

ASEAN Forum Cites DSWD's KALAHI-CIDSS for Community Empowerment

The Department of Social Welfare and Development's (DSWD) Kapiti-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan – Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDSS) was cited as one of the Philippine government programs that promotes social empowerment.

During the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) So-

cial Welfare and Development's (DSWD) forum on Wednesday (March 4) Her Excellency Woro Srihastuti Sulistyaningrum, Indonesia's Deputy Minister for the Coordination of Family Quality Improvement and Population Affairs, recognized KALAHI-CIDSS as one of the significant programs in the region that uses the whole-of-society approach to empower communities.

"In the Philippines, the KALAHI-CIDSS program is a shining example of community-driven development (CDD), empowering barangays to take charge of their own progress," H.E. Sulistyaningrum said in her presentation at The Peninsula Manila in Makati City.

The KALAHI-CIDSS is a DSWD program that uses the CDD (community driven development) approach to reduce poverty as well as promote empowerment and community volunteerism.

Through the program, community members actively participate to identify and prioritize their community's concerns, allowing them to design, implement, and manage solutions to their priority community problems.

"We express our sincere appreciation to H.E. Sulistyaningrum for recognizing the DSWD's KALAHI-CIDSS as a program that advances participatory governance by empowering communities to take an active role in their own development," Asst. Secretary Irene Dumlaog

(Turn to page 3)



PRESS RELEASE

DSWD's KALAHI-CIDSS cited for facilitating empowerment at ASEAN-ASCC high-level forum

City Government of Bacoor

MASS BAPTISM 2026 SCHEDULE

JUNE 11, 2026

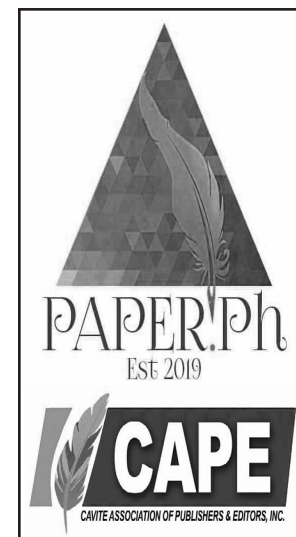
SEPTEMBER 16, 2026

DECEMBER 4, 2026

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690,000 Trees to Rise in Pampanga, Cavite Under DOTr Greening Program

City Government of Carmona ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUALS IN CRISIS SITUATION PARA SA 139 BENEFICIARIES MULA SA CARMONA



Sa pangunguna ng Crisis Situation (AICS) ng Office of the City Social Welfare and Development Officer ay isinagawa ang pamamahagi ng tulong pamilyal mula sa Assis-

Total of 1.2 million trees in 18 sites covered in NSCR Greening Program. The Department of Transportation (DOTr) will plant around 690,000 trees starting this July at the watersheds in Sapangbato in Angeles City and Sacobia in Mabalacat City in Pampanga, and Maragondon in Cavite as a fulfillment of the Greening Program of the North-South Commuter Railway (NSCR) Project.

President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. has directed the DOTr to ensure that climate protection initiatives are in place in areas affected by big-ticket transport projects.

Transportation Secretary Banoy Lopez proved the tree planting in the Pampanga and Cavite watersheds as part of the NSCR Greening Program.

"Kaakibat ng (Turn to page 7)

DFA-OVS, COMELEC Launch SRAP for 2028 Elections

The Department of Foreign Affairs – Overseas Voting Secretariat (DFA-OVS) and the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) collaborated to conduct the Special Register Anywhere Program (SRAP) for the 2028 National and Local Elections (NLE) last February 2026 at the Function Hall A, Ground Floor, Double Dragon Building, Pasay City.

The SRAP is being catered to DFA officers and staff who have completed their tour of duty abroad. Dependents, relatives, and friends of DFA employees were likewise welcomed to avail themselves of COMELEC's voter registration (Turn to page 2)

DFA-OVS, COMELEC Launch SRAP for 2028 Elections



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DFA-OVS Vice Chairperson Raul H. Dado and COMELEC Commissioner Nelson J. Celis with the Special Register Anywhere Program (SRAP) Team and DFA-OVS Team. (Photo Credit: DFA-OVS)

(From page 1)
tration services.

