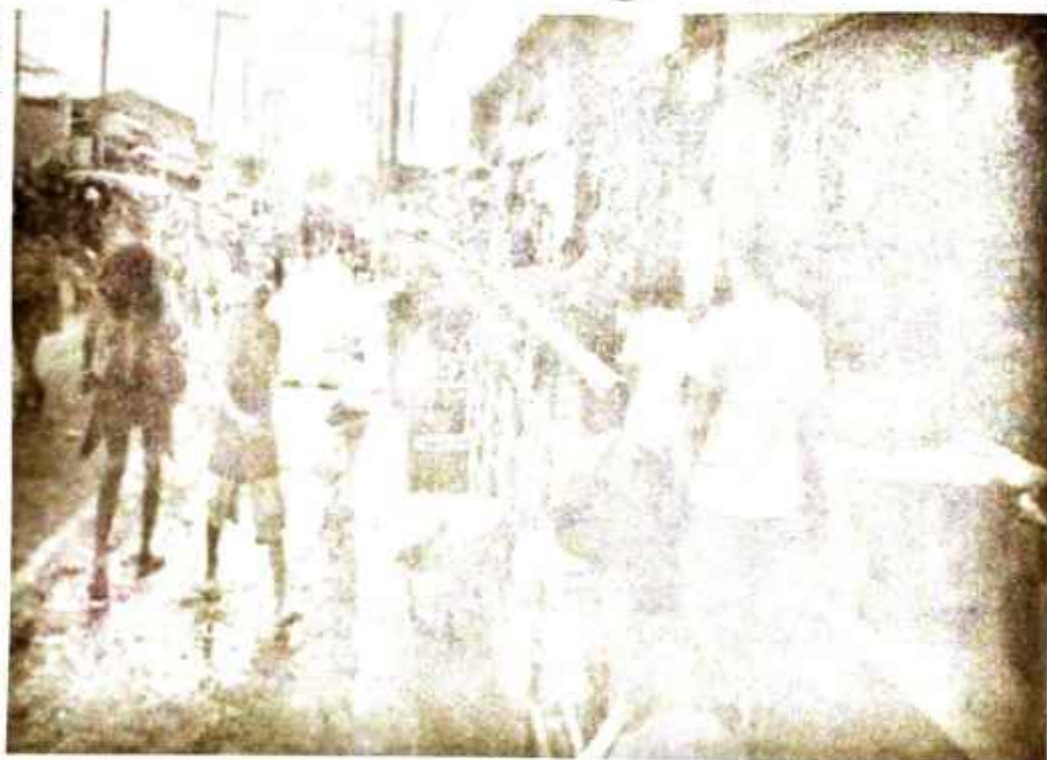


NorthPine Land, going construction of Inc. is expanding several of its projects in southern Metro Manila, amid the on- In a statement, Turn to page 2

Cavite LGUs intensify road clearing ops

BACOR CITY. Cavite -- Local chief executives of Cavite's seven cities and 16 towns have intensified their road clearing operations and ridding the local sidewalks of illegal vendors.

Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Eduardo Año earlier issued a memorandum ordering department officials to monitor the progress on compliance by the local government units (LGUs) with the directive of President Rodrigo Duterte to clean up public roads of ob-



Bacoor City Public Market and Traffic Bureau personnel clean a stretch of the public roads at the Zapote Public Market in line with the Presidential directive and Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) memorandum for local government units (LGUs) to rid the public streets and roads of obstructions, illegal structures, and illegal sidewalk vendors on Aug. 6, 2019.

DENR intensifies mangrove rehab efforts in Calabarzon

The regional office of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is encouraging local government units (LGUs) along the Calabarzon Region's coastline to help sustain the mangrove rehabilitation program.

In an interview last August 6, Ann Hazel Javier of the DENR

Strategic Communication and Initiatives Section (RSCIS), underscored the need for collaborative undertakings on mangrove forest rehabilitation with the DENR and stakeholders in the area.

Javier cited assessment by Senior Science Research Specialist Vio-

Turn to page 2

JARO PAWNSHOP
Your Friendly Pawnshop

SANLANG JEWELRY MO
Pwedeng Hulaan Halagang Dito
Highest Appraisal, Lowest Interest Rate

GADGET MO
Tutong sa Pangangailangan Mo

Other Services:

POSIBLE NET BILLS PAYMENT

BAYAD CENTER

Contact Us:
(046) 471-2661 0917-502-7215 jaropawnshop@yahoo.com www.jaropawnshop.com

Perlas ng SILANGAN BALITA

ISSN: 2651-8228

NESTOR S. BARCO

Publisher-Editor

ELISA B. BARCO

Sales, Marketing & Advertising Director

Perlas ng Silangan Balita is published weekly and circulated in the province of Cavite and throughout the Philippines. It has its editorial and business offices at Block 10 Lot 12 Good Family Homes Subdivision, Anabu I-A, City of Imus, Cavite. It is registered with the Department of Trade and Industry-Philippines under Certificate No. 04264737. Our landline is (046) 489-1878; cellphone is 0927-7899547 and e-mail is nestorbarco@yahoo.com.ph

Subscription Rate:
1 month - P 40.00
3 months - 120.00
6 months - 240.00
One year - 480.00

Advertising Rate:
Commercial - P200/col. cm.
Legal - 160.00/col. cm.

MEMBER:

PAPI

Publishers Association of the Philippines, Inc.

Views and opinions expressed by the writers are entirely their own and do not reflect those of the publisher and the editorial staff. We respect their and everybody's right to freedom of expression.

(CAVITE... from page 1)

structions to ease traffic congestion.

In Bacoor City, Mayor Lani Mercado-Revilla implemented clearing and maintenance operations along the stretch of Zapote Road and public roads in the Bacoor Public Market.

Revilla directed the city's 73 village chiefs to clear public streets, especially major thoroughfares used for private ends, and the remove obstructions and illegal structures along Aguinaldo highway and Molino Boulevard in the city of over 600,000 people.

The mayor also instructed both the City Engineering Office and Bacoor Traffic Management Team to assist the barangays in their clearing operations.

In Kawit town, Mayor Emilio Angelo Aguinaldo has warned the 23 village chiefs to

comply with the President's and DILG directives or face raps.

