapore and were invested in manufacturing, financial and insurance, and real estate. (PNA) **BY ANNA LEAH GONZALES**

after it finished the day at 62.51 against the greenback, from its 62.62 close Tuesday.

It opened the trade at 62.5, and ranged between 62.43 and 62.55. The average for the day stood at 62.48.

Volume reached USD1.68 billion, up from day-ago's USD1.39 billion. (PNA) **BY JOANN VILLANUEVA**

showed some relief against the US dollar,” said Luis Limingan, Regina Capital Development Corporation head of sales.

He, however, noted that “upside remained limited as investors maintained a selective approach amid prevailing economic uncertainties.”

The local currency gained



PSC, AFP LAUNCH 1ST PUSO TOURNAMENT

MANILA – The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) launched the 1st Philippine Uniformed Services As One (PUSO) tournament at the PSC House inside the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Malate, Manila on Thursday.

The national event, themed "Unity in Sports," will be held from Nov. 14-28 at various venues in the National Capital Region.

Featured sports are arnis, athletics, badminton, basketball (5x5), boxing, chess, cheerdance, football, golf, indoor volleyball, judo, karate, lawn tennis, obstacle course, sepak takraw, softball, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo, target shooting, and tug-of-war.

Participating agencies are the Philippine Army, Philippine Air Force, Philippine Navy, Philippine National Police, Philippine Coast Guard, National Bureau of Investigation, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency, Bureau of Customs, Bureau of Fire Protection,

Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, Bureau of Corrections, Bureau of Immigration, Metropolitan Manila Development Authority, and Philippine Military Academy.

The tournament aims to foster camaraderie, champion sports excellence, and display a unified front among the nation's guardians and public servants.

"This is a perfect collaboration," said PSC chairman John Patrick

Gregorio during a press conference at the PSC House inside the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Malate, Manila.

Also present were National Defense Assistant Secretary Katherine Lingan and AFP Civil-Military Operations deputy chief BGen. Victor Lapitan Jr., who represented AFP chief Gen. Antonio Nafarrete. (PNA) **BY JEAN MALANUM**



PUSO TOURNEY. The Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) launch the 1st Philippine Uniformed Services As One (PUSO) tournament at the PSC House inside the Rizal Memorial Sports Complex in Malate, Manila on Thursday (Sept. 10, 2026). The multi-sports event will be held from Nov. 14-28. (PNA photo by Jean Malanum)

THAILAND'S EST COLA SECURES PVL INVITATIONAL CROWN

MANILA – EST Cola of Thailand lifted the PVL Invitational championship trophy after beating Nxled, 25-22, 25-21, 25-19, before a highly appreciative crowd at the Smart Araneta Coliseum Tuesday night.

Papatchaya Phontham and Nannaphat Moonjakham played brilliantly throughout the one-hour and 28-minute match.

Phontham, who eventually earned the Most Valuable Player award, scored 15 points on 14 attacks and

one block.

Moonjakham chipped in 11 points and 12 digs while Nattharika Wasan had nine points, followed by Nirarach Srikuta and Sasithorn Jatta with seven and six, respectively.

Natnicha Saelao added four points on top of 19 excellent sets for EST Cola, which became the second foreign team to win the Invitational after Japan's Kurashiki Ablaze beat Creamline in 2023.

The victory also completed EST Cola's remarkable

evolution from the U20 team that finished fourth in its 2024 PVL Invitational debut into a championship-caliber squad.

Jonah Escamillan led the Chameleons with 11 points. Myla Pablo had 10 points, including two aces, while MJ Phillips had nine points.

Meanwhile, PLDT defeated Creamline, 25-20, 20-25, 25-21, 25-22, to settle for third place. (PNA) **BY JEAN MALANUM**

PUERTO PRINCESA AIMS TO BECOME PH SPORTS CAPITAL

MANILA – Puerto Princesa seeks to become the country's sports capital, a vision strengthened by its partnership with the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC).

PSC chairman John Patrick Gregorio hailed Puerto Princesa's sports program as a model of excellence, driven by the dynamic leadership of Mayor Lucilo Bayron and his city officials.

