

DATE : 19 MAR 2019

DAY : Tuesday

# **DENR**

## **IN THE NEWS**

**Strategic Communication and Initiative Service**



## Bgy leaders to play special' roles in Manila Bay rehab

By **CORY MARTINEZ**

**LEADERS** of barangays surrounding Manila Bay must serve as "elite special forces" in the ongoing effort to bring the heavily polluted bay back to its former glory.

Environment and Natural Resources Secretary Roy Cimatu told the more than 300 barangay leaders in Metro Manila during yesterday's dialogue that the government is relying on them whose support and commitment are vital in ensuring the success of the

rehabilitation, given their proximity to nine critical rivers that need to be cleaned as part of the restoration effort.

"The barangay leaders and members who are here today could be considered special forces in this endeavor," Cimatu said during the dialogue.

"As much as you are the ones nearest to the rivers or the battle areas, you are also the ones closest to the people who are possible enemies or violators. Influence them to stop their bad practices of dumping garbage anywhere, and ask them to

join you as volunteers in your cleaning campaign drive," Cimatu added.

He stressed that the mission of the barangay leaders is special saying "Kaya isa kayo sa mga elite forces ng Manila Bay rehabilitation. Consider yourselves as the first line of defense."

The dialogue aimed to remind the barangay executives of their role in the rehabilitation effort, as well as their responsibility in cleaning up rivers that empty into Manila Bay.

It was attended by leaders of barangays surrounding the river systems of



**Cimatu**  
Pasig-Marikina-San Juan, Muntinlupa-Parañaque-Las Piñas-Zapote, and Malabon-Tullahan-Tenejeros, as well as barangay executives from Pasay City and Navotas.

Cimatu said barangay leaders should be "vigilant" regarding issues concerning the rivers within their areas of jurisdiction.



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**Resurrection not easy** Department of Environment and Natural Resources officials led by Secretary Roy Cimatu (standing) talks with barangay officials about the widescale campaign to rehabilitate Manila Bay that involves nearly all outlying communities. BOB DUNGO JR.



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## DENR shuts down 1,800 gold processing plants in Diwalwal

MT DIWATA, Monkayo - The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) launched its three-day "Lihok Alang sa Naboc" program to implement a closure order to the 1,797 ball mill and the batch-type Carbon-in-Pulp (CIP) tank operators in Barangay Mt. Diwata (popularly known as Diwalwal) in Monkayo, Compostela Valley starting on Saturday.

DENR-11 Regional Executive Director Ruth Tawantawan said

it is high-time that gold processing plants in Diwalwal should transfer to the Mine Processing Zone in Mabatas, Monkayo.

"(That is) after 33 years of no permit and no tax. We gave them ▶8

## DENR shuts down...

enough time," she said in an interview on Saturday.

The operators were given until March 15 to dismantle and transfer their plants to the Mabatas zone.

Tawantawan said the government needs to rehabilitate the Naboc River from toxic contamination.

Based on studies by the DENR-Environmental Management Board (EMB), the Mines and Geoscience Bureau (MGB), the United Nations Industrial and Development Organization (UNIDO), and other organizations, the Naboc River has a high concentration of mercury and has had incidents of soil erosion and siltation in the river.

Despite intervention by the DENR, the National Task Force Diwalwal and the local

government units, the river is still grossly contaminated with mercury and cyanide from mining operations.

A DENR team, escorted by the Monkayo police, arrived in Mt. Diwata to serve closure orders to 1,797 CIP and ball mill plants in the gold rush site on Saturday.

"Our objective here is to transfer the source of the pollutants and confine it within the tailings pond area," she said.

Tawantawan said during the first phase of the rehabilitation, the transfer of informal settlers and relocation of ball mills and other processing plants will be prioritized.

If ball mill and CIP plants continue to operate, Tawantawan said they will slap operators with PHP200,000 penalty per day of operation.

About 16 teams of 14 members each

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coming from 11 cities and five provincial ENR offices have been deployed to implement the closure order.

A monitoring team will also be stationed in Mt. Diwata to ensure that no operation will take place.

The transfer of over a hundred households in three puroks (villages) - 15, 16 and 17 - was prioritized because of tension cracks discovered by the MGB.

The fresh crack is about six meters which makes the residents in the three areas more vulnerable to landslide.

### LGU support

Monkayo Mayor Ramil Gentugaya said there is no other way but for everybody to transfer to the Mabatas.

He expressed concern that if operators will continue to defy the order, President Duterte might choose to shut down all tunnels and processing plants just like in Boracay. (PNA)



## Governor orders forced evacuation in Compostela Valley mining areas

DAVAO CITY— The provincial government of Compostela Valley on Monday ordered the suspension of small-scale mining operations in gold-rich areas in the province amid preparations for the onslaught of Tropical Depression "Chedeng."

Eugene Alaba, provincial environment and natural resources officer said Gov. Jayvee Tyron Uy has ordered mayors in towns with gold mining sites to implement forced evacuations in risk areas as Chedeng's moderate to heavy rains could trigger landslides in mountainous communities.

Municipalities that have mining sites include Monkayo, Compostela, New Bataan, Maragusan, Nabunturan, Maco, Mabini, and Pantukan.

Earlier Monday, Uy al-

so ordered the cancellation of classes up to senior high school in at least eight of the 11 towns.

In a memorandum, the governor ordered school officials to temporarily halt classes in the municipalities of Maco, Mabini, Pantukan, Mawab, Nabunturan, Maragusan, and New Bataan due to possible landslides and flooding.

The province and the rest of Southern Mindanao as well as eastern parts of Cotabato and Sarangani provinces have been placed under Signal No. 1 as Chedeng nears eastern Mindanao.

In its 11 a.m. bulletin, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) said the cyclone's center was estimated at 445 east

of Davao City, packing winds of up to 45 kilometers per hour (kph) near the center and gustiness of up to 60 kph.

It was moving west at 20 kph and was expected to make landfall on Tuesday. —*Inquirer*



## **EDITORIAL**

### **Clean-up on track**

**THE** good news is that the rehabilitation of historic Manila Bay, whose breathtaking sunset continues to draw thousands of foreign and local tourists throughout the year, is "on the right track."

Secretary Roy Cimatu of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) made the statement recently during the first meeting of the inter-agency "Task Force Manila Bay."

Created last month by President Duterte's Administrative Order (AO) No. 16, the DENR-led task force seeks to expedite the three-phase rehabilitation project, dubbed "Battle of Manila Bay."

Cimatu said that the issuance of the administrative order monuments the full trust and confidence of the Chief Executive from Davao City that the clean-up is not an impossible mission.

"I can proudly say, we are heading in the right direction," said Cimatu, a close associate of President Duterte and a former chief of staff of the powerful Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP).

Doable and achievable, the gigantic undertaking, which was launched last January 27, calls for the rehabilitation and restoration of the coastal and marine ecosystems of the heavily-polluted bay.

Of course, it is heartening to note that the Filipino people, including the private sector, are willing to spend billions of pesos just to restore the beauty and grandeur of the sun-kissed Manila Bay.

Cimatu paid a glowing tribute to local government units (LGUs), private sector, academe and non-government organizations (NGOs) for supporting the unprecedented clean-up activity.