Among the areas the mayor wanted to give priority in the clearing operations are the major roads at Barangay Binakayan especially streets enclosing the Public Market, Zeus area in Marulas, the stretch of Centennial road from Barangay Gahak to Barangay Magdalo, Kalayaan Road in Barangay San Sebastian, and Tirona Highway to Magdiwang Highway at the town proper.

General Trias City Mayor Antonio Ferrer ordered the formation of the team composed of city traffic management chief Noel Morena, local police chief, Lt. Col. Marlo Solero, Liga ng mga Barangay (LnB) Federation president Alfred Ching, Licensing office head Romel Olimpo, and Francisco Evangelista Jr. as head of

Accounting of water fees ressed

Following the and Sewerage System Supreme Court's announcement of penalties totaling P1.8 billion for violation of the Clean Water Act, consumer welfare advocates are asking how the environmental fees that water supply providers collected from their customers were used.

Last Aug. 6, the high court announced that it has fined jointly Maynilad Water Services Inc. and Metropolitan Waterworks

(NORTHPIKE... from page 1)

NorthPine said the boost trade and socio-economic activities in CALAX, a four-lane, 44.63-kilometer toll expressway that will connect the CAVITEX and South Luzon Expressway (SLEX), will help

(DENR... from page 1)

Violent Gulapo of the DENR Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau (ERDB), who disclosed that since 1918, the country's mangrove forest has

the GenTri Civil Security Unit to supervise the clearing operations.

The team members are tasked to inspect and supervise the cleanup drive, especially along the stretch of Antero Soriano Highway from Bacao to Tejero; Tejero Crossing, Tejero-San Juan Road, Malabon Trias proper; Gen. An-

(MWSS) about P921.5 million for failure to provide wastewater treatment facilities and to connect sewage lines in all establishments, including households, to an available sewerage system within five years upon effectivity of the CAA in 2004.

Also, the Supreme Court slapped the same amount of joint financial penalty against Manila Water Co. Inc. and MWSS.

The ruling was an

community that is "a hailing distance" from one of CALAX's proposed interchanges at Silang.

This year, the company is expanding Kohana Grove, a modern Asian-inspired com-

been largely reduced. Gulapo said their studies showed that these have gradually increased to 257,362 hectares in 2011.

She said that mangrove restoration may

City, are up for clearing operations. In Dasmariñas City, Mayor Jenny Austria Barzaga ordered the city government to implement "no parking" on busy public streets from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. The mayor's order is covered through the city government Memorandum No. 240-S-

affirmation of a decision of the Court of Appeals in 2013 that upheld an order of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources that imposed fines against MWSS and concessionaires Manila Water and Maynilad.

The Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) welcomed the high tribunal's decision, saying that in 2018, the MWSS admitted that only 14 percent of the total service areas of

Maynilad and Manila Water were covered by the proper sewerage facilities.

"What is worse is that residential consumers continue to pay environmental fees, while industrial and commercial users pay sewerage fees," Bayan secretary general Renato Reyes said in an interview.

"If the targets were not met, hence the penalties, where did the money go?" Reyes asked.

townhouse development in Dasmariñas this year. New amenities such as a club house, swimming pool, basketball court and playground will be introduced.

be attributed to coastal rehabilitation programs implemented by the government, non-government organizations (NGOs), and the local communities.

2019, which declares the "no parking" zone on Molino-Salawag-Paliparan road anytime and the Placido Campos and Camerino avenues.

In her directive to the city's 75 village chiefs, Barzaga also ordered the clearing operations on all major and secondary public roads in the city.

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

SPS. MA. ESMERALDA CORTEZ MANIBO &
ROLAN ANTONIO MANIBO
Mortgagor.

FC NO. 16780-19

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 office address at 12/F JELP Business Solutions Center, 409 Shaw Blvd. Mandaluyong City against SPS. MA. ESMERALDA CORTEZ MANIBO & ROLAN ANTONIO MANIBO, with residence address at Lot 9, Bldg. 9, Grandville Homes, Malagasang II-B, Imus, Cavite 968A R. Hidalgo St., Quiapo, Manila to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of February 25, 2019 amounts to SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY FIVE PESOS & 45/100 (P781,575.45) 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 September 3, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Office of the Clerk of Court, RTC Multiple Sala, Balwagan ng Katarungan, Aguinaldo Highway, Imus, Cavite, to the highest bidder for cash and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all the improvements therein, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE
No. 057-2013819746

A PARCEL OF LAND (LOT 9, BLK. 9, OF THE CONS. SUBD. PLAN PCS-04-011657, BEING A PORTION OF THE CONS. OF LOT 2373, IMUS ESTATE (RS-04-002154) & LOT 2374 PSD-04-79446, L.R.C. NO.), SITUATED IN THE BRGY. OF MALAGASANG 2, MUN. OF IMUS, PROV. OF CAVITE, BOUNDED ON THE NE., ALONG LINE 1-2 BY LOT 8, ALONG LINE 2-3 BY LOT 10, ON THE SE., ALONG LINE 3-4 BY LOT 11, ALL BLK. 9, ON THE SW., ALONG LINE 4-5 BY RD LOT 12, & ON THE NW., ALONG LINE 5-1 BY LOT 7, BLK. 9, ALL OF THE CONS. SUBD. PLAN, BEGINNING AT A POINT MARKED "1" x x x x x CONTAINING AN AREA OF FORTY (40) SQ. METERS. x x x

All sealed bids 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 10, 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, June 10, 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
12/F JELP Business Solutions Center, 409 Shaw Blvd.
Mandaluyong City

SPS. MA. ESMERALDA CORTEZ MANIBO &
ROLAN ANTONIO MANIBO
Lot 9, Bldg. 9, Grandville Homes, Malagasang II-B,
Imus, Cavite
968A R. Hidalgo St., Quiapo, Manila

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : July 29, August 5 & 12, 2019

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 23
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND,
Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-380-18

-versus-

FLORDELIZ V. RATO
married to NICANOR J. RATO,
Mortgagor's.

