

Metro Pacific Expressway (Cavite) Tollways Corp. connecting to the (MPTC) said it may Danilo Atienza (Sangley) Air Base once the extension from the government firms up Manila-Cavite Ex- Turn to page 2

Imus collects P18-M from tax delinquents

IMUS CITY. Cavite - The city government has collected over P18 million from business and real property tax delinquents since payments started in April 1.

Officials said they would step up the tax amnesty campaign with three months and 10 days left before the deadline.

The campaign kicked off last April with billboards announcing the tax amnesty installed at City Hall, markets, streets and on social media.

The amount collected so far was "way below" the P300 million target.

During the amnesty period, tax delinquents can settle in full or in installments minus interests, surcharges, and penalties.

Those with delinquencies for the year 2019 and earlier are qualified for the amnesty to ease the payment burden particularly of those with accumulated accounts.

Mayor Emmanuel L. Maliksi approved Councilor Raymond S. Arguelles, Ways and Means Com-

mittee chairman and author of the amnesty ordinance, said the delinquents owed the Turn to page 2



JANAIRIO

Calabarzon LGUs urged to institutionalize reforms

The Department of Health is urging local government officials to pass local ordinances that would help institutionalize health reforms.

At the sidelines of the Colloquium: Health Leadership and Governance Program here, DOH-Calabarzon Director Eduardo Janairo said that since

local leaders have term limits, health reforms should be sustained.

Local officials from selected municipalities in the Calabarzon region have undergone a training program, led by the DOH, called Municipal Leadership and Governance Program (MLGP), which aims to promote a sys-

Turn to page 2

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Perlas ng SILANGAN BALITA

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(IMUS... from page 1)

government over P1.3 billion in back accounts.

Arguelles said the target delinquent collection of P300 million was "good enough" to fund the city's priority projects.

The council approved the ordinance during a special session early this year with at least eight councilors signing.

Imus also had tax amnesties in 1998 and the New Millennium.

The amount to be collected will go to resolving the city's garbage problem and running the new Ospital ng Imus, the first city's public hospital.

City Treasurer Manuel Reynold W. de la Fuente said that there are about 10,000 business and real property tax delinquents in Imus.

A total of

P18,275,356.62 was collected from 1,432 delinquents from April 1 to June 17.

The break-down is as follows: P5,879,134.91 from 255 business tax delinquents and P12,396,221.69 from 1,117 real property delinquents.

De la Fuente said that he expected the delinquent collection to increase further in July and August and the weeks leading to the September 30 deadline.

Meanwhile, the top 10 business and real property taxpayers will be given citations during the 7th city anniversary.

Various activities involving residents with outstanding contributions/performances, are set for the week-long June 30 anniversary day.

US Embassy, int'l groups intensify campaign vs online sexual exploitation of children

The United States Embassy in the Philippines and international organizations have intensified their campaign against online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC).

In a statement last June 21, the embassy said it partnered with the Inter-Agency

Council Against Trafficking and International Justice Mission to train 60 prosecutors and investigators in combating OSEC.

The US Department of Justice, Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (OPDAT) also helped

in the training.

The four-day workshop included lectures, in-depth discussions and practical exercises.

Trial Lawyer Key Lynn Sheppard and Digital Investigative Analyst Joshua Steyer from the US DOJ Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section shared practice-

es, digital forensic analysis, and prosecution of OSEC cases.

OPDAT, the Philippine Supreme Court's Sub-Committee on Commercial Crime and the Philippine Judicial Academy will undertake offline/online training for judges on June 26 to 27.

(CALABARZON... from page 1)

temic mindset for overcoming challenges in community healthcare.

The colloquium is held to formally end the two-year partnership program with the

eight municipalities – composed of Alfonso and Noveleta towns in Cavite, Sta. Maria and Majayjay in Laguna,

who completed the MLGP.

(MPTC... from page 1)

plans to use the gateway for commercial purposes.