Like other Filipinos, we share the view of the soft-spoken but highly-effective DENR chief that the Manila Bay rehabilitation is not just an environmental issue, but also a socio-economic issue.

To hasten the clean-up, it's time to step up the pressure on those polluting the bay to stop using esteros, drainage canals, rivers, creeks, streams and other waterways as dumpsites.



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## DPWH, gagamit ng malalaking makina sa paglilinis ng Manila Bay

**PLANO** ng Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) na gumamit ng mas malalaking makina para tanggalin ang mga deep-seated sediment o yung mga mahihirap alisin na dumi sa Manila Bay.

Ayon kay Noel Ilaog, DPWH Bureau of Equipment Director – nahihirapan silang alisin ang mga namuong dumi sa Manila Bay dahil na rin sa taon na ang binilang at nagkapatung-patong at nanigas na.

Dahil dito ay plano ng DPWH na mag-assemble ng mas malalaking

amphibious excavator para palambutin ang mga namuong dumi.

Ang bagong amphibious excavator ay mayroong mas maikling mga galamay pero mas malaki ang kayang hakutin.

Sinabi ni Ilaog, ang excavator na may maikling galamay ay mas may puwersa sa paghuhukay.

Sa kasalukuyan, gumagamit ang DPWH ng 28 piraso ng equipment, kabilang ang tatlong bagong amphibious excavators, dalawang dumping scows at isang debris segregator para sa Manila Bay cleanup.



## Palace: No need for Department of Water

MALACAÑANG ON Monday thumbed down the suggestion of Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Ernesto M. Pernia that there should be a Department of Water "that would centralize all activities having to do with water resource."

"*Hindi kailangan iyon* (That is not needed)," Presidential Spokesperson Salvador S. Panelo said at a news conference at the Palace on Monday.

"*Eh 'yung problema nga na 'yun nagawan na nila ng paraan* (They were able to find a solution to the problem). They created their own problem; they created their own solution. It's purely inefficiency, mismanagement," he added, referring to the Manila Water Company, Inc.

Mr. Panelo said further the draft Executive Order (EO) to address the water shortage in Metro Manila will be ready "any time this week or the week after."

In a social media post on March 14, Mr. Pernia said: "It's a real shame [that] we have a Dept. of Energy, which is important, but we utterly lack an Apex body — a Dept. of Water — to ensure water supply and distribution — an indispensable VITAL need. 'Water is life.' As the age-old saying goes, '*Ok lang kung walang ilaw, basta lang may tubig!*' (It is okay if we do not have lights, as long as we have water)."

The proposed EO, according to Mr. Panelo, was "still being processed and finalized."

"I have a personal suggestion: I think we should really put reservoir in all cities of this country, as well as in provinces. It's very easy to build reservoir. I cannot even understand why we're not doing that," he added.

Last Sunday, Cabinet Secretary Karlo Alexei B. Nograles said a draft EO may place the National Water Resources Board (NWRB), which will be tasked to integrate all government efforts pertaining to water, under the Office of the President (OP).

"Among the provisions of the proposed EO is the reconstitution of the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) into a body that will be responsible for policy, direction-setting, and the integration of all government efforts pertaining to water," he said in a statement.

The body, according to Mr. Nograles, "may be placed under the supervision of the Office of the President."

The NWRB is currently under the supervision of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) by virtue of EO No. 123 s. 2002.

"Given the scope and breadth of water-related concerns, the supervision of OP could help ensure that all 30-plus agencies involved in water resource management are on the same page," Mr. Nograles explained.

One of the responsibilities of the NWRB, he also said, "would be the crafting of a national water management master plan." — **Arjay L. Balinbin**





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# Palace: No water crisis only 'mismanagement'

By GENALYN KABILING

There was never really a water crisis in Metro Manila after the water concessionaire restored supply to majority of its customers, Malacañang said yesterday.

Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo instead blamed the "mismanagement" of Manila Water and Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) that led to the supply interruptions in some parts of Metro Manila last week.

"Iyong problema natin sa water crisis eh makikita n'yo naman, di ba nagpalabas si Pangulo ng direktiba na gawan ninyo ng paraan iyan; tapos sinasabi nung MWSS administrator ay hindi raw doable and yet look at them, it's now 90 percent," Panelo said in a television interview.

"Ibig sabihin ay talagang walang

crisis, nagkaroon lang ng mismanagement," he added.

In a later Palace press briefing, Panelo acknowledged that there would have been no supply interruptions if the MWSS and Manila Water had been efficient in water resource management.

"We have almost 90 percent. Kumbaga puwede naman pala. 'Yun nga ang sinasabi natin mukhang wala naman talagang shortage," he said.

"It's pure inefficiency, mismanagement on the part of Manila Water and also I've been watching the hearing, it appears now that even the chief regulator, the regulator of the two water concessionaires is guilty of mismanagement," he added.

He said they expect water supply in Metro Manila to be fully restored soon.

Last Friday, President Duterte ordered the release of more water from Angat Dam, the main water source of Metro Manila, to ease the supply shortage in Manila Water's concession areas. The Palace had said the President will make responsible officers account if they fail to act or comply with his directive.

The MWSS, however, claimed it saw no means to comply with the President's order for increased inflow of water in Metro Manila, saying all waterways were already being used.

Panelo earlier raised the possibility the water shortage in Metro Manila could be "artificial," saying there might be mismanagement in the distribution of the supply. He wondered why Maynilad, a water concessionaire, was not having the same problem as Manila Water even if both companies get the

supply from Angat Dam, which has stable water level.

Meantime, Panelo said an executive order on addressing the country's water resource management will be issued soon.

"Mayroon ngang executive order upang tugunan ang lahat ng mga issues na na-raise diyan at pina-finalize iyong executive order upang hindi na tayo magkaroon ng ganoong problema," he said.

Also, Panelo said the proposed Kaliwa Dam, which aims to improve water supply in Metro Manila, is still under government study. He said the welfare of the people should be the main consideration in any government contract with private entity.

"Hindi pa tayo nakakasiguro kung matutuloy iyan, sapagkat marami ngang kumontra, pinag-aaralan pa iyan," he said.



**BULAKAN, PAMPANGA RICE FIELDS**

# WATER IN ANGAT DAM ENOUGH FOR FARMS UNTIL MAY-NIA

**BULAKAN, BULAKAN**—Water collected at Angat Dam is sufficient for irrigating farmlands in Bulacan and Pampanga provinces and for supplying potable water for Metro Manila residents, according to the National Irrigation Administration (NIA).

With water at the dam's reservoir measured at 198.23 meters above sea level (masl) as of 8 a.m. on Monday, the National Water Resources Board allowed the NIA to continue discharging irrigation water until the middle of May, said Felix Robles, NIA Bulacan manager.

"The dam has been at a comfortable level for the past three to four years. Under normal condition, supplies are usually cut on the first or second week of April but today, irrigation has been extended until May 15 because Angat Dam has ample water," he said.

The water shortage affecting Metro Manila is not due to Angat Dam where residents get 97 percent of their water requirements, he said.

### Rice lands

The tunnel facilities delivering water from Ipo Dam to La Mesa Dam transmit supply at a rate of 46 cubic meters per second.

About 27,000 hectares of rice lands in 17 Bulacan towns and four Pampanga towns have been allocated 40 cms of water for March, Robles said.