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND, with business address at 12th Floor, JELP Business Solutions Center, No. 409 Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City, against the Mortgagor's, FLORDELIZ V. RATO married to NICANOR J. RATO, with residence and postal address at Lot 24, Block 8, Balingkik F. Reyes, Malute, Manila to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of October 3, 2018 amounts to SIX HUNDRED EIGHTEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY ONE PESOS AND 00/100 (P618,151.00) Philippine Currency, including interest and penalty charges as of said date but excluding foreclosure expenses and all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on October 8, 2019 at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building, located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following property/ies with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-920264

A parcel of land (Lot 41 Bldg. 107) of the subdivision plan Pcd-04-093013, being a portion of Lot 3538 SFD Malabon Est. situated in the Bario of Alang-Uang, Municipality of Gen. Trias, Province of Cavite, Island of Luzon. Bounded on the SW., along line 1-2 by Lot 18 Block 103, along line 2-3 by Lot 19 Block 103, on the NW., along line 3-4 by Lot 42 Block 103, on the NE., along line 4-5 by Road Lot 29 (8 meters wide), and on the SE along line 5-1 by Lot 40 Block 103, all of the subdivision plan Beginning at a pt. marked "1" on plan. x x x containing an area of FORTY (40) SQUARE METERS x x x

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and place.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on October 15, 2019 without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City, July 29, 2019.

(Sgd.) LUCIO C. ALEJO III
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

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

FLORDELIZ V. RATO married to NICANOR J. RATO
Lot 24, Block 8, Balingkik F. Reyes, Malute, Manila

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 : August 5, 12 & 19, 2019

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 23
TRECE MARTIRES CITY

HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND,
Mortgagee,

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-381-18

-versus-

EDILBERTO A. ROCILLO,
Mortgagor's.

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, HOME DEVELOPMENT MUTUAL FUND, with business address at 12th Floor, JELP Business Solutions Center, No. 409 Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City, against the Mortgagor's, EDILBERTO A. ROCILLO, with residence and postal address at #142 Gen. Luna St., Mendez, Cavite to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of October 3, 2018 amounts to ONE MILLION SIX HUNDRED SIXTY EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY SIX PESOS AND 37/100 (P1,668,866.37) Philippine Currency, including interest and penalty charges as of said date but excluding foreclosure expenses and all other charges incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Sheriff will sell at public auction on October 8, 2019 at 2:00 o'clock in the afternoon at the main entrance of the Government Center Building, located at the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trece Martires City, to the highest bidder for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following property/ies with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-713777

A parcel of land (Lot 11 Bldg. 14 of the subd. plan Pcd-04-090395, being a portion of Lot 4, Pcd-04-011472, L.R.C. Rec. No.), situated in the Brgy. of Baguio, Mun. of Tineza, Prov. of Cavite, Is. of Luzon. Bounded on the SW., along line 1-2 by Lot 9; on the NW., along line 2-3 by Lot 10; along line 3-4 by Lot 14, all of Bldg. 14; on the NE., along line 4-5-6-7-8 by Rd Lot 2 Pcd-04-076814 and on the SE., along line 8-1 by Alley 12 of the subd. plan. Beginning at a pt. marked "1" on plan. x x x containing an area of FIFTY EIGHT (58) SQUARE METERS x x x

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and place.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date and time, it shall be held on October 15, 2019 without further notice.

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

Trece Martires City, July 29, 2019.

(Sgd.) LUCIO C. ALEJO III
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

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

EDILBERTO A. ROCILLO
#142 Gen. Luna St., Mendez, 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 : August 5, 12 & 19, 2019

Inflation hits 2-yr low; BSP seen to cut rates

Stable food prices, the stable price environment to further cut to slash domestic rice this Thursday," he said.

especially declining interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

retail prices of rice, interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

further eased inflation to a two-year low of 2.4 percent in July, the government reported.

Stable food prices, the stable price environment to further cut to slash domestic rice this Thursday," he said.

especially declining interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

retail prices of rice, interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

further eased inflation to a two-year low of 2.4 percent in July, the government reported.

Stable food prices, the stable price environment to further cut to slash domestic rice this Thursday," he said.

especially declining interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

retail prices of rice, interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

further eased inflation to a two-year low of 2.4 percent in July, the government reported.

Stable food prices, the stable price environment to further cut to slash domestic rice this Thursday," he said.

especially declining interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

retail prices of rice, interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

further eased inflation to a two-year low of 2.4 percent in July, the government reported.

Stable food prices, the stable price environment to further cut to slash domestic rice this Thursday," he said.

especially declining interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

retail prices of rice, interest rates tomorrow and give the local economy a growth boost.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
BRANCH 23
TRINIDAD, MARITIME CITY

BANGKO MABUHAY
(A RURAL BANK, INC.)
Mortgagee.

FORECLOSURE CASE NO. F-194-19

BHERNIE S. LAMADRID as Attorney-
In-Fact of MARJORIE C. AFAN.

Mortgagee's.

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon Extra-Judicial Petition for Sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by Mortgagee, BANGKO MABUHAY (A RURAL BANK, INC.), with principal office address at A. Soriano Highway, Dagang Amaya III, Tanza, Cavite against the Mortgagee, BHERNIE S. LAMADRID with residence and postal address at Bldg. 5, Lot 28, Ph-1, Paramount Homes Subd., Brgy. Navarro, Gen. Trias, Cavite, in capacity and as Attorney-in-Fact of MARJORIE C. AFAN, with residence and postal address at Bldg. 40, Lot 21, Paramount Homes Subd., Brgy. Navarro, Gen. Trias, Cavite to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of June 25, 2019 amounts to ONE HUNDRED FORTY NINE THOUSAND FORTY ONE PESOS and 76/100 (P149,041.76) Philippine Currency, including excluding interest, penalties, attorney's fee, miscellaneous fees and all legal fees as specified and provided for in the promissory note, the undersigned Sheriff will sell the mortgaged property at the main entrance of the Government Center in the Provincial Capitol Compound, Trinidad, Maritima City, the following described property with all the improvements thereon, to wit:

TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. T-1269893 DECLARATION NO. DE-0020-07013

A parcel of land (Lot 21, Bldg. 40 of the subd. plan, subdivision Estate, RS-04-002673, LRC Rec. No. 5964) situated in the Brgy. of Navarro, Mun. of Gen. Trias, Prov. of Cavite, bounded on the NW, along line 1-2 by Lot 22, Bldg. 40, on the SW, along line 2-3 by Lot 19, Bldg. 40, on the NE, along line 3-4 by Road Lot 7 (R.O. in wide); and on the SE, along line 4-1 by Lot 23, Bldg. 40, all of the subd. plan, beginning at a point marked "1" on plan, s x x containing an area of THIRTY TWO (32) SQUARE METERS x x x

A one-story residential building classified as House II-A, containing a floor area of TWENTY TWO POINT ONE (22.1) SQUARE METERS situated at UCP-BPI ACM Subd., Brgy. Navarro, Gen. Trias, Cavite under TD No. 08-0020-07014 with market value of P138,125.00 assessed on TCT No. T-1269893 under Tax Declaration No. 08-0020-07013.