Based on the pre-registration system, OVS initially expected more than sixty (60) applicants to participate in this year's SRAP. However, the actual turnout exceeded expectations, with one hundred thirty-five (135) individuals showing up to avail of the services.

"We were expecting more than sixty (60) applicants for this year's SRAP based on our pre-registration system, but one hundred thirty-five people showed up to avail of SRAP services," said DFA-OVS Chairperson Ezzedin H. Tago.

The strong turnout underscores the continuing commitment of DFA personnel and their fami-

lies to exercise their right to vote and actively participate in the democratic process.

The initiative also highlights the productive collaboration between DFA-OVS and COMELEC in bringing essential government services closer to stakeholders.

Nelson J. Celis, Commissioner of the Commission on Elections (COMELEC), graced the event to personally oversee the Special Register Anywhere Program

(SRAP) operations. The SRAP services were originally scheduled from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM; however, due to the influx of applicants, the registration period was extended until 5:30 PM to accommodate more voters.

Likewise, DFA-OVS informs Filipinos abroad that overseas voter registration for the 2028 Philippine Elections officially resumed last 01 December 2025 and will run until 30 September 2027. Source: DFA

"Do the difficult things while they are easy and do the great things while they are small. A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step."

Lao Tzu

690,000 Trees to Rise in Pampanga, Cavite Under DOTr Greening Program

(From page 1)

Magtatanim tayo ng mga puno bilang kapalit ng natutulon na mga puno bunga ng pagtatayo ng mga naturang proyekto,"

Secretary Lopez said.

DOTr Assistant Secretary for Right of Way and Site Acquisition (ROW-SA) IC Calaguas, conducted an ocular visit at the two proposed greening sites on Friday, February 27, with representatives from the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and people's organization Abacan River and Angeles Watershed Advocacy Council, Inc. (ARAW-ACI).

With a Tree Cutting Permit for the NSCR Calamba Extension Project issued by the DENR, the transport agency is mandated to implement a Greening Program to mitigate the environmental or ecological impact of tree cutting during the construction phase, while preserving natural resources for future generations. Since 2024, the DOTr is targeting to plant a total of 1.2 million seedlings in 18 sites across Bulacan and Pampanga as part of the Greening Program for NSCR. The initiative involves seedling procurement and delivery, plantation establishment, maintenance and protection, validation activities, and project management and supervision, according to Asec. Calaguas.

Crucial for preventing flooding and ensuring a reliable source of clean water for Angeles City, the 546-hectare Barangay Sapangbato is covered by the Sapangbato Watershed, while the protected Sacobia Watershed serves as the primary watershed for the entire province of Pampanga.

The Sapangbato and Sacobia watersheds are on top of DOTr's existing sites in Magalang and Arayat where the agency already planted around 300,000 trees in Barangays Ayala and Turu in Magalang town, in partnership with another people's organization, the Samahan ng mga Magsasaka sa Mataas na Lupa, Inc. and La Paz Turu Upland Farmers Association.

Magalang Municipality Mayor Malu Lacson, who joined the inspection at Mt. Arayat National Park, said they fully support the NSCR as it will provide fast transportation for passengers, while the tree planting will help in preventing flooding in low-lying areas.

"Malaking tulong ito sa ating kalikasan lalo na sa flood mitigation, mas preskong hangin, maging kalikasan para sa susunod na henerasyon. Buo ang suporta namin sa NSCR dahil mabibigyan ng kaginhawaan ang motorista kumbaga hindi na sila magtatagal sa kalasada kung may tren na maasahan," Mayor Lacson said. Source:DOTr

**Artist's Perspective Only*

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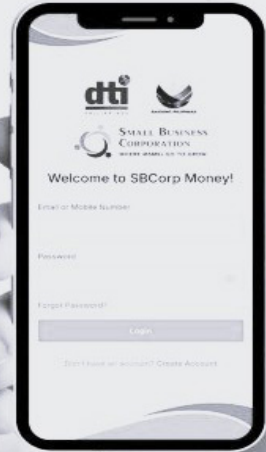
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P2-Billion OFW Negosyo Fund Launched by DTI

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To further strengthen the country's economic resilience amid unpredictable global events, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has dedicated P2 billion from the DTI-Small Business Corporation (DTI-SBCorp) for the newly established OFW Negosyo Fund.