That would be reduced to 35 cms in April and lowered further until May 15 to allow more

water to be diverted to Metro Manila faucets, he said.

Irrigation is restored in August and September when rains replenish the dam reservoir.

Angat Dam's maximum capacity of 212.00 masl must be reached by year-end to supply farms during the first months of the following year.

### Isabela rains

In Isabela province, intermittent rains in the past two days had barely drenched parched farmlands.

Farmers there said the drought brought about by El Niño had hurt their income from harvesting palay (unhusked rice), corn and vegetable crops.

"We are running out of money as we spent more for diesel in running our water pumps. The sad thing is we will harvest lesser than expected and sell the produce at very minimal price," said Robert Lee Bangloy, 38, a farmer.

Bangloy, who tills a 2-ha rice farm at Barangay Raniag in Ilagan City, said he was also forced to let his fishpond dry up due to drought.

Nida Mata, 52, of Barangay San Antonio, Ilagan City, said she had resorted to using a manual pump to fetch water for her vegetable garden.

"It is tedious but I have to do it so I could at least harvest something and sell in the market," she said. —REPORTS FROM CARMELA REYES-ESTROPE AND VIL-LAMOR VISAYA JR. INQ



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## Are you wasting water?

**T**he water crisis gripping Metro Manila should be a wake-up call for all of us to mind the way we use—and waste—water in our daily lives. In times of plenty, we think nothing of it, but times of scarcity and deprivation make us more mindful of how we misuse and overuse what is certainly our most vital, yet most undervalued, resource.

How do we waste water? There are so many ways, obvious or otherwise. The most obvious (yet often ignored) ones include keeping the water flowing while brushing our teeth, or the shower on while soaping or shampooing, rather than shutting off and turning on only as needed. Much valuable potable water is wasted in restaurants and home dining tables, left unconsumed in glasses, water jugs or bottles, only to be thrown away. Those with cars throw away much water by washing them down with a freely flowing hose, keeping it on even while scrubbing the tires or cleaning specific parts. In homes or public buildings, faucets or water pipes leaking seemingly negligible drops can throw away gallons of water in one day.

Among the worst wastages of water, yet mostly ignored, occurs in almost every home or building: in leaking or malfunctioning toilets. Gallons of water are lost when the rubber flappers in the toilet tank, either because of wear or deformity, are letting water seep through continuously. Wastage is far worse when the toilet is left with water flowing through continuously because the automatic shutoff mechanism in the tank is malfunctioning, or when the flapper somehow remained up with the last flusher. These are an almost everyday



### NO FREE LUNCH

CIELITO F. HABITO

occurrence, and I've often called attention to it when I could find someone to report it to. I once saw a sign in a public restroom requesting that such leaks be reported to the building management, and I quietly applauded them for that small but important gesture. But I've never seen any other such sign elsewhere since.

I'm writing this while in California, a state that imposed strict regulations on water use between 2014 and 2017. It was made unlawful to irrigate lawns to the point that water runs off onto the sidewalk, street or adjacent property. Hosing off a driveway or sidewalk with potable water is also not allowed. One cannot wash a motor vehicle with a hose unless it has a shut-off nozzle. Ornamental fountains that do not recirculate the water are prohibited. Hotels and motels must have signs in their rooms notifying guests that they have the option of reusing their towels and sheets, hence help reduce unnecessary use of water (and detergent) in laundering them. Now in one of its driest winters in modern history, California's water regulators are considering

making these and other water-use restrictions permanent, and impose fines of up to \$500 per violation.

We have so far referred to direct use of water, but the bulk of our water use is actually indirect, with household water consumption (for bathing, toilets, watering garden, etc.) estimated to contribute only 4 percent of our water footprint. Food consumption accounts for about 70 percent, and our food choices matter in determining our water footprint. For example, producing a kilo of beef uses up about 16,000 liters of water, whereas the same amount of vegetables need about 300 liters. Reducing meat intake is thus not only good for the health, but also helps save water!

The next biggest driver of water consumption is power, accounting for about 15 percent of our water footprint. Here again, power choice matters. Coal plants consume three times more than gas plants, 10 times more than geothermal, and 100 times more than solar. Our clothing also consume large amounts of water: it takes 10,000 liters to produce a cotton T-shirt and a pair of jeans, not to mention laundering them through their lifetimes. Likewise, transportation is a big water user. It takes 70 liters of water to produce 1 liter of gasoline, and 120,000 liters to produce a small car—again, not to mention washing it. (<https://waterfootprint.org> gives more such data)

All told, there's so much we can do to save water, while helping mitigate climate change and even improve our health as we do so—a true win-win-win indeed.

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### Reuse

**B**arely two weeks after he was appointed Environment Secretary, former president Gloria Macapagal Arroyo asked now Buhay party-list representative Lito Atienza to make a report on the country's water situation before the Legislative-Executive Development Advisory Council (LEDAC).



That report, Atienza now recalls with some pride, must have impressed Arroyo. In the months and years that followed, she checked on the progress of Atienza's recommendations. Since then, too, the water situation has always been on his mind.

Among the recommendations Atienza made then was to rehabilitate the Laguna de Bay. The lake, after all, is the largest reservoir available to support the water needs of a crowded and rapidly growing metropolitan area.

With Atienza at the lead, the DENR launched a massive campaign to dismantle the illegal fish pens that trapped trash and dirtied the lake. Dismantling the fish pens would also give small fishermen access to the waters cornered by rich and powerful operators who made billions at the expense of everybody else. That was a gargantuan task apparently abandoned by Atienza's successors in the agency.

In a related effort, the DENR negotiated with the Belgian government for assistance in dredging the lake and securing its perimeter. Along the lakeshore, the project would build a circumferential road to improve access for the towns of Rizal, help in regulating discharge into the lake and accommodate the sludge dredging would produce. The project would also alleviate flooding problems plaguing the communities around the lake.

This was a key infrastructure project addressing multifold problems all at once: the traffic, the flooding, the access of small fishermen to the rich fishing ground and the provision of fresh water supply for the metropolis. It took many years for the contract to be perfected and for work to commence.

After work commenced, something truly dreadful happened. Benigno Aquino III was elected president. As soon as he stepped into office, he began cancelling projects initiated by his predecessor including the French-assisted port modernization and ro-ro programs. For no substantiated excuse, he canceled the Belgian-assisted project.

The globally respected Belgian company contracted to undertake the Laguna de Bay project went to the international arbitration court to seek redress. They won their case against the arbitrary cancellation of their contract. The Philippine government must now pay them billions in damages – and all the problems plaguing Laguna de Bay remain with us, including the absence of a fresh water reservoir.

Continuing with his water advocacy, Atienza has been pushing for legislation to require all new buildings to include cisterns that will save fresh water for daily use. It will also provide incentives for existing buildings and homes to retrofit in order to help reuse rainwater.

This, the Buhay representative believes, will go a long way to prevent the water crisis from worsening. It will help us replicate best practices in progressive countries like Japan and Singapore. It will improve our resiliency given the worsening effects of global warming.



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## Kaliwa Dam, sa Japanese firm dapat ipagkatiwala

**PINAG-AARALAN** ng Palasyo ang pagbuhay sa panukala ng Japanese firm na itayo ang Kaliwa Dam.

"Well, I think, every proposal should be considered. The objective should always be the welfare of the people. The most beneficial, the most advantageous to the government and to the people should be the primordial consideration in any contracts involving the

government and other private entities," sabi ni Presidential Spokesman Salvador Panelo.