All sealed bids 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 time and date, it shall be held on September 17, 2019 without further notice.

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

Trinidad, Maritima City, July 29, 2019.

(Sgd.) LUCIO C. ALEJO III
Sheriff IV

Copy Furnished:

ATTY. CESARIO G. GONZALES, JR.
Counsel for Bangko Mabuhay (A Rural Bank), Inc.
A. Soriano Highway, Dagang Amaya III, Tanza, Cavite

BHERNIE S. LAMADRID
Bldg. 5, Lot 28, Ph-1, Paramount Homes Subd.,
Brgy. Navarro, Gen. Trias, Cavite

MARJORIE C. AFAN
Bldg. 40, Lot 21, Paramount Homes Subd.,
Brgy. Navarro, Gen. Trias, 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 : August 5, 12 & 19, 2019

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH 19
CITY OF BACOR

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR
NATURALIZATION OF HONG TIAN ZHEN
(A.K.A. CHARLIE ENANG)

SPEC. PROB. NO. BIP-2015-04

CHARLIE ANG Y ENANG
(A.K.A. HONG TIAN ZHEN)

Petitioner

ORDER

A verified petition for naturalization is to be admitted as a citizen of the Philippines was filed by petitioner HONG TIAN ZHEN (publicly known as CHARLIE ANG Y ENANG) alleging among others that he is Chinese National, currently residing at Block 17 Lot 18 Agbido Street, Meadowood Executive Village, Bacor City, Cavite and his other personal circumstances as follows:

Date of Birth : September 17, 1962
Sex : Male
Place of Birth : Fujian, China
Civil Status : Married

His former place of residence is in Fujian, China, has also previously resided in San Juan City at Unit 904 Royal View Mansion, La Alagha Street, San Juan City, Metro Manila. He has resided continuously in the Philippines for at least Thirty Five (35) years, as of this filing. He was recognized and admitted as permanent resident and was granted a legal residence evidence by Immigration Certificate of Registration in the Philippines. He is married on June 11, 1999 to Gao Ying a.k.a. Princess Gao, Chinese National, a permanent resident in the Philippines. He is a father of three (3) children. He is able to read, write and speak, English and Filipino, also of good moral character, believes in the Philippine Constitution and has always conducted himself in an appropriate manner with the government and the community he lived in.

Petitioner further alleges that he is a businessman and proprietor of several business ventures with proven earning capacity more than sufficient to sustain his personal and family needs. He possesses all the qualifications and none of disqualification as prescribed in Philippine Naturalization Laws.

Finding the said petition to be sufficient both in form and in substance, it is hereby ordered that on **MAY 5, 2020 at 9:30 in the morning** at the Hall of Justice, Bacor City hold City Hall of Bacor City, at which hearing all interested persons are cited to appear and show cause if any they have, why the petition should not be granted.

Let copy of this Order together with the petition and its annexes be published at the expense of the petitioner at least once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in the Official Gazette and in a newspaper of general circulation published in Bacor City.

Further, let copy of this Order and the petition with its annexes be served upon the Office of the Solicitor General, which is directed to cause its appearance thus in representative of the Republic of the Philippines and to be present on the date and time stated above.

The Sheriff is likewise ordered to post copies of this Order and the petition in the Bulletin Board of the Bacor City Hall, of the Office of the Clerk of Court, Hall of Justice, and of the Province of Cavite, Imus Marikina.

(SO ORDERED)

City of Bacor, June 17, 2018

(SG) MATIAS M. GARCIA II
Resident Judge

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
CITY OF BACOR
BRANCH 19

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION
FOR NATURALIZATION OF
HONG TIAN ZHEN
(A.K.A. CHARLIE ENANG)

CHARLIE ANG Y ENANG
(A.K.A. HONG TIAN ZHEN)

Petitioner

PETITION

PETITIONER, through undersigned counsel, unto this Honorable Court, respectfully states:

1. Petitioner is HONG TIAN ZHEN, publicly known in the community as CHARLIE ANG Y ENANG, 56 years old, Chinese National, currently residing at **Block 17 Lot 18 Agbido Street, Meadowood Executive Village, Bacor City, Cavite**, and his other personal circumstances are more particularly detailed as follows:

Date of Birth : 17 September 1962
Sex : Male
Place of Birth : Fujian, China
Civil Status : Married

2. Petitioner's former place of residence is in Fujian, China; in the Philippines he has also previously resided in San Juan City at Unit 904 Royal View Mansion, La Alagha Street, San Juan City, Metro Manila.

Copy of petitioner's latest PASSPORT, Alien Certificate of Registration (ACR) is hereto attached to prove his identity; and Bureau Residence Certificate to prove his residency is also attached as Annexes "A", "A-1", "A-2" and "B", respectively.

3. The petitioner arrived in the Philippines on 04 March 1984 from Fujian, China. Copy of his Certificate of Arrival issued by the Bureau of Immigration to prove his arrival on the said date is attached as Annex "C".

4. Petitioner has since resided continuously in the Philippines for at least Thirty Five (35) years, as of this filing. In fact, he was recognized and admitted as permanent resident and was granted a legal residence evidenced by Immigration Certificate of Registration ("ICR") in the Philippines, having the following particulars:

Citizen : China
Date of Birth : 09-17-1962
Place of Birth : China
Visa Type : RA 7919
Visa Valid Until : Permanent
Visa Status : Permanent
Card of Res : ICR-311108

Copy of his ICR and ICR identification card is hereto attached as Annex "D" and "D-1".

