



**SITIO IPILAN RESIDENTS RECEIVE FREE MEDICAL CONSULTATION:** Committed to serve the public with quality healthcare services, the provincial government of Cavite provided free medical and dental consultations and tooth extraction to 266 residents of Sitio Ipilan in Barangay Buenavista, City of General Trias on October 22, 2019. Volunteer doctor and dentists from the Provincial Health Office including Dr. Evelyn Agdon, Dr. Cristina Lim, Dr. Raymond Mendoza, Dr. Lorenzo Demerey and Dr. Maria Gem Lynn Sarmiento collaborated with dentists from the City Health Office comprised of Dr. Winston Closas and Dr. Christopher Juan Nicodemus in attending to the health needs of the locals. The event was made possible thru the support of Congressman Jonjon Ferrer, Mayor Ony Ferrer represented by his son Toby Ferrer, Vice Mayor Morit Sison, Board Member Kerby Salazar and IPP Kyle Jassel Salazar. Punong Barangay Rizalito Potante and the members of the barangay council thanked the medical mission team for visiting their community and providing the basic health needs of their people

# IBP voices support for Chief Justice Peralta

**MANILA** -- The Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) on Thursday welcomed the appointment of Chief Justice Diosdado Peralta by President Rodrigo Duterte, saying his choice honors the tradition of seniority in the high court.

In a statement, IBP national president Domingo Egon Cayosa said "The Integrated Bar of the Philippines will work and cooperate with chief Justice Peralta to achieve "Justice Bilis," and echoed sentiments that the appointment will mean a more efficient justice system.

"The seniority tradition was maintained in the appointment of Chief Justice Diosdado M. Peralta who has served the longest as Associate Justice of

the Supreme Court among the three aspirants nominated by the Judicial and Bar Council. We are hopeful that under his leadership the judiciary will resolve cases much faster inasmuch as his 25 years as magistrate are notable for the speedy disposition of cases and innovations to expedite court processes," Cayosa added.

Peralta, 67, was appointed by former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo as the 162nd magistrate of the Supreme Court (SC) in 2009. He is married to Court of Appeals Associate Justice Fernanda

Lampas-Peralta.

Before his appointment to the high court, Peralta served as Presiding Justice of the Sandiganbayan. He was a member of the anti-graft court's special division, which convicted former president Joseph Estrada of plunder.

Peralta is the ponente of the SC ruling which invalidated the implementing rules and regulations of the Expanded Good Conduct Time Allowance Law, thus allowing its retroactive application to persons deprived of liberty serving time before 2013.

Born in Laoag, Ilocos Norte, Peralta completed his law studies at the country's oldest law school, Facultad de Derecho Civil (Faculty of Civil Law) of the University of Sto. Tomas, which has produced several high court magistrates, including the first three chief justices - namely Cayetano Arellano, Victorino Mapa, and Manuel Araullo.

Chief Justice Andres Narvasa was the last UST Law chief justice aside from Ateneo Law alumni Chief Justice Renato Corona who completed his doctorate studies in UST. (PNA)

## Solon wants PMA to suspend cadet recruitment for 1 year

**MANILA** -- A party-list lawmaker on Wednesday said the Philippine Military Academy should temporarily stop its recruitment of new cadets for at least a year and undergo a complete overhaul of the country's premier military school.

AKO BICOL Rep. Alfredo Garbin Jr. made the call after it was reported that at least 27 more cases of alleged maltreatment are being investigated at the PMA.

Garbin noted that these alleged maltreatment cases are clear proof that "systemic, grave, and moral flaws" exist in the institution.

"Klarong-klaro, mas maliwanag pa sa sikat ng araw na may malaking mali at problema sa loob ng PMA na dapat itama agad ngayon. Huwag ipagpaliban. Gawin ngayon (It is very clear, as clear as day, that there is a huge flaw existing in PMA that needs to be corrected. Let's not wait any longer

ferred the most from religious persecution, especially in the Middle East," he said.

"As part of our commitment to promote interfaith and intercultural dialogue to achieve peace and development... These are indeed promising times for Philippine-Hungarian relations," he said.

and act on the issue)," he said.

"Because the PMA has not yet learned lessons about the abhorrence of hazing, the academy should temporarily stop recruiting new cadets until such time the AFP (Armed Forces of the Philippines) can reasonably assure all parents and aspirants of their safety and security," he added.