Batay sa pahayag ng Japanese company na Global Utility Development Corp (GUDC), interesado silang itayo ang Kaliwa Dam project sa ilalim ng Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) scheme sa halagang \$410 milyon kompara sa \$800 milyong panukala ng China na utangin

sa kanila ng Filipinas para sa naturang proyekto.

Ayon sa GUDC, sa kanilang proyektong ay walang residenteng maaapektohan taliwas sa China funded na mawawalan ng tirahan ang 400 pamilya sa Infanta Quezon at 4,000 katao sa Tanay, Rizal.

Matatandaan, masidhi ang pagtutol ng mga residente, environmental groups at

Simbahang Katolika sa Kaliwa Dam project mula pa noong administrasyong Arroyo at Aquino dahil itatayo ito sa sona ng Philippine Fault Zone at Valley Fault System, isa rin itong debt trap na magiging sanhi nang pagbaha sa watershed mula Infanta hanggang Tanay, Rizal at binabalewala ang epekto ng climate change.

(ROSE NOVENARIO)



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### 90% ng Manila Water consumers, nabalikan na ng tubig – MWSS

AMINADO ang Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) na hindi parin tapos ang krisis sa tubig ng Manila Water sa kabila ng unti-unting pagbabalik sa normal ng distribusyon ng tubig nito.

Sa isang panayam sinabi ni MWSS Deputy Dir. Gen. Reynaldo Velasco, nasa 90-porsyento na ng mga apektadong consumer ng concessionaire ang nabalikan na ng water supply matapos ang ilang linggong kalbaryong idinulot ng krisis.

Gayunpaman, nananatiling hamon parin daw para sa kompanya ang pagbabalik ng supply sa ilang bahagi ng Mandaluyong at Quezon City.

Naniniwala ang Manila Water na nakatulong ang ginawa nilang rotational water supply sa mga apektadong lugar para maibsan ang daing ng mga consumer.

"Levels of various reservoirs have started to increase and water supply, though still at low pressure in some areas, is slowly being distributed to severely affected barangays. These operational adjustments are a temporary measure that Manila Water is undertaking to balance the water supply distribution in its concession area," ayon sa kompanya.

"Manila Water continues to make calibrations in these adjustments to ensure that extended service interruptions will not last for the entire summer," dagdag pa nito.

Sa ngayon nangako ang MWSS at concessionaires nito na tatalima sa binubuong executive order ng Malacanang hinggil sa supply ng tubig.

Ayon kay Cabinet Sec. Karlo Nograles, nakatakdang i-endorso sa pangulo ang draft ng EO sa unang linggo ng Abril para pinal itong maaprubahan bago magtapos ang panahon ng tag-init.

"I believe the different agencies agree on the problems that need to be resolved to prevent the sort of water supply management issues now being experienced in Metro Manila. At this point we have built a consensus on how we can address these issues, but the recommendations as outlined in the EO will still be subject to the approval of the President," ani Nograles.

Sa ilalim nito, target ng palasyo na bigyan ng kapangyarihan ang National Water Resources Board para gumawa ng mga polisiya at hakbang kaugnay sa supply ng tubig.



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*Ang aming pananaw...*



## DEEP WELL SOLUSYON SA WATER CRISIS

*HINDI* pa man sumasapit ang buwan ng Abril at Mayo kung kailan talagang nararanasan ang matinding epekto ng tag-init, samu't sari nang problema ang kinakaharap ng bansa, lalo na sa ilang bahagi ng Metro Manila.

Masasabi natin na nagsisimula pa lamang ang nararanasan nating krisis sa kakulangan sa tubig dulot ng El Niño phenomenon. Dahil sa tawag ng pangangailangan, pinahintulutan na ng Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) ang Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) na gumamit ng deep well na nakikitang solusyon ng pamahalaan upang maibsan ang shortage sa tubig na nararansan ngayon sa Kamaynilaan.

Maaari itong isuplay ng MWSS sa mga water concessionaire nito na makapagbibigay ng 30 milyong litro ng tubig araw-araw. Sa sandaling buksan ang nasabing mga deep well ay malaking tulong ito upang maibsan ang nararansang krisis sa tubig.

Inaasahan din na sa katapusan ng Abril ay madaragdagan ng 50 milyong litro ng tubig mula sa mga deep well ang maaaring maisuplay sa buong Kamaynilaan na tatagal hanggang Oktubre ng kasalukuyang taon.

Ngunit nagpaalala ang DENR na ang deep well ay hindi maaaring gamiting inumin at maaari lamang itong panlaba, panghugas at panligo.



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## JOE'S TAKE

Ni Joe Zaldarriaga

### ANG TUBIG AY BUHAY

**A**LAM ba ninyo na kaya ng tao na mabuhay ng mas matagal na panahong walang pagkain kaysa walang tubig? Kailangan natin ng tubig higit sa lahat dahil ito ang nagpapawi ng pagod at ng uhaw, naglilinis ng ating katawan, kainan, at palikuran. Ang kalinisan ay 'di magagawa kapag walang tubig.

Hindi naman lingid sa kaalaman ng lahat ang nangyayaring krisis sa supply ng tubig. Nakahahabag isipin ang mga apektadong konsyumer, lalo na yaong mga may sakit at mga nasa ospital. Napakatindi na ng epekto ng kakulangang ito sa supply ng tubig sa mga konsyumer. May ilan akong mga kakilala na hindi na nakapapasok sa trabaho dahil dito. Mayroon ding hindi makapaglaba ng mga damit kaya wala na ring maisuot. Hindi naman lahat ay may kakayahang

umarkila ng kuwarta sa mga hotel o bumili ng mga bagong damit bilang solusyon sa sitwasyon. Ang iba ay dumarayo pa sa lugar ng mga kaibigan upang makiligo o nakikiligo sa opisina. May napabalita pa ngang ang mga residente ng isang condominium sa Mandaluyong, na isa sa pinakaapektadong lungsod ng nasabing krisis, ay nag-iigib na ng tubig mula sa swimming pool nito upang magamit sa banyo.

Isa rin sa mga malalang naapektuhan ng kawalan ng tubig ay ang mga maliit na mga business gaya na lamang ng coffee shop malapit sa amin na kung hindi sarado ay napipilitang magsara nang maaga dahil sa kawalan ng tubig. Kawawa naman ang mga empleyado, may-ari, at pati ang mga konsyumer nito. Wala nang magawa ang mga may-ari nito kung hindi magsara pansaman-

tala kaysa hayaang bumaba ang kalidad ng serbisyo at limitado ang mga pagkain na maaari nilang maibigay sa mga konsyumer. Napakalaki talaga ng epekto nito sa kalidad ng buhay at sa pagiging produktibo ng mga tao.

Sa ngayon, kailangan ng mga konsyumer ang lahat ng tulong na kakayaning ibigay ng Manila Water, na siyang may sakop sa mga lugar na nawawalan o walang supply ng tubig. Lubos kong hinahangaan ang ginawang pag-amin sa naging pagkukulang at sa paghingi ng dispensa sa publiko ng presidente ng kompanya na si Ferdinand dela Cruz sa Congressional hearing na idinaos nitong ika-18 ng Marso. Bilang konsyumer na apektado ng krisis na ito, hindi ko maitatangi na nakagaan sa aking kalooban ang pagpapakumbabang ginawa ni Dela Cruz sa ngalan ng Manila Water.