5. Petitioner is married to GAO YING a.k.a. Princess Gao, 49 years old,

Chinese National, a permanent resident in the Philippines. They got married on 11 June 1999. Copy of their Certificate of Marriage is attached as Annex "E".

6. The petitioner is a father to three (3) children, their names, age, sex and place of birth are as follows:

Name	Age	Sex	Place of Birth
Gao Ying Gao Hong	17	Female	Philippines
Gao Ying Gao Hong	14	Female	Philippines
Gao Ying Gao Hong	05	Male	Philippines

7. Petitioner's wife is also a permanent resident in the Philippines and is in possession of an ACR and their minor children all born in the Philippines having permanent status. Copy of their Passport together with ACR Identification Card are attached, to wit:

Passport of Gao Ying a.k.a. Princess Gao	Annex "F"
ACR ID	Annex "F-1"
Passport of Chaiyi Gao Hong	Annex "G"
ACR ID	Annex "G-1"
Passport of Chaiyi Gao Hong	Annex "H"
ACR ID	Annex "H-1"
Passport of Chaiyi Gao Hong	Annex "I"
ACR ID	Annex "I-1"

8. That petitioner has enrolled his minor children in Immersion Concept Academy, located at No. 10 Grant St., Greenhills, San Juan City, a school recognized by the Department of Education (DepEd), open to all races where Philippine history, government and civics are taught.

9. The petitioner is able to read, write and speak, English and Filipino (Tagalog). He is also of good moral character, believes in the Philippine Constitution and has always conducted himself in an impeccable manner with the government and the community he lived in. He had not been convicted nor even charged of any offense or crime involving moral turpitude or any other Philippine penal laws. Copy of National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) Clearance and San Juan City Metro Manila is hereto attached as Annexes "J", and "K", respectively.

10. Petitioner's intention to become a naturalized citizen of the Philippines is in good faith and is not intended for evading any prosecution in his country (China) of origin.

11. Petitioner is medically fit and healthy, does not suffer from mental illness or any incurable contagious disease. Copy of his Medical Certificate is hereto attached as Annex "L", "M" and "N".

12. Petitioner is a businessman and proprietor of several business ventures with proven earning capacity more than sufficient to sustain his personal and family needs. To prove his earning capacity attached herewith is Bank Certificate as Annex "O".

Further, a copy of Income Tax Return ("ITR") duly received by the Bureau of Internal Revenue ("BIR") for the past fiscal year of Bako Enterprises, Inc., where petitioner is the President is hereto attached as Annex "P", with sub-annexes.

13. Petitioner is neither a polygamist or believe in the practice of polygamy. He does not oppose the government, neither belonging to any organized group that opposes the government. Petitioner does not believe in violence to get the outcome he desires.

14. Petitioner possesses all the qualifications and none of the disqualifications as prescribed in Philippine naturalization laws.

15. Prior to the filing of this petition, the petitioner has already made known and declared his intention to become a naturalized Filipino citizen in filing his Declaration of Intention, copy of which is attached as Annex "Q" with sub-annexes.

16. The names and other personal circumstances of the witnesses, who will appear and testify in support of his intention to be naturalized Filipino citizen are as follows:

Name	Residence	Profession
Gao Ying	Bacor City	Real Estate Broker
Gao Ying	Bacor City	Real Estate Broker

The witnesses will attest to the fact that they have personally known the petitioner and his family for at least ten (10) years and he is of good moral character and a law-abiding citizen, observes Filipino traditions and is well-known in the community for high moral values.

17. Petitioner will reside continuously in the Philippines from the date of filing of this petition up to the time of his admission and confirmation of his Filipino citizenship.

RELIEF

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed of this Honorable Court that after due notice, publication and hearing this instant Petition for Naturalization of petitioner HONG TIAN ZHEN (A.K.A. CHARLIE ANG Y ENANG) be GRANTED, for the Honorable Court to issue an Order as follows:

1. Petitioner be declared a naturalized Filipino citizen, to be known by his legal name CHARLIE ANG Y ENANG.

2. For the petitioner be allowed to lawfully use his Chinese Name HONG TIAN ZHEN, the name by which he is known to his friends and business associates.

3. That petitioner's wife and minor children namely:

- Gao Ying a.k.a. Princess Gao 49 y.o. (Wife)
- Minor Children:
 - Chaiyi Gao Hong 17 y.o. Female
 - Chaiyi Gao Hong 14 y.o. Female
 - Chaiyi Gao Hong 05 y.o. Male

be likewise declared naturalized Filipino citizens adopting the legal name of petitioner and shall be known in the community as follows:

- Princess Gao Ang
- Chaiyi Gao Ang
- Chaiyi Gao Ang
- Chaiyi Gao Ang

Other relief just and equitable under the premises are likewise prayed. Bacor City, Cavite.

For petitioner:

17th Floor 11 Building 100 E. Aguinaldo Highway
Bacor City, Cavite 1100

ATTEST: I, [Signature],
Clerk of Court, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original as filed in my office.

VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION
OF NON-FORUM SHOPPING

1. HONG TIAN ZHEN (A.K.A. CHARLIE ANG) of legal age, Chinese national, married, after having sworn in accordance with law hereby depose and say:

1. I am the petitioner in the above-captioned case.

2. I have caused the filing and preparation of this Petition.

3. That I have read the contents thereof and the facts stated therein are true and correct based on my personal knowledge of the facts and circumstances.

4. That I have not commenced any other action or proceeding involving the same issues, and to the best of my knowledge to other action, similar in nature is pending in any other Courts.

5. If I should thereafter learn that a similar action or proceeding has been filed or is pending before the Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, or any other tribunal or agency, I undertake to report that fact within (3) days thereafter to this Honorable Court.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my signature this MAY 18, 2018, at BACOR CITY.



Republic of the Philippines
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
Fourth Judicial Region
Branch 90, Caramba, Cavite

IN RE: PETITION FOR ISSUANCE
OF NEW OWNERS' DUPLICATE COPIES OF
KATIBAYAN NG ORIHINAL NA TITULO
BLG. P-10087 AND KATIBAYAN NG ORIHINAL NA
TITULO BLG. P-10089

LRC-C-GMA-2019-21

HEIRS OF LETICIA GADINGAN, represented by
NOEL E. GADINGAN,
Petitioner,

THE REGISTRY OF DEEDS FOR THE PROVINCE OF
CAVITE,
Respondent.