MPTC President Rodrigo E. Franco said the other weekend that the company may look into a spur road from Cavite linking to the air base in Sangley Point, Cavite, as the government broods discussions on expanding the use of the gateway.

"Cavite can build a segment that will extend to Sangley. But the project will depend on the plan of the government for the airport. If there is a definite plan for the commercial use of Sangley airport, Cavite can build the extension," he said in a text message.

This is the Department of Transportation (DoTr), through an order from President Ro-

drigo Duterte, pushed plans to open the Sangley air base for general aviation flights by November. In the same discussions, the DoTr raised road congestion as a problem in utilizing the Sangley air base for more flights. It said it is studying opening a ferry system from Mall of Asia in Pasay City to Sangley Point as a solution to the problem.

He said the "grad-

uates" can share the health challenges encountered in developing their municipal health system and highlight effective strategies in achieving Millennium Development Goals or Sustainable Development Goals, such as on maternal and infant health, among others.

The conference

also aims to advocate additional support from other groups and donors and provide a venue for stakeholders to come up with an integrated response in addressing health challenges and prepare actions towards the realization of the Universal Health Care law.

as business jets and pilot training flights.

To open the Sangley air base for commercial operations – which is the premise MPTC is keen on seeing – a proposal from the city government of Cavite is currently being reviewed by the national government. This plan intends to add more runways to the Sangley facility to handle larger aircraft.

Outgoing Cavite Governor Jesus Crispin C. Remulla told reporters in March the local government is raising P200 billion (about \$3.8 billion) through a bond float to finance its \$10-billion airport proposal.

It earlier submitted the plan to the National Economic and Develop-

ment Authority (NEDA) for evaluation, but Transportation Undersecretary for Planning Ruben S. Romano, Jr. said the Cavite government has now decided to take on the mode of a local public-private partnership (PPP) for the project.

Remulla earlier said the Cavite government was in talks with Chinese firms that may come in as investors and contractors for the Sangley airport project, but the focus is to find local banks for its financing.

MPTC is the railways unit of Metro Pacific Investments Corp., one of three Philippine units of Hong Kong-based First Pacific Co. Ltd., others being PLDT Inc. and Philinvest Mining Corp.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
City of Bacoor, Cavite

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND,
Mortgagee,

-versus- Forclosure No. 2019-89
For: Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of
Real Estate Mortgage

SPOUSES ISAGANI B. CAMBAY
and GRACE G. CAMBAY

Mortgagor.

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135 as Amended by Act 4118 filed by the mortgagee, HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND, of 12th Floor JELP Business Solutions Center, No. 409 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City, and against the mortgagor, SPOUSES ISAGANI B. CAMBAY and GRACE G. CAMBAY, of LOT 13, BLOCK 7, PHASE 2, DAISY ST., CAMELLA SPRINGVILLE GARDEN, MOLINO, BACOR, CAVITE, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of February 25, 2019 amounts to SIX HUNDRED FIFTY FOUR THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FIVE PESOS AND 22/100 (P 654,905.22), Philippine Currency, inclusive of interest, penalties and other charges, the undersigned or her duly authorized representative will sell at the public auction on **JULY 4, 2019** at 10:00 o'clock in the morning or soon thereafter, at the main entrance of the Hall of Justice of Bacoor City, Cavite, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described properties with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

**TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE
NO. T-1336353**

"A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 13 BLK. 7 OF THE CONS.-SUBD. PLAN PCS-042103-000177, BEING A PORTION OF LOT 7368-D, PSD-20147, LOTS 8147-C, 8147-D, (LRC) PSD-267730, L.R.C. REC. NO. 1), SITUATED IN THE BRGY. MOLINO, MUN. OF BACOR, PROV. OF CAVITE, X X X CONTAINING AN AREA OF FIFTY FIVE (55) SQ. METERS, X X X"

"All sealed bid 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, it shall be held on **JULY 11, 2019**, without further notice."