Malaki rin ang pasasalamat ko at ng iba pang mga apektadong konsyumer sa mga lokal na pamahalaan at sa Maynilad na nagpapaabot din ng tulong upang maibsan ang matinding epekto nitong krisis sa supply ng tubig.

Ayon sa ibang mga report, ang nangyayaring

krisis sa supply ng tubig sa ilang lugar sa Metro Manila ay hindi konektado sa El Niño. Nasa normal na lebel pa ang tubig sa Angat Dam. Ayon sa Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS) at sa National Water Resources Board (NWRB), nasa 200 meters ang tubig sa Angat Dam at bago pa ito makapagdulong ng karagdagang problema sa supply ng koryente ay kailangan maging tuloy-tuloy ang pagbaba ng lebel nito sa loob ng susunod na isang daan at dalawampung araw.

Sa gitna ng krisis, isang pagsaludo sa Maynilad pati na rin sa mga lokal na pamahalaan na siyang nagpupursigang tumulong sa mga apektadong konsyumer. Kung lilibot ka sa Mandaluyong, Pasig, at sa iba pang mga lugar na apektado ang supply ng tubig ay makikita ang mga trak ng bombero at mga trak ng Maynilad na nagrasyon ng tubig sa mga apektadong komunidad.

Ang Maynilad ay magbibigay ng 50 milyong litro ng tubig kada araw sa Manila Water pati sa mga customer nito. Talagang kabilib-bilib ang ipinakikitang pagtulong ng Maynilad. Nawa'y magsilbi





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silang huwaran sa iba pang malalaking kompanya na sa oras ng krisis, makipagtulungan sa mga konsyumer at iba pang kompanya lalo na kung alam na malaki ang maaaring maiambag nito bilang solusyon sa sitwasyon.

Ilang mga solusyon - pansamantala at pangmatagalan - ang nabanggit ng MWSS sa krisis ng supply sa tubig. Maaari raw buhayin ang mga deep well bilang pansamantalang solusyon. Ang nakikita nilang solusyon na pangmatagalan ay ang pag-uumpisa ng paggawa sa Kaliwa Dam na popondohan ng bansang China na sinasabing matatapos at maaaring mapakinabangan sa 2023. Ngunit patuloy ang pagkaantala ng progreso nito dahil sa oposisyon mula sa mga environmentalist at mga residente ng Quezon.

Umabot na sa kritikal na 68.85 meter ang lebel ng tubig sa La Mesa Dam at base sa mga balita mula sa mga pahayagan, tinayang tatagal pa ito sa buong panahon ng tag-init. Ngunit mayroon namang mga makalat na balita ngayon na sa pagtatapos ng buwan ay madaragdagan na ang supply. Noong nakaraang linggo, base sa mga balita,

hindi magiging malaki ang epekto ng kakulangan ng supply na siyang taliwas sa nangyayari ngayon dahil patuloy na tumitindi ang epekto nito sa mga apektadong residente at lugar.

Sa ganitong panahon na may krisis, napakaimportante na maging totoo sa mga pahayag upang ang mga apektadong konsyumer ay makapaghandata at makagawa ng paraan upang maibsan ang kanilang hirap na pinagdaraan dahil sa kawalan ng tubig.

Ang kakulangan ng tamang impormasyon ay maaaring magbunga sa pagkalat ng maling mga impormasyon o haka-haka gaya na lamang kung paano ito naikonekta ng ibang tao sa supply ng koryente sa bansa. Marami ang nagakala na dahil nagkakaroon ng kakulangan sa supply sa tubig ay magkakaroon na rin ng kakulangan ng supply sa koryente. Bagama't kasama ang tubig sa power mix ng ating bansa, masyadong maliit ang porsiyento ng kontribusyon nito upang ang kakulangan ng supply nito ay direktang makaapekto sa supply ng koryente. Kung sakali man, ang pinakamaapektuhan nito ay ang bahagi ng Min-

danao.

Bunsod nito ay nagkakaroon tuloy ng 'unnecessary panic' at nagdudulot ng 'unnecessary stress' sa mga konsyumer na nag-aakalang ang mga inaanunsiyo ng Meralco na power interruption ay may kinalaman sa krisis sa tubig. Nais kong linawin na wala itong kinalaman sa sitwasyon ng power supply sa bansa. Ang aming mga inaanunsiyo na scheduled power interruptions ay para sa pag-upgrade ng aming mga pasilidad, at iba pang aktibidades na kailangang gawin ng Meralco na nangangailangan ng pansamantalang pagkaantala ng serbisyo sa isang partikular na lugar sa loob ng ilang oras lamang. Ang mga maaapektuhang konsyumer ay nasasabihan nang maaga ukol dito.

Bilang isang konsyumer na nangangailangan ng tubig upang mabuhay, umaasa ako na magkakaroon ng agarang solusyon ang krisis sa supply ng tubig. Masyado nang malaking abala ang naidulot nito sa mga tao. Maaaring sa ngayon ay kinakaya pa ng karamihan na magtiis at magpasensiya. Nawa'y magkaroon na ito ng agarang solusyon para sa ikabubuti ng lahat.



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**END OF WATER SHORTAGE?**



**CONTINUOUS DECLINE** The water level of La Mesa Dam keeps on going down, setting new record lows. On March 14, it hit 68.74, the lowest since 1998 when it fell to 68.75 meters.

—JAM STA. ROSA



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**4.1 km Boracay road section opened to motorists this month**

The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) on Monday said motorists could access the 4.1-kilometer section of the Boracay Circumferential Road this month, as the first phase of the road's rehabilitation nears completion. Public Works Secretary Mark Villar said that by the end of the month, the road's 2.66-km section from Cagban Port to Hue Hotel, as well as its 1.46-km segment from Hue Hotel to Elizalde, would be opened to motorists. The project was supposed to be completed in October last year, but rains set back DPWH work schedules. Villar said they could now begin the second phase of work on the road's 1.9-km section from Elizalde to Ambassador Hotel and City Mall. Estimated to cost P300 million, the second phase will also cover the improvement of the 1.5-km stretch from Tambisaan Port to Rotonda. —JOVIC YEE



## #nationataglance



**A SEGMENT of the rehabilitated Boracay circumferential road as of March 18.** DPWH

WESTERN VISAYAS: BORACAY, MALAY  
**4 kms of improved Boracay circumferential road fully open by end-March**

THE 2.66-kilometer (km) section of the Boracay circumferential road from Cagban Port to Hue Hotel and the 1.462-km segment from Hue Hotel to Elizalde will be fully opened to motorists by the end of the month, the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) announced Monday. In a statement, DPWH Secretary Mark A. Villar said phase 1 of the rehabilitation of the island's circumferential road "is now substantially-completed" following an inspection. The DPWH-Region 6 office is also set to start the civil works for the project's phase 2, which will start from the Elizalde property passing through Ambassador Hotel to City Mall, with a total length of 1.9 kms, and the improvement of the 1.4-km road from Tambisaan Port to Rotonda. The second phase is targeted for completion and opening before the end of the year. DPWH will also be working on the road along Lake Town, near D' Mall.