NOTICE OF HEARING

There is a petition filed by petitioner thru counsel for the
issuance of New Owners' Duplicate Copies of Katibayan ng
Orihinal na Titulo Blg. P-10087 and Katibayan ng Orihinal
na Titulo Blg. P-10089 on the grounds alleged therein.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that said petition has
been set for hearing on **September 18, 2019 at 1:30 in the
afternoon**, before this Court, on which date, hour and place,
any person interested is cited to appear and show cause why
the same should not be granted.

Let this Notice be published once a week for three (3)
consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in
the cities and province of Cavite.

Let a copy of this Notice and that of the petition be
furnished the Registry of Deeds, Trece Martires City, Cavite
and the same be posted by the sheriff of this Court in three
(3) conspicuous places where the property is located.

Witness my hand under the seal of this Court this 15th
day of July 2019 at Caramba, Cavite, Philippines.

(Sgd.) BON GERARD D. ASCAÑO
Clerk of Court VI

Copy Furnished:

ATTY. ERNESTO C. PEREZ II
-PEREZ VALENCIA & PEREZ,
6th Floor, Alabang Business Tower
1216 Acacia Avenue, Madrigal Business Park,
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City

NOEL E. GADINGAN
-461 JM Loyola St., Brgy. 4, Caramba, Cavite

REGISTRY OF DEEDS
-LRA Bldg., Capint Cmpd., Trece Martires, Cavite

OFFICE OF THE SOLICITOR GENERAL
-134 Amoroso St., Legaspi Village, Makati City

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : July 29, August 5 & 12, 2019

PH to continue collecting taxes from Pogos

The government last Aug. 7 said online
will continue to col- gambling was illegal in
lect the taxes from the mainland.
foreign—mostly Chi- "We will not sus-
nese—workers in Phil- pend the issuance of
ippine offshore gaming TINs to foreign work-
operators (Pogos) and ers," Finance Secretary
issue tax identification Carlos G. Dominguez
numbers (TINs) to Ill told reporters when
those still unregistered asked if the Bureau of
even as the Chinese Internal Revenue (BIR)
Embassy in Manila would temporarily stop

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
FOURTH JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
Branch 90, Dasmariñas City, Cavite

IN RE: PETITION FOR JUDICIAL
APPROVAL OF THE RECOGNITION
OF FILIATION/PATERNITY OF THE
MINOR, ADONIS BRECKEN J.
FLEERACKERS,

CIVIL Case No. DC-1131-19

MARC FRANCISCUS MATHILDA
FLEERACKERS,
Petitioner.

ORDER

This verified petition for judicial approval of the
recognition of filiation/paternity of the minor, Adonis Brecken
J. Fleerackers was filed on February 12, 2019, by the above-
named petitioner through counsel, praying that the recognition
of the filiation of herein subject minor child by the petitioner
be judicially approved and that petitioner be declared the
father of the subject minor child for all intents and purposes
under Philippine law.

Finding the instant petition to be sufficient in form and
substance, this court hereby sets the hearing thereof at Branch
90, Regional Trial Court, Deesa Building, Congressional
Road, Beroil 1, Dasmariñas City, Cavite, on **August 13, 2019
at 8:30 a'clock in the morning**, whereby any interested
persons may appear and show cause, if any, why the petition
should not be granted.

Let this Order be published, at the expense of the petitioner
in a newspaper of general circulation, which will be nullified
by the Regional Trial Court Branch 90, City of Dasmariñas,
Cavite, before the scheduled date of hearing, at least once a
week for three (3) consecutive weeks.

Let the Office of the Solicitor General and the City Civil
Registrar of Dasmariñas City, Cavite be furnished with copies
of the Petition and of this Order.

SO ORDERED.

Dasmariñas City, Cavite, July 23, 2019.

(Sgd.) ROMEO DIZON TAGRA
Acting Presiding Judge

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : July 29, August 5 & 12, 2019

EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE
WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late
MARIA POLITICO LABIRUA and JOSE LABIRUA who
both died intestate on February 27, 2001 and on October 2,
1986 both in Dasmariñas, Cavite, respectively, consisting of a
National Housing Authority (NHA) lot including improvements
existing therein situated at Block 11, Lot J-D, San Nicolas II,
City of Dasmariñas, Cavite, containing an area of One Hundred
(100 sq.m.) square meters, more or less, has been adjudicated
and extra-judicially settled by and between their heirs in pro-
indivision equal shares with waiver of rights, interests, and
participation in the said parcel of land including improvements
erected therein in favor of LESTER F. LABIRUA, married to
LILIBETH V. LABIRUA on July 24, 2019 at Dasmariñas City,
Cavite before Notary Public Atty. Karen T. Hermosa and
entered in her Notarial Register as Doc. No. 63, Page No. 13,
Book No. 118, Series of 2019.

Signed by Transferor/Heir
thumbmarked by Transferee/Heir

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : July 29, August 5 & 12, 2019

TIN issuance to unreg- nese Embassy said in a
tered Pogo workers. statement that "any form
"We are simply of gambling by Chinese
implementing the Tax citizens, including on-
Code, and requiring line gambling, gambling
those earning Philip- overseas, [and] opening
pine-sourced income to casinos overseas to at-
pay income tax," he said. tract citizens of China
Citing Chinese laws as primary customers, is
and regulations, the Chi- illegal."

EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE
OF THE DECEASED FLORENCE B. AVANCEÑA
WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the deceased
FLORENCE B. AVANCEÑA who died single and intestate
on March 18, 2019, consisting of that certain real property
which she is the registered owner situated at Brgy. Muntin,
San Jose Del Monte, Bulacan with an area of 15,000 square meters,
more or less, with an assessed value of P155,500,000.00
FIFTY THOUSAND PESOS (P50,000.00) as evidenced by a
Tax Declaration of Real Property No. 2011-01-0078-00008,
covered by Transfer Certificate of Title No. 0080-201-0001582
has been adjudicated and extra-judicially settled by and among
the sole and compulsory heirs of the deceased with Waiver of
Rights in favor of ANA LISA PAVANOSA AVANCEÑA on July
24, 2019 in Dasmariñas City before Notary Public Atty. Don
Michael A. Succoco and entered in his Notarial Register as (Doc.
No. 22, Page No. 5, Book No. 10, Series of 2019).