This initiative, which OFWs can already start availing starting March 12, 2026, provides expanded financial assistance to Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs), empowering them to navigate sudden displacements from work abroad—such as those triggered by the ongoing Middle East conflict—and smoothly reintegrate at home by launching sustainable businesses.

The fund anticipates the real-world contingencies OFWs face, from abrupt returns due to geopolitical tensions to the hurdles of starting enterprises after years abroad.

By converting remittances into productive investments, it creates jobs, stimulates local growth, and honors the vital contributions of our modern-day heroes.

"We are committed to opening doors for OFWs ready to come home and invest in their own country, especially when external

crises force their hand," DTI Secretary Cristina Roque stated.

"Access to capital is often the biggest barrier during these uncertain transitions. Through DTI-SBCorp, we've tailored this fund to equip them with the resources to build, hire, and secure their families' futures—no matter the circumstances."

Mirroring the flexible terms of the Women's Enterprise Fund for maximum accessibility, the OFW Negosyo Fund offers:

Loan Amount: From P30,000 to P20 million.

Grace Period: No payment of capital and interest for the first year on eligible products.

Repayment Terms: Up to five years with flexible options.

Collateral: Waived for loans up to P5 million.

In line with DTI's digitalization push, OFWs can apply seamlessly via the DTI-SBCorp Money App (on Google Play and Huawei AppGallery) or web app at app.sbcorp.ph.

Online registration for the loan facility can also be done thru sbcorp.gov.ph. For hands-on support, visit any of the 1,431 Negosyo Centers nationwide, where experts guide business planning and DTI program navigation. Call the hotline at 1-384 for details. Source: DTI

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

-versus-FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-035-26

SPS. EDZEL B. LATAM and
MEACHELL O. LATAM,
Debtors/Mortgagors.

X-----X

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, BDO UNIBANK, INC., with business address at BDO Corporate Center, 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City against the Debtors/Mortgagors, SPS. EDZEL B. LATAM AND MEACHELL O. LATAM, with residence and postal addresses at (1) No. 808 Neptali Gonzales St. Brgy. Hulo, Mandaluyong City, (occupied by mortgagor's relatives) and (2) Block 10, Lot 9, Woodcross Phase 4, Brgy. Tapia, General Trias, Cavite (Currently occupied by Mortgagors), to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of January 5, 2026 amounts to ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED NINETY ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY TWO PESOS and 95/100 (PhP1,691,272.95), Philippine Currency, including interest, penalties and other charges as of said date but exclusive of all other expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on MARCH 25, 2026 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning until 12:00 o'clock noon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE
No. 057-2022049061

Lot No. 9 Block: 10 Plan No. Pcs-04-032601
Portion of: Lot 1916-C, Psd-04-034821 and Lot 1917 SFDM Estate (FRS-04-006232)
Location: BRGY. OF TAPIA, Municipality of General Trias, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon
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2-3 NE Road Lot 12, Pcs-04-032601
3-4 SE Lot 11, Block 10, Pcs-04-032601
4-1 SW Lot 6, Block 10, Pcs-04-032601
Area: FIFTY (50) SQUARE METERS, more or less

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above-stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on APRIL 8, 2026 without further notice.

Prospective bidders/buyers are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the title to the said property and encumbrances thereon, if any there be.

Trece Martires City, FEBRUARY 27, 2026.

REYNALDO L. SALOMA
Sheriff IV

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No. 12, ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City

SPS. EDZEL B. LATAM & MEACHELL O. LATAM
(1) No. 808 Neptali Gonzales St. Brgy. Hulo, Mandaluyong City
(2) Block 10, Lot 9, Woodcross Phase 4, Brgy. Tapia, General Trias, Cavite

Publication: CAVITE DIGEST
Dates: MAR. 2, 9, 16, 2026

WARNING: It is absolutely prohibited to remove, deface or destroy this Notice of Extra-Judicial Sale on or before the date of sale.