## DPWH set to open road in Boracay

Rehabilitation of the four-kilometer portion of the Boracay Circumferential Road, the world-renowned island's major road network, will be completed this month, Public Works and Highways Secretary Mark Villar bared.

The remaining portion of the road, however, will be fully rehabilitated and opened to public before the year ends, Villar vowed Monday.

Phase 1 of Boracay Circumferential Road Rehabilitation Project, which covers the 4.122-kilometer portion of the road is now "sub-

stantially-completed," the secretary said following a recent inspection on the road.

This means that the 2.66-kilometer section from Cagban Port to Hue Hotel and the 1.462-kilometer segment from Hue Hotel to Elizalde will be fully opened to motorists.

Phase 1 of covers the concreting of two-lane road, including sidewalks with paving blocks, ramps and planting strips.

Further, civil works for the Phase 2 of the project are expected to be completed by year end. This phase of the project starts from Elizalde property passing through Ambassador Hotel to City Mall, with the length of 1.9 kilometers.

It also includes the improvement of road from Tambisaan Port to Rotonda with a length of 1.462 kilometers.

Villar furthered that aside from Boracay Circumferential Road, the department will be working on the road along Lake Town, near D' Mall.

The department's main task on the whole rehabilitation process of Boracay Island was to expand the island's main road into an ideal 12-meter wide road, get right of ways, and to complete the road's missing link. **(Betheena Kae Unite)**



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## HOTELS SA BORACAY Pinagtitipid sa tubig ngayong summer

**HINIKAYAT** maging ng water service providers ng Boracay ang mga establisimiyento na magtipid din sa pagkonsumo ng tubig bilang paghahanda sa inaasahang buhos pa ng mga turista ngayong summer season gayundin sa epekto ng El Niño.

Napag-alaman kay Boracay Island Water Company General

Manager Maria Mabelle Amatorio, kailangang maging praktikal ang mga residente at turista sa paggamit ng tubig upang maiwasan ang pagkaubos ng supply nito gaya ng nangyari sa ilang siyudad sa Metro Manila.

Nagpaalala naman ang Boracay Tubi System Inc., sa mga may-ari ng mga hotel at resort gayundin sa mga residente na

palaging i-monitor ang kanilang water connection nang maiwasan ang leakage o pagtagas.

Sa ngayon, nananatiling Nabaoy river ang pinagkukunan ng isla na nag-iisang tourist destination sa bansa na may centralized sewerage at water treatment system.

**BENEDICT  
ABAYGAR, JR.**



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# The Manila Times

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# PH to bear brunt of severe El Niño

BY DIVINA NOVA JOY DELA CRUZ

**T**HE El Niño dry spell might last up to June, delaying the onset of the rainy season, according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa).

Pagasa Deputy Administrator Flaviana Hilario said the forecast indicated the onset of the rainy season toward late June instead of the usual late May to early June.

"Pagasa's monitoring and forecast show that El Niño will continue until June of 2019. And *ang* implication *po nito* (the implication) is, we are expecting a slight delay in the onset of our rainy

season," Hilario said in a press conference on Monday.

Hilario told Filipinos to expect a "full-blown" El Niño next month, given the length of significant rainfall reduction in most parts of the country, which will be on its fifth month by the end of March.

"Our climate is now getting hotter and drier as a result or impact of the ongoing El Niño," Hilario said.

"Air temperatures are now increasing as we approach the dry season and the impacts of El Niño are expected to become severe,"

she added.

Pagasa expects 10 provinces to be classified under meteorological drought by the end of March. These provinces are Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Occidental Mindoro, Oriental Mindoro, Palawan, Zamboanga del Sur, Zamboanga Sibugay, Maguindanao and Sulu.

A total of 41 provinces may be classified under a dry spell by the end of March. In Luzon, these are Abra, Benguet, Kalinga Apayao, Mountain Province, Pangasinan, Cagayan, Bataan, Nueva

Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac, Zambales, Metro Manila, Batangas, Cavite, Laguna, Quezon, Marinduque, Romblon, Albay, Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur, Catanduanes, Masbate and Sorsogon.

In the Visayas, a dry spell is expected in Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Iloilo, Negros Occidental, Negros Oriental, Biliran, Eastern Samar, Leyte, Northern Samar and Western Samar.

In Mindanao, a dry spell is expected in Zamboanga del Norte, Misamis Occidental, Dinagat Islands, Surigao del Norte and

Tawi-Tawi.

A total of 21 provinces may also be declared under dry condition by the end of March.

Pagasa Deputy Administrator Landrico Dalida Jr. said that even with El Niño, typhoons were still expected to enter the country — fewer in number but stronger in intensity.

"Usually during El Niño, hot temperature in the Pacific causes strong evaporation that could lead to stronger typhoons," Dalida said.



## Easing into a zero waste lifestyle

Zero waste lifestyle has jumped from a concept to reality, even if it is still just a tiny fraction of the world's population – mostly women – that have embraced it. Yet, the fact that some of the world's biggest companies are adopting it shows promise.

In Great Britain, all 950 Starbucks locations are now charging customers an additional five cents if they get their drinks in disposable cups. On the other hand, they get a discount of 25 cents if they bring reusable cups. This helps reduce garbage that gets compacted in landfills.

### BIZLINKS



REY GAMBOA

Some big hotels have stopped providing shampoo, conditioner, and lotion in small disposable plastic containers. Rather, there are bulk dispensers aimed at reducing one of the world's biggest environment nemeses: one-time-use plastic containers.

Consumer goods giant Unilever has initiated partnerships with other companies to launch a home delivery service using refillable jars of its more popular products, again in response to bringing down the

amount of consumer products in plastic packaging.

Other companies jumping onto bandwagon of late are Unilever, Nestlé, and PepsiCo, all announcing their plans to use reusable packaging for certain products to reduce single-use disposables.

There's also a rising growth in zero waste stores that sell unpacked goods, where buyers bring their own containers and bags to avoid creating more waste that would have to end up in the garbage bins, and ultimately, landfills.

### Quixotic dream

Some may scoff at the idea of zero waste as Quixotic, and even the renowned initiator of zero waste lifestyle today, Bea Johnson, admits that even with meticulous planning, she and her family of four still ended with a jar of garbage after a year.

But for Johnson, and the many other people inspired to embrace zero waste lifestyles, what is more important is the awareness and willingness to adopt measures to reduce waste that comes with daily life, usually in upwardly mobile city dwelling.

For most, it starts with bringing your own carry-bags when going to the market or grocery, and doing away with plastic shopping bags. A deepening commitment could mean staying away from single-use plastics for bottled water, one that has been a major source of sea pollution.

A more radical response would be to avoid buying goods packaged in plastics in supermarkets, refraining from food deliveries that come in disposable wares, and patronizing online shopping sites that deliver goods wrapped in plastic.

Many consumers have been able to demonstrate the do-ability of aiming for a zero waste lifestyle, and it just takes a firmer resolve to avoid plastics and disposables that would end up in the garbage bin. End users have the easier task; manufacturers face a tougher decision.

### Fast fashion

One aspect of adopting a zero waste lifestyle is having only the most basic essentials needed to live. For many of those who have converted, part of the de-cluttering is keeping one's wardrobe as Spartan as possible, and if needed, to buy second-hand clothing.