(Sgd.) Heirs: (AIMEE A. BATAO
and JOSE P. AVANCEÑA
both represented by ANA LISA P. AVANCEÑA)

Publication : PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Dates : July 29, August 5 & 12, 2019

Irrigation agency pushes crop diversification

The National Irrigation Adminis- brought by El Niño.
tration (NIA) is adopting most half of the coun-
diversified cropping in try's total agricultural
national and commu- output, and are also
nal irrigation systems the most vulnerable to
all over the country to weather disturbances.
mitigate the effects of "Aside from im-
global warming and proving and breed-
climate change on the ing new crop varieties,
agricultural sector. crop diversification en-
In a statement, hances the resistance
the NIA said the move of plants to various
would secure the prof- weather conditions.
itability of Filipino Moreover, it will in-
farmers who were often crease crop portfolio,"
dependent on a single the agency said.
crop, which "exposes "The introduction
them to high risks of of a greater range of
unforeseen climate crop varieties will in-
events that severely af- crease natural biodiver-
fect agricultural pro- sity, strengthen agro-
duction." ecosystem, reduce risk

The initiative came of total crop failures,
a day after the Philip- and provide farmers
pine Statistics Author- with alternative source
ity reported that the of income," it added.
farm sector shrank by NIA issued a
0.24 percent in the first memorandum that
semester of the year would guide regional
after crop output was officers and farmers in
stunted by dry spell their crop selections.

EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF THE LATE ROMEO C. DE LUNA JR. WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **ROMEO C. DE LUNA JR.**, who died intestate on April 26, 2019 at Tuguegarao, Cagayan, consisting of his Savings Account No. 565-3-7902625-5 with Metrobank amounting to THIRTEEN THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY-SEVEN AND 4/10 (P13,467 P.11) Philippine Currency, has been adjudicated and extra-judicially settled by and among his heirs equally with waiver of rights, interests, and participation in favor of **FRANCISCA DE LUNA**, her heirs, assigns and successors-in-interest on July 22, 2019 at Tuguegarao City, Province of Cagayan, Philippines before Notary Public Atty. Eric de Castro Llameta and entered in his Notarial Register as Doc. No. 207, Page No. 42, Book No. X20, Series of 2019.

Publication: PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Date: August 5, 12 & 19, 2019
(Sgl.) Heirs

EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH REPUTATION OF INHERITANCE

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **RAMON SISON ILAGAN JR.**, who died intestate on November 1, 2016 at Lemery, Batangas, consisting of a parcel of land situated in South Plains Executive Village, San Jose, Davao del Norte, containing an area of ONE HUNDRED FIFTY (150) SQ. METERS has been adjudicated and extra-judicially settled by rights and interest in favor of **FE ESPERANZA SISON ILAGAN**, who is now the sole owner of the above estate of the decedent, on July 31, 2019 in Imus City, Cavite before Notary Public Atty. Crisanto U. Pascual, Jr. and entered in his Notarial Register as Doc. No. 357, Page No. 72, Book No. 04, Series of 2019.

Publication: PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Date: August 5, 12 & 19, 2019
(Sgl.) Heirs

SM Investments' H1 profit jumps 27% to P23B

SM Investments Corp. saw a 27-percent year-on-year increase in first semester net profit to P23 billion, led by higher earnings from its banking and property businesses.

"We delivered a strong first half ... Our retail business continues to do well and we are pleased with the rapid expansion of our minimart footprint through Alfamart," SM president and CEO Frederic DyBuncio said in a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange.

The property and banking businesses accounted for 41 percent

and 40 percent of SMIC's net income while retail contributed 19 percent. Group-wide revenue rose 14 percent year-on-year to P233.7 billion in the first semester.

SM Retail posted P5.7 billion in net profit for the first six months, flat from the same period last year. While revenue grew by 13 percent year-on-year to P169.8 billion, SM Retail had to make adjustments based on the Philippine Financial Reporting Standards 16, under which a right-of-use asset is recognized and amortized over the lease term while interest expense is

EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH WAIVER

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **JANIE A. DONES** who died intestate on May 3, 2012 at Dasmariñas City, Cavite, consisting of a National Housing Authority (NHA) property situated at Blk. 25, Lot 22, Pasig Property, Dasmariñas City, Cavite containing an area of Fifty (50) square meters as per DEED OF SALE WITH TRANSFER OF RIGHTS executed by Sps. Elmer Balila and Teres Balila before Notary Public Atty. Lando Baragana Basco and entered in her Notarial Register as Doc. No. 25, Page No. 52, Book No. 32, Series of 2002 has been adjudicated and extra-judicially settled by and among his heirs in pro indiviso equal shares, further, for and in consideration of the sum of TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P200,000.00), Philippine currency, they do hereby SELL, CONVEY, and TRANSFER by way of SALE and **ANGELINE DONES**, her heirs, assigns, and successors-in-interest, all their rights and interest and participation over the said parcel of land including improvements existing therein on April 22, 2019 at Dasmariñas City, Cavite before Notary Public Atty. Karen T. Hermosa and entered in her Notarial Register as Doc. No. 371, Page No. 67, Book No. 114, Series of 2019.

(Sgl.) Heirs/Sellers and Buyer

Publication: PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Date: August 12, 19 & 26, 2019

EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **LIZ R. SIQUE** who died intestate on March 5, 2017 in Marikina, Pangasinan, consisting of a certain real property situated at Block 2, Lot 18, Bulevar Pagsanjan Subd., San Roque 7A, City of Dasmariñas, Cavite, containing an area of Twenty (20) square meters embraced and covered by Transfer Certificate of Title (TCT) No. 5-70727 of the Registry of Deeds for the Province of Cavite has been adjudicated and extra-judicially settled by and between her heirs with waiver of rights, interest, and participation in the said property in favor of **PLARIDIL JR. M. SIQUE** on June 21, 2019 at Dasmariñas City, Cavite before Notary Public Atty. Karen T. Hermosa and entered in her Notarial Register as Doc. No. 104, Page No. 21, Book No. 117, Series of 2019.