Prospective buyers or bidders are hereby enjoined to investigate for themselves the titles to the said properties and encumbrances, if any there be.

Bacoor City, Cavite, JUNE 3, 2019.

(Sgd.) ATTY. LIZA D. VICTA
Clerk of Court VI

Copy Furnished:

Ms. CRISTINA A. ESTEPA
12th Floor JELP Business Solutions Center,
No. 409 Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City

SPOUSES ISAGANI B. CAMBAY and
GRACE G. CAMBAY
LOT 13, BLOCK 7, PHASE 2, DAISY ST.,
CAMELLA SPRINGVILLE GARDEN,
MOLINO, BACOR, CAVITE

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

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : June 10, 17 & 24, 2019

Republic of the Philippines
Fourth Judicial Region
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
City of Bacoor

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee,

-versus- Forclosure No. 2019-74
For: Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of
Real Estate Mortgage

MARIA RHOEDA DE GUZMAN FAUSTINO, as
Represented by her Attorney-in-Fact MARIA
RODORA DE GUZMAN FAUSTINO,
Mortgagor.

NOTICE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL FORECLOSURE

Upon Extrajudicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135 as Amended by Act 4118 filed by the mortgagee, BDO UNIBANK, INC., of BDO Corporate Center, 7899 Makati Ave., Makati City, and against the mortgagors, MARIA RHOEDA DE GUZMAN FAUSTINO, as represented by her Attorney-in-Fact MARIA RODORA DE GUZMAN FAUSTINO, of Lot 4 & 5, Block 11, Section 4, Sunny Brooke I, Brgy. San Francisco, Gen. Trias, Cavite, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of May 10, 2019, amounts to ONE MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY SEVEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED TWENTY TWO PESOS & 64/100 (P1,757,722.64), Philippine Currency, inclusive of interest, penalties and other charges, the undersigned or her duly authorized representative will sell at public auction on **JULY 2, 2019 at 10:00 o'clock** in the morning or soon thereafter, at the main entrance of the Hall of Justice of Bacoor City, Cavite, 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. 057-201801175**

"A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 5 BLOCK 9 OF THE CONS.-SUBDIVISION PLAN, PCS-04-025873, BEING A PORTION OF PSU-207956 & LOT A, PSD-042103-039673, L.R.C. RECORD NO. 1), SITUATED IN THE BARANGAY OF SALINAS, MUNICIPALITY OF BACOR, PROV. OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON, X X X, CONTAINING AN AREA OF SIXTY THREE (63) SQUARE METERS."

"All sealed bid 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, it shall be held on **JULY 9, 2019**, without further notice."

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

City of Bacoor, May 27, 2019.

(Sgd.) LIZA D. VICTA
Clerk of Court VI

Copy Furnished:

BDO UNIBANK, INC.
11th Floor, South Tower, BDO Corporate Center,
7899 Makati Ave., Makati City

Ms. MARIA RHOEDA DE GUZMAN
Lot 4 & 5, Block 11, Section 4, Sunny Brooke I,
Brgy. San Francisco, Gen. Trias, Cavite
Lot 5, Block 9, Lessandra Bacoor 3,
Brgy. Salinas, Bacoor, Cavite

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

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : June 10, 17 & 24, 2019

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Fourth Judicial Region
Regional Trial Court
Branch 20
Imus, Cavite

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND
Mortgagee,

-versus- Extra-Judicial Foreclosure of Real
Estate Mortgage Under Act No.
3135, as Amended, Republic Act
No. 4118