This is because the world's fashion industry is regarded as the world's second biggest industrial polluter, next only to oil. It has created a cult that prods people to buy more clothes than they actually need, and to discard these when new fashion styles are created.

Fast fashion, or the desire for cheap on-trend clothes, has lamentably replaced darning and mending as clothing manufacturers ship out millions in metric tons of cheap, wearable items, from T-shirts, coats, shoes, hats, and accessories on an annual basis.

A study by the Ellen Macarthur Foundation has noted that more than \$500 billion is lost each year by consumers who buy clothing but under-utilize them, or worse, are not even able to remove the tags as new fashion styles dictate them out of trend.

Total greenhouse gas emission from textiles production is pegged now at 1.2 billion metric tons a year, and that by 2050, the global fashion industry would be accountable for the global carbon budget associated with a two percent Celsius rise in the Earth's temperature.

The amount of clothes that go through the commercial mill is also draining the world's water resources, with an estimated 79 billion cubic meters of fresh water used in growing and producing fibers, to dyeing, finishing, and washing of clothes.

### Government's role

The fashion industry, however, is just one of the major causes of wastes. As new landfills open up to accommodate more trash, the pools of plastics in our oceans become bigger and more difficult to corral and clean.

Many governments are already introducing measures that encourage people to rely less on pollutants such as plastics, but because these are more regulatory than outright bans, there is limited success.

In the Philippines, for example, some local governments encourage plastic bag reduction, but still allow consumers to pay for a plastic bag if they opt to. Ordinances are also not strictly enforced at all times, and the practice of using plastic bags creeps back into the system every so often.

Clearly, too, environment laws on plastics – starting from production to its use – are urgently needed given the gravity of the problem. This could seriously threaten the business of manufacturing plastics, and could be challenged in the courts.

In the end, the success of an effective environment protection drive will have to rely on more enlightened people, those who are able to demonstrate that a lifestyle aiming for zero waste is what the world needs, and one that makes sense.

Ultimately, such consumers will dictate the moderation that is needed to curb many of the modern world's excesses and unnecessary wastes.

### Facebook and Twitter

We are actively using two social networking websites to reach out more often and even interact with and engage our readers, friends and colleagues in the various areas of interest that I tackle in my column. Please like us on [www.facebook.com/ReyGamboa](http://www.facebook.com/ReyGamboa) and follow us on [www.twitter.com/ReyGamboa](http://www.twitter.com/ReyGamboa).

Should you wish to share any insights, write me at Link Edge, 25th Floor, 139 Corporate Center, Valero Street, Salcedo Village, 1227 Makati City. Or e-mail me at [reydgamboa@yahoo.com](mailto:reydgamboa@yahoo.com). For a compilation of previous articles, visit [www.BizlinksPhilippines.net](http://www.BizlinksPhilippines.net).





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# Bandera

BALITA • BUENAS • CHIKA

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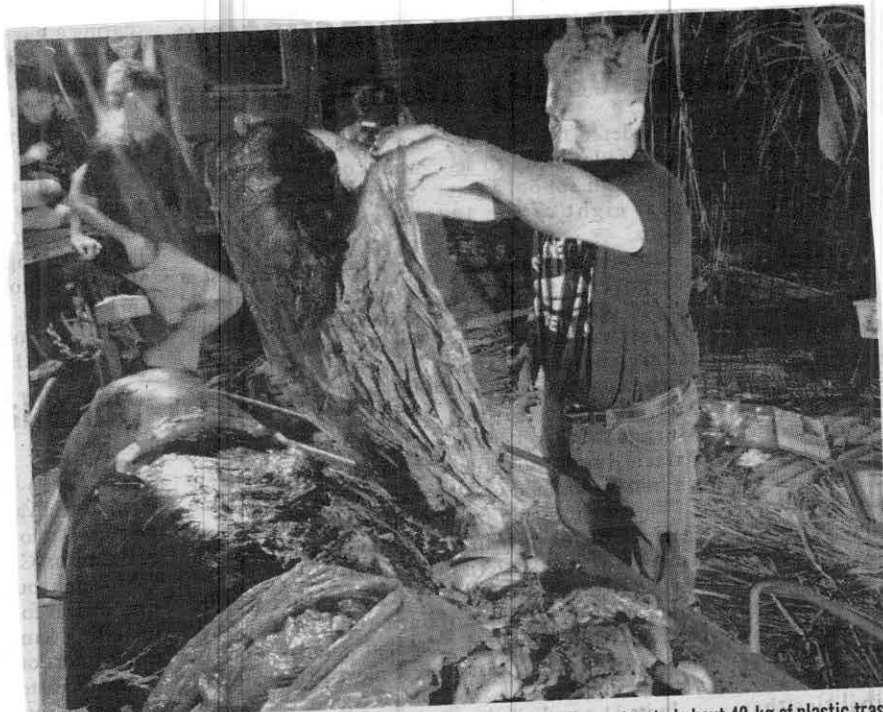
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**PLASTIC 'KILLS' WHALE.** Darrell Blatchley of the D' Bone Collector Museum extracted about 40-kg of plastic trash inside the stomach of a dead curvier beaked whale that was washed ashore in Sitio Asinan, Barangay Cadunan, Compostela Valley last Saturday. The trash included plastic shopping bags, rice sacks and banana plantation-style bags. Blatchley, a Davao City-based American environmentalist, is urging the government to take action against people who dump trash in the ocean. PHOTO COURTESY OF D' BONE COLLECTOR MUSEUM



# BULGAR

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## BOSES ng PINOY, MATA ng BAYAN

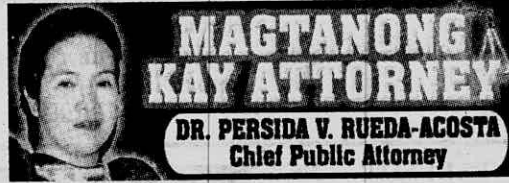
**Dear Chief Acosta,**  
**Marami kaming alagang hayop tulad ng baka, kambing at kalabaw. Ang mga ito ay aming pinasasabab at pinakakain malapit sa forestland sapagkat malapit dito ang aming tahanan. May nakapagsabi sa amin na bawal daw ang ginagawa namin dahil pino-protektahan ng gobyerno ang nasabing forestland. Totoo ba ito? — King**

**Dear King,**

Para sa inyong kaalaman, ang batas na nakasasaklaw sa inyong katanungan ay ang *Presidential Decree*

(PD) No. 705 o mas kilala sa tawag na "*Revised Forestry Code*". Nakasaad sa *Section 70* nito na:

**"Section 70. Pasturing Livestock. Imprisonment for not less than six (6) months nor more than two (2) years and a fine equal to ten (10) times the regular rentals due, in addition to the confiscation of such livestock and all improvement introduced in the area in favor of the government, shall be imposed upon any person, who shall, without authority under a lease or permit, graze or cause to graze livestock in forest lands, grazing**



**MAGTANONG KAY ATTORNEY**  
**DR. PERSIDA V. RUEDA-ACOSTA**  
**Chief Public Attorney**

### Pagpapastol ng hayop sa "forestland"

*lands and alienable and disposable lands which have not as yet been disposed of in accordance with the Public Land Act; x x x"*

