



GOVERNOR REMULLA VISITS THE LOCALS OF DASMARIÑAS: Governor Jonvic Remulla visited the locals of the City of Dasmariñas on November 4, 2019 as part of the Ugnayan sa Barangay Program and brought the good news on fiber optic internet connection in Cavite with more than 300 kilometers of fiber optic cables spread throughout the province making it a free wi-fi zone. The governor reiterated the importance of modernizing information technology and going with the flow of innovation which mirrors economic development in the province. A short program was facilitated with over 3000 citizens who echoed their commitment to support the projects of the provincial government. The attendees were given packs of rice in exchange of plastic bottles in line with the campaign on waste management and environmental awareness. Also present during the Ugnayan were Vice Mayor Rex Mangubat, 4th District Board Member Fulgencio "Jun" Dela Cuesta Jr., Cavite Councilors League President Nickol Austria, SK Federation President Jeg Gonzales, Langkaan 2 Punong Barangay Fernando Laudato and the city council of Dasmariñas. --- (PICAD)

Senators call for heightened protocols vs. ASF

MANILA – Two senators on Thursday urged the government to heighten its precautionary measures to prevent the spread of the African swine fever (ASF).

Senator Sherwin Gatchalian, chair of the Senate Committee on Education, Arts and Culture, called on the Department of Education (DepEd) to be vigilant and enjoin schools in raising awareness and to exhaust all sanitary measures to protect students from consuming ASF-positive products.

"Mahalagang magdoble ingat ang mga paaralan lalo na't mahilig ang mga bata sa ganitong klase ng mga produktong positibo sa ASF. (It is important for schools to be extra careful especially since kids like to eat processed meat products, which were tested positive for ASF)," Gatchalian said.

"Sa mga feeding program na isinasagawa ng DepEd, halimba-

wa, dapat siguruhin ng ating mga guro na gumagamit sila ng mga malinis at mapagkakatiwalaang mga produktong ipakakain sa mga bata (For the feeding programs conducted by DepEd, teachers should ensure that they are using clean and trusted products to feed the children)," Gatchalian said.

The senator cited reports that processed pork from China tested positive for ASF.

The Department of Agriculture's (DA) Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) also confirmed that skinless longganisa and hotdog from Meken were tested positive for ASF.

Gatchalian also advised DepEd to involve parents in efforts to raise awareness on sanitary practices and preventive measures.

"While schools play an important role to protect our students' health, it is important that we also extend our efforts at the household level," Gatchalian said.

Senator Francis Pan-

gilinan, meanwhile, said all sectors in the hog industry must cooperate with the DA as it implements measures to prevent the spread of ASF.

Pangilinan said all concerned sectors must abide by the following protocols: surveillance and quick response, quarantine checkpoints, and culling.

On reports of oversupply of pork in the country, Pangilinan suggested a suspension in the pork importation and start buying local.

"This will be a big boost to local hog-raisers, many of whom are also farmers seeking to increase their income through hog-raising. We must explore all possible means to help our backyard hog raisers as they bear the brunt of losing their source of income," he said.

Pangilinan also highlighted the vital role of media, as they are instrumental in spreading correct information over the outbreak and lessen the public's distrust of uninfected pork products. (PNA)

NPO vows to provide world-class printing service

MANILA-- The National Printing Office (NPO) on Thursday vowed to provide world-class quality of printing products while maintaining low-cost prices for Filipinos.

Marking its 118th founding anniversary, NPO Director Francisco Vales Jr. said the office sought to acquire more modernized printing machines worth more than PHP100 million to better improve the quality of its printing services.

These include (4/5) Tower Web Printing Machine, one Offset Printing Machine, Digital Printing Machine, and Finishing Machines.

He said part of the agency's strategy is to promote quality of printing service.

"Fast forward to today, following one world war and two major fire incidents, the National

Printing Office stands tall for 118 years," he said.

Vales added that NPO also plans to implement projects to better improve their printing services including NPO Childminding Center, NPO Plant Nursery as well as the renovation of its division offices.

He also said the printing office is now expanding a market-based approach and partnership with the private sector, and "will continue to uphold the NPO brand as a reliable partner in development."