GILBERT GUNIO LUMBERA, married to
MARILOU ESMERIO LUMBERA,
Mortgagors,

PC NO. 16755-19

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135 as amended by Act 4118 filed by HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND with principal office address at 12th Floor JELP Business Solutions Center, No. 409 Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City, against GILBERT GUNIO LUMBERA married to MARILOU ESMERIO LUMBERA, with residence and postal address at Lot 12, Blk. 4, PH. 3, Summer Pointe Country Homes, Daang Hari, Pasong Buaya, Imus, Cavite/301 Villa Cristorey Subd. Molino III, Bacoor, Cavite to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of February 19, 2019 amounts to EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY FOUR THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED TWENTY FIVE PESOS & 83/100 (P864,125.83) Philippine Currency, excluding interest and penalty charges, attorney's fees, sheriff's fees and all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff IV will sell at Public Auction on **August 27, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.** or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Office of the Clerk of Court, RTC Multiple Sala, Bulwagan Ng Katarungan, Aguinaldo Highway, Imus, Cavite, to the highest bidder for cash and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE No. 057-2018015427

A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 12, BLOCK 4 OF THE SUBDIVISION PLAN, PSD-04-214434, BEING A PORTION OF THE LOT 5625, IMUS ESTATE, (RE-04-003359), L.R.C. NO. 8843), SITUATED IN THE BARANGAY OF PASONG BUAYA II, MUNICIPALITY OF IMUS, PROVINCE OF CAVITE, ISLAND OF LUZON, BOUNDED ON THE NE, ALONG LINE 1-2 BY LOT 11, BLOCK 4; ON THE SE, ALONG LINE 2-3 BY ROAD LOT 1, ON THE SW, ALONG LINE 3-4 BY LOT 13, BLOCK 4; AND ON THE NW, ALONG LINE 4-1 BY LOT 3, BLOCK 4, ALL OF THE SUBDIVISION PLAN, BEGINNING AT A POINT MARKED "1" x x x CONTAINING AN AREA OF SEVENTY FIVE (75) SQ. METERS x x x

All sealed bid must be submitted to the undersigned on the stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on **September 3, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.** without prior notice.

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

Imus, Cavite, Philippines, May 30, 2019.

(Sgd.) ANSELMO P. PAGUNSAN, JR.
Sheriff IV

APPROVED:

(Sgd.) REGALADO E. EUSEBIO
Clerk of Court VI
and Ex-Officio Sheriff

Copy Furnished:

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND
12th Floor JELP Business Solutions Center,
No. 409 Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City

SPS. GILBERT GUNIO LUMBERA
& MARILOU ESMERIO LUMBERA
-Lot 12, Blk. 4, PH. 3, Summer Pointe Country Homes,
Daang Hari, Pasong Buaya, Imus, Cavite
-301 Villa Cristorey Subd. Molino III, Bacoor, Cavite

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : June 24, July 1 & 8, 2019

INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

NOTICE is hereby given that the order of the **UP BARBERS & BARBERS** was last issued on September 10, 2019, in the City of New Taipei, Taiwan. The said order, containing the names of the **UP BARBERS & BARBERS** who have been appointed and were previously elected by and among themselves, is hereby published in the **UP BARBERS & BARBERS** on June 24, 2019, in the City of New Taipei, Taiwan, and is hereby published in the **UP BARBERS & BARBERS** on June 24, 2019, in the City of New Taipei, Taiwan.

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Publication: **UP BARBERS & BARBERS**
Date: June 24, 2019

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UP BARBERS & BARBERS

Publication: **UP BARBERS & BARBERS**
Date: June 24, 2019

APPENDIX OF THE BARBERS

NOTICE is hereby given that the order of the **UP BARBERS & BARBERS** was last issued on September 10, 2019, in the City of New Taipei, Taiwan. The said order, containing the names of the **UP BARBERS & BARBERS** who have been appointed and were previously elected by and among themselves, is hereby published in the **UP BARBERS & BARBERS** on June 24, 2019, in the City of New Taipei, Taiwan, and is hereby published in the **UP BARBERS & BARBERS** on June 24, 2019, in the City of New Taipei, Taiwan.

