



**UPHOLDING COMMITMENT IN ELIMINATING VIOLENCE:** Members of the Provincial Committee on Anti-Trafficking and Violence Against Women and their Children and Anti-Child Pornography (PCAT-VAWC-ACP) and GAD Focal Point System attended an orientation at the Silid Ugnayan, DepEd-Cavite compound in Trece Martires City to empower them as competent partners in eliminating crimes against women and children and creating safer communities. The activity focusing on strengthening and capacity building of PCAT-VAWC-ACP was led by the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office (PSWDO) with learning inputs provided by Ms. Charo L. De Luna, Social Welfare Officer II from DSWD IV-A. She oriented the participants on the roles and functions of PCAT-VAWC-ACP in handling and the different ways to prevent, protect and reintegrate victims. She also elaborated the laws under R.A. 9208 or the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act 2003, R.A. 9262 or the VAWC Act and R.A. 9775 or the Anti-Child Pornography Act of 2009. She also encouraged the partakers to assess cases catered in every LGU in order to come up with provincial ordinances for additional protection of women and children. Social Welfare Officer III Ms. Brendalyn L. Salazar of the PSWDO imparted words of advice for participants to put themselves in someone else's shoes to better understand the situations they are dealing with. In response, focal persons expressed their strong commitment and full support in attaining a violence-free province. -- (PICAD)

## Duterte back to riding a big bike

**MANILA** — Despite being advised by his doctor to rest and limit his physical activities, President Rodrigo Duterte's life-long passion for motorcycles continues as he once again went for a 10-minute ride on Thursday night.

Duterte gamely posed for a photo, showing him riding a big bike, along with his former special aide and now Senator Christopher Lawrence Go who shared the photos to the media early Friday morning.

Go said the 74-year-old President went for a night ride at the compound of the Presidential Security Group (PSG) in Manila.

"Nag-motor ulit kanina. Mga 10 minutes sa PSG Com-

pound (He went for a ride again [Thursday night] for around 10 minutes at the PSG Compound)," Go said in a text message.

Duterte's latest motorcycle ride came after his recent fall from his big bike parked at the garage of the PSG compound.

Duterte hurt his hip and sustained light bruises and scratches on the elbow and knee, following the minor mishap on Oct. 16.

The President did not pay much attention to his injury, as he tried Go's big bike a day after the accident. He, however, did not go for a ride and just inspected the senator's motorcycle.

When he flew to Japan on October 22, the President realized that

the pain in his lower back was intolerable, prompting him to cut short his trip and undergo a medical check-up with his neurologist.

Results of medical examinations found that Duterte is merely having "muscle spasms," which could be aggravated by his motorcycle accident several years ago and by the minor mishap this month, Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo said on Thursday.

The President, nevertheless, is feeling "much better" now, Panelo said.

Panelo assured the public that the President need not undergo any surgical procedure, as he was only prescribed medicines

to relieve the pain caused by the cramps.

The President was also advised by his doctor to avoid "standing or walking for long duration".

## NTC exceeds collection target by almost P1.4-B

**MANILA** -- The National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), an agency under the Department of Information and Communications Technology, has already exceeded its collection target by PHP1.361 million.

Target collection for 2019 was pegged at PHP4.786 billion, while actual collection amounted to PHP6.147 billion as of October 14 this year.

NTC Commissioner Gamaliel Cordoba said there is much to be

## Duterte-Hu meet indicates 'growing friendship' between PH, China

**MANILA** — President Rodrigo Duterte's meeting with Chinese Vice Premier Hu Chunhua signified the "growing friendship" between the Philippines and China, Malacañang said on Thursday.

Amid warmer ties between the two nations, Hu paid a courtesy call on Duterte at Malacañang Palace in Manila on Thursday.

In a press statement, the Palace said Duterte and Hu talked about the implementation of key infrastructure projects in the Philippines that are being financed by China.

"During the meeting, President Duterte expressed his gratitude to Vice Premier Hu for coming to the country, saying the visit signifies the growing friendship between the Philippines and China," Malacañang said on Thursday night.

The meeting came despite Duterte's recent admission that he was experiencing "unbearable" pain in his lower back following his recent fall from his big bike.

Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo on Thursday said the 74-year-old Duterte, despite being told by his doc-

tor to rest for several days, had decided to meet with Hu to discuss developments on his administration's ambitious "Build, Build, Build" infrastructure program.

Duterte assured Hu of the government's firm commitment to further boost Manila's improved ties with Beijing, the Palace said.

The President also noted that his two consecutive visits to China in April and in August this year validate his resolve to maintain the good relations between the two countries, it added.

"The Chief Executive [told Hu] that his two visits to China this year validate his administration's commitment to further improve the bilateral relations between the two countries," Malacañang said.

Duterte's April visit to Beijing gave the Philippines an opportunity to secure at least \$12.165 billion worth of investment and trade deals with China.

Meantime, the President's stay in China in August led to the signing of six agreements between the two nations to boost their cooperation in the fields of education, science and technology, and eco-

nomics and social development.

Hu is in the Philippines for an official visit from Oct. 22 to Oct. 24.

In China, the Vice Premier is in charge of matters related to agriculture, water resources, commerce, and tourism.

The Department of Foreign Affairs earlier said that there would be discussions about trade, investment, agriculture, and tourism during Hu's visit to the country.

Also present during the courtesy call were Ambassador to the Philippines Zhao Jianhua, State Council Deputy Secretary-General Gao Yu, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs Vice Minister and China International Trade Deputy Representative Wang Shouwen.

Other members of the Chinese delegation who also paid a visit on Duterte were China International Development Cooperation Agency vice chair Deng Boqing, Department of Asian Affairs director-general Peng Gang, Secretary to the Vice President Premier Li Jialu, and Department of Asian Affairs Director Lu Qinhong.

Philippine officials present were Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr., Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea, Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez III, Trade Secretary Ramon Lopez, and Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Ernesto Pernia.

Foreign Affairs Assistant Secretary Meynardo Montealegre, Foreign Affairs executive director Josel Ignacio, Foreign Affairs acting director Ira Michelle Valdez, Finance chief of staff Anita Linda Aquino, and Senator Christopher Lawrence Go were also spotted during the Chinese leaders' courtesy call. (PNA)

the national government and the public service programs pushed by President Rodrigo Roa Duterte —priorities of which are on infrastructure, agriculture and rural development, and peace and order," Cordoba said.

NTC's achievement was a culmination of its personnel's concerted effort to strictly enforce stakeholders' compliance in remitting spectrum users' fees, supervision and regulation fees and penalties.

"This year's achievement is NTC's way of showing its full support to