Quality products

Further, NPO Executive Officer Eddie Vista said the next strategy of NPO in its 118th year is to provide world-class quality products while maintaining cheap but modernized technology of printing.

"We begin our next

phase with the modernized machinery and equipment, may we allot significant progress and innovation in our product and services. We begin more challenges and more opportunities ahead of us," Vista said.

The celebration started with a religious mass attended by more than 400 NPO employees and other guests from the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO).

Meanwhile, Presidential Communications Secretary Martin Andanar encouraged NPO employees and staff to continue to uphold the value of print and its important role in the increasing demands of truth.

"While paperless methods of communications are now being utilized quite excessively, printing is still an

indispensable and effective way of exchanging data and information. As technology continues to advance, so does print continues to evolve," he said in his message.

NPO, which is created as per Executive Order No. 285 dated July 25, 1987 (and as amended by E.O 378), is mandated to provide printing services to government agencies including official ballots and election paraphernalia which could be shared with Banko Sentral ng Pilipinas, upon the discretion of the Commission on Election and consistent with the provision of the Election Code of 1987.

The printing office may also accept other government printing jobs, including government publications and other printing needs of the PCOO and the Office of the President. (PNA)

PH to host int'l youth event with Russia

MANILA -- The country, for the first time, will be hosting with Russia an international youth event dubbed the ASEAN-Russia Youth Summit on November 26-30 at Hilton Manila in Newport, Pasay City.

National Youth Commission (NYC) Chairperson and CEO Ryan Enriquez said 25 Filipino youth will be selected from among applicants to join the event

along with other youth from member-countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

In an interview on Thursday, NYC Presidential Staff Officer Cristabeth Madrigal said the Filipino youth will have an opportunity to learn and understand the significance of people-to-people connectivity especially between

ASEAN and Russia in terms of education, cultural exchange, trade, business, and economy.

"They will also have the opportunity to interact with their ASEAN and Russian youth counterparts and learn from the ASEAN and Russian Discussants on people to people connectivity on education, cultural exchange, economy, trade, and business exchanges," Madrigal

said.

In a statement, Alexander Ivanov, Ambassador-at-large, who is responsible for contacts with ASEAN in the Russian Foreign Ministry, said the summits seek to launch a new communication channel between Russia and Southeast Asian nations.

In the previous year where it was hosted in Cambodia, Russian Ambassador to Cambodia Dmitry Tsvetkov said the summit was aimed at tapping the creativity of the youth.

"We are at a stage, where Russia-ASEAN relations need new ideas. The more ambitious they are, the easier they will be to implement," he said.

Now in its fifth year, the NYC and Russian Federation and the ASEAN Secretariat organized the event carrying the theme, "Enhancing People to People Connectivity between ASEAN and Russia".

They hope to promote mutual understanding and cooperation between the youth of ASEAN member states and Russia through various discussions and activities. (PNA)

Palace justifies surveillance, raids in activist groups' offices

MANILA -- Malacañang on Thursday said it sees nothing wrong with the joint operations conducted by police and military personnel in offices of activist groups who were suspected to be militants in Bacolod City and Metro Manila.

"The government policy is always to investigate complaints on criminal activities and if they have evidence, then they will take action," Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo said in a Palace briefing.

Panelo, also Chief Presidential Legal Counsel, said

security forces have the basis to conduct raids if "evidence shows that they have been engaged in criminal activities."

He pointed out that security forces have to conduct surveillance as long as they had a basis to do so.

On Oct. 31, security forces conducted joint operations in offices of activist groups including Bayan Muna, Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU), Gabriela, and Negros Federation of Sugar Workers (NFSW) which led to the arrest of at least 60 suspected militants, including 13 minors.

The law enforcers

found that some activist group members had firearms, explosives, and subversive documents.

In a column published on Sun Star, Karapatan claimed that evidence was planted in their offices and described their raids as "Gestapo-esque" or similar to raids conducted by the secret state police in Nazi Germany noted for its brutal methods of interrogation.

Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Secretary Martin Andanar slammed these allegations insisting that no individuals were harmed during the operations.