UP BARBERS & BARBERS

Publication: **UP BARBERS & BARBERS**
Date: June 24, 2019

Industries play Santa to workers as sales pick up

The gross revenues of the country's major industries grew at a faster pace of 8.1 percent during the first quarter, buoyed by double-digit sales increases in the finance, real estate, trade and transportation sectors.

In a report last June 26, the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) said the growth in the gross revenue index of industries during the January to March period improved from 7.3 percent a year ago.

The finance sector recorded the fastest growth of 14.6 percent in terms of sales, while the transportation, storage and communication industry grew sales by

14.5 percent. The trade sector's revenues rose 14.4 percent, real estate, 12.4 percent, other services, 6.7 percent, manufacturing, 5.1 percent, electricity, gas and water supply, 4.7 percent, and mining and quarrying, 2.6 percent.

As for sales picked up, the total employment index also ticked up by 1.7 percent in the first quarter, faster than the 1.3-percent growth last year. Transportation, storage and communication boosted the workforce by 4.3 percent, trade, 2.7 percent, manufacturing, 2.5 percent, mining and quarrying, 2.3 percent, finance, 1.6 percent,

real estate, 1.1 percent, percent from last year's declining gas and water supply 1.2 percent.

The employment index for the construction sector decreased by 0.1 percent from January to March due to the lull in government-led infrastructure projects and the delayed implementation of the P5.7-billion 2019 national budget.

Employers benefited from the growth in revenues, as the first-quarter total compensation index climbed 4.6

percent from last year's 3.2 percent. For sector, the biggest salary hike was registered in the electricity, gas and water supply industry with 9.8 percent. Compensation in the mining and quarrying sector rose 5.2 percent, construction, 4.6 percent, manufacturing, 3.7 percent, other services, 4.7 percent, finance, 2.4 percent, real estate, 1.9 percent, transportation, 1.8 percent, and trade, 0.5 percent.

UP climbs 28 places higher in world university rankings

The University of the Philippines (UP) remains as the country's top university even as it climbed 28 places in the latest Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings.

UP placed 156th in the list, 28 places higher than its ranking in 2018 at 184.

"It is the only Philippine university among the 16 Southeast Asian institutions in the upper half of the list," the UP Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs said in a statement.

According to UP, the universities are ranked based on six indicators — academi-

c reputation (40%), academic reputation, employer reputation, faculty-student ratio (20%), citations per faculty (20%), international faculty ratio (5%) and international student ratio (5%).

UP ranked 124th in faculty-student ratio, 149th in employer reputation, 242nd in

academic reputation, but ranked in the 60th to 70th range in citations per faculty, international faculty ratio, and international student ratio.

Other Filipino universities included in the world rankings are the Ateneo de Manila Uni-

Sereno: Believing foreign gov't over fellow Filipinos a 'betrayal of our nation'

former Supreme Court Chief Justice Maria Lourdes Sereno said last June 20 choosing to believe foreign government over own countrymen is a form of "betrayal."

Sereno said this following the rambling incident in the West Philippine Sea (WPS) between a Filipino fishing boat and a Chinese vessel. The Chinese vessel reportedly abandoned the Filipino fishermen who were left floating for hours before they were rescued by a Vietnamese vessel.

"It is betrayal of our nation to give credence to the pro-

claimants of a foreign government over its people, over that of our kababayans. Ang pag ang halaga ng pag mahalagan kung mawala ang mga kumakatawan nito ang maglalagay ng mga interes ng mamamayan?" Sereno said.

The former Chief Justice added that "when the life or dignity of one of our own is under threat, we come to his defense."

"Our identity, our history and our Constitution demand active and overt defense, not discomfuting statements from government," Sereno said.

"Our fishermen of Mindoro and Zam-

bales deserve protection in our own territory, under our own laws. Sincere pagtanggap sa kanilang pagkakatamtamang marinig," she added.