The lawmaker said during the temporary suspension of recruitment, the AFP must overhaul the PMA

of its "misguided notion" that hazing is necessary to mold good defenders of the people and the Constitution.

"The AFP's Judge Advocate General should lead the cleansing of the PMA. I believe enforcing military justice and military law includes cleaning up the PMA. Civilian oversight of this cleansing is necessary and this Congress can do on behalf of the parents, families, and friends of PMA cadets," Garbin added. (PNA)

## SC will be 'well-managed' with CJ Peralta in control: Palace

**MANILA** -- Malacañang expressed confidence that the Supreme Court would continue to thrive under the leadership of newly-appointed Chief Justice Diosdado Peralta.

This after Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea confirmed that President Rodrigo Duterte has appointed Peralta, former Associate Justice, to lead the Supreme Court following the retirement of Lucas Bersamin.

Medialdea said the President signed Peralta's appointment paper on October 23.

Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo spoke highly of Peralta for serving the judiciary for more than three decades in various capacities.

Peralta served in the judiciary as a trial court judge, associate justice and presiding justice of the Sandiganbayan, and associate justice.

"We are certain that with Chief Justice Peralta at the helm of the Supreme Court, the Judiciary will continue to be well-managed as it thrives to uphold the principles of judicial excellence, integrity, and independence," Panelo said in a statement.

Panelo also enumerated Peralta's many accomplishments including landmark decisions such as the imposition of the death penalty on a policeman who used his service firearm to shoot an 11-year-old boy while flying his kite on a rooftop in *People vs. Fallorina*.

He said it was also Peralta who made the decision on the first conviction for plunder involving a cashier of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) in *People vs. Manalili*.

## PH eyes closer economic ties with Hungary

**MANILA**-- The Philippine government remains optimistic that the country will continue to enjoy stronger bilateral ties and closer economic cooperation with Hungary, Department of Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. said on Tuesday, highlighting the several agreements inked between Manila and Budapest.

In his speech during the National Day of Hungary, Locsin said the country sees a "reinvigoration" of the Philippines-Hungary ties following the reopening of its doors in Manila in March 2017.

"Since the reopening of the Hungarian Embassy in Manila, the Philippines is witnessing a reinvigoration of our bilateral relations with Hungary," Locsin said, delivering a speech on behalf of President Rodrigo Duterte in Makati City.

Locsin said high-level exchanges between the two countries have taken place since the reopening of the Hungarian Embassy, creating a "strong momentum"

in the understanding between the two countries.

He visited Hungary this year followed by similar productive visits by officials from the Departments of Agriculture, Foreign Affairs, and Trade; members of Parliament; the Philippine National Police; and, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council.

"They testified that our countries have entered a higher level of relations. Case in point, the inaugural meeting of the Philippine-Hungarian Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation in Budapest earlier this year played an important role in enlarging our business and investment relations," he said.

"With the signing this year of agreements in export promotion, investment promotion, and agriculture -- our countries are on the path to closer economic cooperation," he added.

Communications Secretary Martin Andanan, who was also present in the occasion, said he expects the relationship of

the two countries to generate mutual tangible benefits.

"As the relations of our two countries are more and more being revitalized, we anticipate more opportunities opening up for businessmen, tourists, students, and other stakeholders that would boost the economic potential of both the Philippines and Hungary for the benefit of the people," Andanan said.

Locsin also thanked the European country for its offer of technical assistance in water management, particularly the rehabilitation of Laguna Lake, as well as emergency assistance for the victims of the 2019 Jolo bombing earlier this year.

Aside from government to government interactions, Locsin also noted the "improving people to people exchanges" between the Philippines and Hungary, particularly in the fields of sports, education, and culture.

The DFA chief said the Philippines has signed

several memoranda of understanding with Hungary, such as the deal between the Philippine Sports Commission and the Ministry of Human Capacities of Hungary, which aim to enhance exchanges of athletes.

Locsin thanked Hungarian Foreign Minister Péter Szijjártó for the latter's recent offer to increase the maximum number of scholarship grants to Filipino students.

"There is a deep appreciation from the Filipino scholars in Hungary and from the Philippine government, for the generous support of the Hungarian government for furthering their education," he said.

He added that Hungary's programs in agriculture and sustainable development, environmental science, food science, engineering, and public health are critical to the Philippines' development.

"That said, I'm glad to say that the Philippines reaffirmed support for Hungary's campaign for the protection of Christian minorities, which have suf-