DILG Orders Rigorous Screening for Next BFP Chief

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) assured the public that the selection of the next Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) chief will undergo strict vetting, including multiple rounds of interviews and a thorough review of candidates' financial records, performance history, and professional track record.

In a press conference held today in Quezon City, Interior and Local Government Secretary Jonvic Remulla said the selection process is ongoing and involves seven rounds of interviews.

"We're still determining kasi part 1 pa lang tayo. We're going through 7 rounds of interviews. So

maybe next week, ipapakita namin sa inyo yung results," he said. Remulla said the Department has already interviewed promising candidates for the position.

"Ngayong umaga meron kaming interview. Titingnan namin lahat ng kanilang financial records, performance records, at nakita namin itong dalawang mai-interview namin ay ang pinaka-promising na magiging bagong BFP chief," he said.

Meanwhile, the DILG is awaiting the preventive suspension order against BFP Chief Director Jesus Fernandez and has written to the Office of the President of the Philippines, the

appointing authority, recommending the official's relief from post.

The Secretary stressed that even if Fernandez files for retirement, it will not shield him from accountability.

"Tuloy pa rin ang kaso. Retirement does not absolve you from allegations and for being tried for corruption. Hindi siya bulletproof vest para hindi ka makasuhan."

The DILG filed administrative and criminal charges against Fernandez and several John and Jane Does over an alleged P14.752-million bribery scheme tied to the procurement of 132 Type 1 Basic Life Support ambulances for the agency. Source: DILG

ASEAN Forum Cites DSWD's KALAHI-CIDSS for Community Empowerment

(From page 1)
the DSWD's spokesperson, said on Wednesday.

"The DSWD, as chair of this year's ASCC, also fully supports her call for ASEAN member states to strengthen knowledge-sharing and coordination so that all the best practices and successes of our social empowerment initiatives in the region may be replicat-

ed and scaled up for the betterment of the whole ASEAN region," the DSWD spokesperson added.

The DSWD launched the Panahon ng Pagkilos: Philippine Community Resilience Project (PCRP) in 2025, a successor initiative to the KALAHI-CIDSS which also utilizes the CDD approach to empower grassroots com-

munities to become more resilient in the face of climate change and disasters.

For 2026, PCRP targets 500 municipalities across 49 provinces, prioritizing locations characterized by high poverty incidence, increased vulnerability to environmental hazards, and substantial Indigenous People (IP) communities. (AKDL). Source: DSWD

City Government of Imus

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Sa pagdiriwang ng National Women's Month, ang lokal na pamahalaan ng Imus ay ipinapaalala ang kahalagahan ng Safe Spaces Act (RA 11313) o mas kilala bilang Bawal Bastos Law, na may layuning tiyakin na ang bawat kababaihana ay may karapatang maging ligtas, iginagalang, at malaya sa anumang uri ng pang-aabuso o pambabastos sa pampublikong lugar, opisina, paaralan, online, at iba pang espasyo.

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- Malalawang pagtingin (intrusive gaze)
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- Diskriminasyon sa kasarian
- Pagbabanta
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- Pag-post ng sensitibong larawan o video nang walang pahintulot
- Barangay
- Pulis
- City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO)
- Public Attorney's Office (PAO)
- Sa bawat hakbang ng pamayanan, dapat maramdaman ng kababaihan ang respeto, proteksyon, at pagkakapantay-pantay. Ang Safe Spaces Act ay paalala na anumang kasarian, anumang kasuotian, anumang lugar—walang sinuman ang dapat bas-tusin o abusuhin.

Isumbong ang mga bastos dahil protektado ka ng batas!

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ang lokal na pamahalaan ng Imus ay ipinapaalala ang kahalagahan ng Safe Spaces Act (RA 11313) o mas kilala bilang Bawal Bastos Law, na may layuning tiyakin na ang bawat kababaihana ay may karapatang maging ligtas, iginagalang, at malaya sa anumang uri ng pang-aabuso o pambabastos sa pampublikong lugar, opisina, paaralan, online, at iba pang espasyo.