Following the incident, the Chinese government said that the crew of the Chinese vessel "tried to rescue the Filipino fishermen, but was afraid of being besieged by other Filipino boats."

Presidential Spokesperson Salvador Panelo also took note of the conflicting statements of the Filipino vessel's captain Junel Insigne, and the vessel's cook Richard Blaza, particularly on whether or not the

rambling incident was accidental or intentional.

"Kasi parang may conflict 'yung kapitan at 'yung cook. Kasi tingin ng kapitan, at nadya. Tingin ng cook, mukhang hindi na kita," Panelo said in a press briefing.

Sereno added that while no one wants war to take place, no one wants cowardice either as she insisted to fight for the lives and dignity of Filipinos.

"Hinilingi ng kabataan ang katungkulan para sa lahing Pilipino. Walang gusto ng giyera, ngunit wala ring gusto ng kasuwagan. Buhay at dignidad

ng Pilipino, ipaglaban," but at least a strong presence of the US Pacific fleet in the WPS

"Masusukat ang pag-uugap ang isang grupo at komunidad. Lunaluk tayo sa mga forum at iba pang mga intaystika. Makita sa pagtatanggap ng Pilipino at West Philippine Sea," Sereno added.

Senator Panfilo Lacson earlier said the

government should not wait for armed aggression to happen in the WPS before invoking the Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT) between the Philippines and the United States (US).

"As I said in my tweet, I am not praying for World War III," said Panelo.

Water, power lack intensifies

Water users in Metro Manila and nearby provinces and power consumers across Luzon suffered double whammy last June 19 with rotational service interruptions as the water level of the Angat Dam continued to dwindle.

At the same time, a total of 1,240 megawatts of power-generating capacity remained out of commission, with some being gone under planned outage

and others running at derated levels.

As of June 19 morning, Angat's stock was pegged at 161.3 meters above sea level, just 1.3 meters above its critical low level.

Maynilad Water Services Inc. last June 19 started implementing rotational supply interruptions throughout its concession area, lasting seven to 14 hours per the schedule.

This was the ef-

fect of reduced allocation of raw water from Angat Dam, which the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) said was needed to prepare the dam for operations below the critical low level of 160 masl.

"We encourage our affected customers to store enough water when supply is available. Upon resumption of water service, please let the water flow out for a few seconds until the

supply clears," Maynilad said in a statement.

"We appeal to our customers for their continued patience and understanding as we try to manage the effects of the reduced allocation on our operations," the company added.

Also, Manila Water Co. Inc. revised its own rotational service interruption scheme, which has been running since March.

"This [reduction

in allocation] will affect water supply going to our treatment plants and consequently, our ability to refill our reservoirs," Manila Water said.

"We are therefore constrained to implement a new scheme of rotational water service interruptions for the entire East Zone for about eight to 12 hours during night time," the company said.

Also last June 19, the Bagong Alyansang

Makabayan lashed out at the concessionaires, the NWRB and the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System for their late notices.

As for the power situation, the Luzon grid was placed under Red Alert—when the expected peak demand for electricity was likely to exceed available generating capacity—for the 12th day since the problem in Luzon started in March.

Gordon to China: Abandoning our fishermen is the issue

"Whether it is an accident or an intentional collision is beyond the point. The crucial side of the matter is who abandoned a fisher- (China) left the fisher- men in peril of their lives."

Senator Richard Gordon said this last June 24 in reaction to China's Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Lu Kang remark that the Beihai Bank incident was an "accidental collision."

"The issue is that people are not supposed to be abandoned at sea," Gordon said in a statement.

A Chinese vessel abandoned a sick- ing Filipino boat after it rammed it in Beihai Bank in the West Philippine Sea and left the fishermen in the "peril of the elements," according to Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana.

The senator noted that aside from violating a "very tight international rule," the Chinese's actions "went against human nature."