"The sports program of Puerto Princesa City is worth emulating by other LGUs. You are truly advanced in research, development, and implementation. Congratulations," Gregorio said in a news release Wednesday.

"You already know the benefits of sports tourism to grassroots development and tourism contribution to the economy. Mayor Bayron is your No. 1 cheerleader."

The three-day Palawan Youth and Sports Summit, organized by the PSC, became a powerful forum where national sports leaders and experts converged to chart Puerto Princesa's trajectory toward becoming the country's sports capital.

PSC and Puerto Princesa City leaders also visited the Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm, where a sprawling 20-hectare site donated by the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology, through its Director General Gregorio Pio Catapang, will become home to several sports facilities.

The PSC Regional Sports Complex will have a

baseball diamond, softball field, football pitch, and a host of multi-sport facilities that will serve as the backbone of the city's regional sports hub.

From there, the delegation proceeded to the Ramon V. Mitra Sports Complex, which has a gymnasium where athletes train in sepak takraw, boxing, tennis, badminton, table tennis, basketball, and combat sports such as wushu, taekwondo, and arnis.

The complex also has a track and field oval, football field, volleyball court, swimming pool, archery range, and baseball field.

"Puerto Princesa is ready to lead. With PSC as our partner, we will build the future of Philippine sports here in Palawan," Bayron said, summing up the city's ambition.

The tour culminated with the awarding ceremony of the World Table Tennis Youth Contender at the Edward S. Hagedorn Coliseum, further solidifying the city's

standing as a consistent hub for sports tourism.

The Philippine Table Tennis Federation (PTTF), under the leadership of President Ting Ledesma and Secretary General Pong Ducanes, organized the event.

In partnership with the PSC, the PTTF is set to launch a promising grassroots initiative to donate 240 table tennis tables to Filipino-Chinese schools nationwide.

On the final day, the delegation proceeded to the Philippine Paddling Federation's training center along the Iwahig River. Already recognized as a world-class paddling hub, the facility has become home to national athletes in dragon boat, canoeing, and kayaking.

PSC Commissioners Matthew Gaston and Walter Torres, and Pilipinas Sepak Takraw Association President Karen Caballero also attended the summit. (PNA) **BY JEAN MALANUM**



MODEL OF EXCELLENCE. Philippine Sports Commission chairman John Patrick Gregorio (center) with local officials during the Palawan Youth and Sports Summit at the Ramon V. Mitra Sports Complex in Puerto Princesa City on Sept. 7-8, 2026. Gregorio hailed Puerto Princesa's sports program as a model of excellence, driven by the dynamic leadership of Mayor Lucilo Bayron and the city officials. (PSC photo)

FOXIES CONQUER VIETNAMESE RIVALS TO SETTLE FOR FIFTH

MANILA – Farm Fresh repeated over Ho Chi Minh City Club of Vietnam, 25-10, 25-15, 25-15, Tuesday to settle for fifth place in the PVL Invitational at the Smart Araneta Coliseum.

Trisha Gayle Tubu scored 10 of her 14 points in the opening frame, while Frances Molina also had 14 points to go with eight receptions and seven digs as the Foxies secured the win after 67 minutes.

Jonna Perdido and Riri Meneses chipped in 13 and 11 points, respectively, for Farm Fresh, which

pulled off a 25-14, 25-15, 26-28, 25-20 victory over Ho Chi Minh last Aug. 31.

Setter Alohi Robins-Hardy orchestrated the offense with 12 excellent sets alongside two points, while Buding Duremdes anchored the defense with 12 digs.

Farm Fresh head coach Koji Tsuzurabara praised their opponents and noted the league's evolving style of play.

"I appreciate the Ho Chi Minh team. This tournament, my team saw no good result. First, I think

[we need to] change the volleyball style. After the last PVL conference with imports, all teams made a difference in team style," said Tsuzurabara, who led the now-disbanded Petro Gazz Angels to a title in the 2024-25 PVL All-Filipino.

"Last year's PVL volleyball and this year's PVL volleyball style are different. So, we need more practice, and we need to react to the new volleyball. We have to look for a new style. One year ago versus now – it's a big difference," he added. (PNA) **BY JEAN MALANUM**