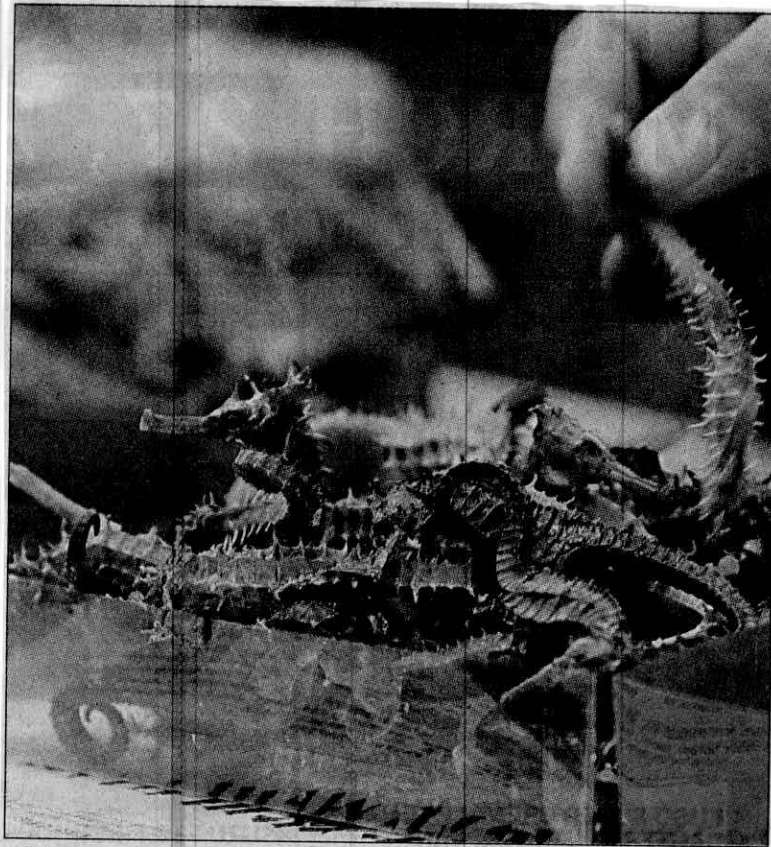
Ayon sa nasabing batas, ang sinumang gagawing pastulan ng mga hayop ang *forestlands, grazing lands at alienable and disposable lands* na hindi pa

naideklara, nailipat o *na-dispose* ng gobyerno alisunod sa *Public Land Act* nang walang *kaukulang authority* sa ilalim ng *lease* o *permit* ay maparurusahan ng pagkakakulong na hindi bababa sa anim (6) buwan at hindi hihigit sa dalawang (2) taon. Maaari ring magmulta ng kapantay ng sampung

(10) beses na halaga ng regular na renta para rito bukod pa sa pagkumpiska sa mga alagang hayop at *improvement* na nagawa na sa lupa.

Nawa ay nasagot namin ang inyong katanungan. Nais naming ipaalala sa inyo na ang opinyong ito ay nakabase sa inyong mga naisalaysay sa inyong liham at sa pagkakaintindi namin dito. Maaaring maiba ang opinyon kung mayroong karagdagang *impormasyon* g ibibigay. Mas mainam kung personal kayong sasangguni sa abogado.

Maraming salamat sa patuloy ninyong pagtitiwala.



**Dried seahorses are inspected by members of the National Bureau of Investigation and Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources during a raid on a drug store in Binondo, Manila yesterday. The seahorse, an endangered species, is used in traditional Chinese medicine. EDD GUMBAN**



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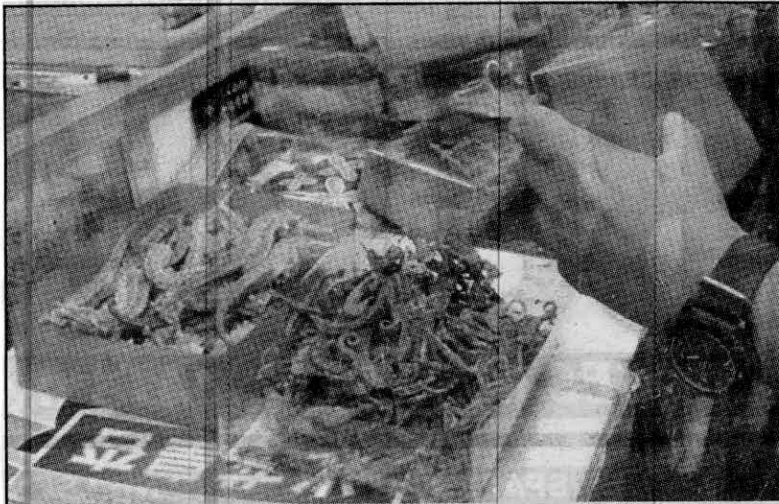
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**BOSES ng PINOY, MATA ng BAYAN**



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*350 piraso ng ipinagbabawal na endangered species na seahorses ang nakumpiska ng National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) at Food and Drugs Administration (FDA) sa isang tindahan sa Binondo, Manila. Ang galeng! (Jun Guillermo)*



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# HATAW!

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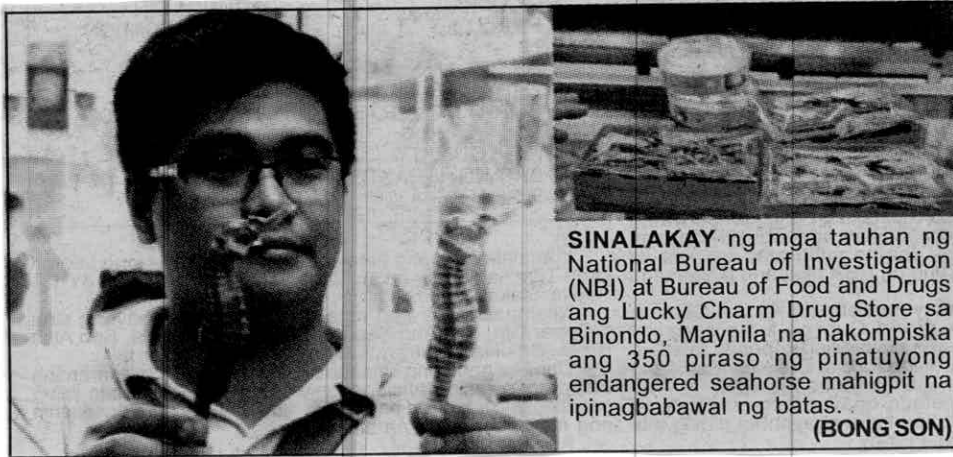
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**SINALAKAY** ng mga tauhan ng National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) at Bureau of Food and Drugs ang Lucky Charm Drug Store sa Binondo, Maynila na nakompiska ang 350 piraso ng pinatuyong endangered seahorse mahigpit na ipinagbabawal ng batas.

(BONG SON)



Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION INITIATIVES SERVICE



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DATE



**NI-RAID** ng mga tauhan ng NBI-Environmental Crime Division at Bureau of Food and Drugs ang Lucky Charm Drugstore sa Binondo, Manila at nakumpiska ang 348 piraso ng endangered species na dry seahorse na ibinebenta sa mga Chinese.  
Kuha ni **NORMAN ARAGA**