"You don't even need a law to help people who are in distress at sea. The natural law is the nature of the act of human beings is to save his fellow men. For sure many of the Chinese know that

when there are people to be saved, they will save them," he said. Gordon also urged China to stop taking a position which could worsen the issue, pointing out that it is "not difficult to admit one's fault."

"First, China admitted that it was a Chinese vessel and that they would investigate and take responsibility. Then they say that the

Chinese vessel was engaged in a light purse seine operation when it was suddenly beset by 7 or 8 Filipino fishing boats. Suddenly, it's a vessel failed to show a light and it's the lighting grid of an boat bumped into the Filipino platform. Tapos rung (Then the Chinese foreign ministry spokesman main-

tened that it was an accidental collision between fishing boats at sea," he said.

"It is not difficult to admit one's fault. In October 2011, the Philippine Navy quickly apologized to China after one of its warships accidentally rammed a Chinese fishing boat in the West Philippine Sea. China could have done this too," Gordon added.

Ex-DFA chief denied entry to Hong Kong

Former Foreign Affairs Secretary Al Del Rosario has been denied entry to Hong Kong after being held and questioned for six hours at the Hong Kong International Airport.

"After holding me for six hours, they are denying entry. That means that the diplomatic passport (I am holding) is not being honored and they refused to give the reason why," Del Rosario said.

Atty. Anne Marie Corcoran, Del Rosario's

More 'hot money' leaving Philippine markets

Short term investments were leaving the Philippines in 2018 quicker than they did in 2015, resulting in more so-called hot money going out in 2018, a reverse of 2015's record of hot money inflow.

Data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) showed that portfolio investments recorded a net outflow of \$655.3 million from January to May in 2019 in stark contrast to the net inflow of \$815.6 million tallied in the same period in 2018.

The BSP attributed

this to the outflow of all forms of short-term securities from local financial markets. Portfolio investments are like gambling bets placed on stocks, bonds or money markets that normally don't stay and move in and out of the local financial system depending on profit margins or losses.

They are in contrast to long-term foreign investments which are normally put on new or expanding factories, offices and other businesses that create jobs.

In May 2019 alone,

BSP data showed that a net of at least \$750 million in foreign portfolio investments left the Philippines.

Money placed in all Philippine investment instruments had net outflow—\$506 million in listed securities at the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE), \$241 million in peso-denominated government securities and less than \$1 million each in other peso-denominated debt instruments or portfolio instruments.

But gross inflow rose by 25 percent from \$990 million in May

2018. In a statement, the BSP attributed this to three factors—lower inflation in April 2019, the midterm elections and a move to cut the reserve requirement, or cash in hand, of commercial banks.

At least 8 out of every 10 investments in May 2019 went to PSE-listed securities while the rest were planted into peso-denominated securities.

At least 75.7 percent of all investments in the Philippines in May 2019 were from the United Kingdom.

De Lima slams 'treasonous defense' of gov't officials on vessels' collision

Opposition Senator Leila De Lima slammed last June 19 the "treasonous defense" of government officials on the alleged ramming and sinking of a Philippine fishing boat by a Chinese vessel near the Recto (Reed) Bank in the West Philippine Sea.

Ten days after the June 9 incident that left 22 Filipino fishermen in open waters for hours, De Lima said the public have only

heard an "orchestrated response in defense of China" from officials under the administration of President Rodrigo Duterte.

She said Duterte himself only broke his silence on the issue eight days after it happened, calling it a "little maritime incident" between "two boats."

"Never has such treasonous defense of a foreign aggressor been committed by Philippine officials

since the Laurel Japanese puppet government in World War II," De Lima said in a statement.

But at least in the "puppet government," the foreign aggressor was "already an occupying force pointing a gun at the Filipino officials," said De Lima.

"In their shameless defense of China, Duterte and his officials once again acted like a Chinese pup-

pet government, at their own volition and without being forced by China," said De Lima.

"Unlike the Laurel puppet government, their treason is voluntary," the senator said.

De Lima further criticized Duterte for using his "fake fear" of nuclear annihilation by China as his excuse for committing the supposed treason.

She said the Philippines used to have

determination to defend what is rightfully ours, as shown in the history of resistance against three foreign

powers that invaded the country.

"This is why we have our heroes, and also our share of traitors who chose the side of the enemy, although now all we have are the latter," De Lima said.

In the past several days, De Lima said Duterte had whined about the hopelessness

of the Philippines as a nation. She said his treason is the "logical conclusion of this frustration."

"He has not sold out to China as much

as he bought himself in. The Philippine national interest, as we know it, is now against his own personal interest and fortune. More than a traitor, Duterte

is just a glorified carpetbagger, with loyalties to no one but himself," she said.

Filipino seafarers affected by oil tanker attack now back in PH

The Filipino seafarers working in one of the two oil tankers damaged in an alleged attack near the Strait of Hormuz have returned home, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said, last June 13.

Representatives from the DFA, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), and the seafarers' manning agency extended airport assistance to the returning Filipinos.

The other oil tanker MT Kokuka Courageous carried the 21 Filipino seafarers.

However, no de-

The MT Front Altair is one of the two vessels damaged during the incident near the Strait of Hormuz

tails on the repatriation of the crew members of MT Kokuka Courageous have been made available so far.

Japan commits 1.3 trillion yen to help build railways in PH

The Japanese government through its aid arm Japan International Cooperation Agency (Jica) has pledged to lend 1.3 trillion yen (about P620 billion) to the Philippines to build more railways and ease traffic congestion.

Jica Philippines senior representative Kiyo Kawabuchi told a press conference last June 20 the aid agency already committed official development assistance (ODA) loans worth 400-billion yen for railway projects.

In a statement, Jica said the following projects were now us-

ing Jica financing: Light Rail Transit (LRT) Line 1 Cavite Extension; LRT Line 2 East Extension; Metro Manila Subway; Metro Rail Transit (MRT) Line 3 Rehabilitation; and North-South Commuter Railway.

Kawabuchi said Jica would have to add 900 billion yen more to its lending program for the Philippines to complete the ongoing railway projects.

"For the railway sector, [Jica's assistance] in itself is quite a huge amount," she noted.

Kawabuchi said Jica's ODA in the Phil-

ippines' railway sector "aims to impact on wealth being distributed to other areas outside Metro Manila through investments and jobs."

"Once completed, these transport infrastructure projects will help realize the shared vision of Jica and the Philippines towards reduced traffic congestion, seamless mobility, and better quality of life of many Filipinos," she said.

The Department of Transportation (DOT) aimed to triple the total length of Metro Manila's railway lines to

244 kilometers from 79 kilometers at present.

"Major cities in the world like Tokyo, Seoul, New York, and London have 400-800 kilometers of railways to keep up with urbanization and enhance mobility. The Philippines' ongoing railway projects could therefore help address growing passenger demand and attract relevant investments into the country," Jica said.

Jica estimates released last year showed traffic in Metro Manila was already equal to P3.5 billion in lost opportunities a day, up from P2.4 billion in 2014.

BSP hits pause button

The central bank raised its interest rate by 25 percent to 10 percent in April. It is expected to have a key interest rate cut in August to make sure the inflation target is achieved.

It is a strong signal from the BSP to the market that it is ready to take action to keep inflation under control.

Since the BSP has decided to keep the interest rate at 10 percent, it is expected to have a key interest rate cut in August to make sure the inflation target is achieved.

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Q & A on Consumer Rights

Q:

DO YOU

A:

DAPAT!

DND: Chinese ship captain in Recto Bank incident should apologize, pay damages

The ship captain of the Chinese vessel that rammed and sank the Filipino fishing boat Recto Bank should apologize and pay compensation to the deceased.

The Secretary of Defense said last June that it would be appropriate to demand the ship captain to apologize and make restitution to the families of the deceased.

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