(Sgl.) Heir/Transferee and Heir/Transferor

Publication: PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Date: August 12, 19 & 26, 2019

EXTRA JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH SALE

NOTICE is hereby given that the estate of the late **SPE TOMAS JAVIER and LILY JAVIER** who both died intestate on June 5, 2005 and March 7, 2017, respectively, in Dasmariñas, Cavite, consisting of a certain real property together with improvements erected thereon situated at Blk. 47, Lot 3, San Nito II, City of Dasmariñas, Cavite containing an area of Fifty Five (55 sqm.) square meters have been adjudicated and extra-judicially settled by and between their heirs in pro indiviso equal shares, further, for and in consideration of the sum of SIXTY THOUSAND PESOS (P60,000.00), Philippine currency, they do hereby SELL, CONVEY, and TRANSFER by way of TRANSFER OF RIGHTS and **ROGER VELASCO MOLINOS** married to **ROSE MAE CASTRO-MOLINOS**, his heirs, assigns, and successors-in-interest, all their rights and interest and participation over the entire parcel of land on August 3, 2019 at Dasmariñas City, Cavite before Notary Public Atty. Karen T. Hermosa and entered in her Notarial Register as Doc. No. 220, Page No. 44, Book No. 118, Series of 2019.

(Sgl.) Both heirs/Vendors and Vendor

Publication: PERLAS NG SILANGAN BALITA
Date: August 12, 19 & 26, 2019

Megaworld reports 16% growth in profit

Tuguegarao Andrew robust sign-ups we are seeing from big corporate property developers and business owners. Tourism growth, posted P6.3 billion in attributable net profit in the first semester, up by 16 percent year-on-year due to higher earnings from residential development and rental portfolio.

Excluding a non-recurring gain of about P189 million, Megaworld saw a 15-percent year-on-year increase in first semester earnings over year-ago level as residential office and retail leasing and hotel segments posted double-digit growth.

Consolidated revenue went up by 16 percent year-on-year to P21.7 billion in the first half, of which the residential business accounted for 63 percent. The rental and hotel operations accounted for 26 percent and 4 percent of total revenue, while 7 percent accounted for noncore revenues.

"The current economic landscape is quite favorable so we continue to be optimistic on the remaining five months of 2019. Interest rates are on a downward, which is a very positive news for our residential business. Vacancies in both office and commercial segments are on an all-time low, and we don't see this changing in the near future due to the

slowdown in big companies and business owners. Tourism growth, however, remains strong and this should continue to fuel our blossoming hotel operations especially that we are opening more hotels henceforth," Megaworld chief strategy officer Kevin Tan said in a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange.

Including earnings attributable to amortizing interest, Megaworld's net profit went up by 18 percent year-on-year to P6.5 billion in the first semester.

Revenue from residential sales improved by 11 percent year-on-year to P20.2 billion during the first six months. Megaworld's leasing revenues from shopping malls and offices grew by 30 percent year-on-year to P6.1 billion in the first six months.

By year-end, the company is expected to complete more than 230,000 square meters of leasable space from its two rental brands of Megaworld Premier Offices and Megaworld Lifestyle Malls all over the country.

The hotel segment was the fastest growing during the first half with revenue surging by 80 percent year-on-year to P1.3 billion.

incurred on the lease liability. Excluding the adjustments, net income grew by 10 percent year-on-year to P6.3 billion.

At end-June 2019, SM Retail had a total of 2,600 stores.

AUCTION SALE

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Head Office
Stall No.5, Pasillo G, Imus Public Market
Tanzang Luma, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Tree Martires City Branch
213 San Agustin St., Tree Martires City (4109) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Gen. Trias Branch
Block 43-A, Lot 4C, Brookside Lane, San Francisco Gen. Trias, Cavite (4107) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Salawag Branch
Salawag, Dasmariñas City, Cavite (4114) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Bayan Luma Branch
L 2, B 2 Dona Dionisia Subd., Bayan Luma II, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Imus Public Market Branch
Stall #14 & #16 Bakery Section, Imus Public Market Imus City, Cavite (4103) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Toll Bridge Branch
Tanzang Luma II, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Palico IV Branch
Palico IV, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Silang Branch
#007 Madanacay Street, Silang Cavite on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Golden City Branch
In Front of Golden City 3, 4, & 5 gate, Imus City, Cavite (4103) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Area G Branch
B61 L 3, Area G-2, Brgy. San Juan, Dasmariñas City, Cavite (4114) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Alapou Branch
Unit D, Lot 1-E, Alapou I-A, Imus City, Cavite on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Mayeris Branch
Ph. 1 B57 Lot 7, Mayeris Complex, Gen. Trias Cavite (4107) on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Buhay na Tubig Branch
106 Buhay na Tubig, Imus City, Cavite (4103) August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Bacoar Branch
Unit D, Navarrete Compound Aginaldo Hi-way 17 Panapaan, Bacoar City, Cavite on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Bayanan Branch
678 Terminal Express Stall #4 Bldg. D, Molino, Blvd. cor. Brgy. Mambing IV Rd. Bayanan, Bacoar City, Cavite on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Manggahan Branch
343 Cuisento St. Manggahan, Gen. Trias, Cavite on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Shopwise Branch Stall
NF2, Shopwise Aginaldo Hiway, Anabu Coastal, Imus City, Cavite on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Pasig Sisto Branch
Sisto No. 51, Dr. Sisto Antonio Avenue Kapusigan, Pasig City on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Bucandala Branch
Brgy. Bucandala, Imus City, Cavite on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

LAI JARO PAWNSHOP INC.-Bulihan c/o GMA Branch
General Mariano Alvarez, Cavite on August 25-27, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. for unredemmed pawned of March 2019.

Julie R. Peña - Auctioneer

AUCTION SALE

Ang sinimulan sa mga sangay ng **LAJ JARO PAWNSHOP CORP.** ay magaganap ng subasta mula ika-19 hanggang ika-23 ng AGOSTO 2019 para sa lahat ng hindi natapos na sangay para sa buwan ng MARSO 2019.- JULIO R. PEÑA Auctioneer

1. ALFONSO BRANCH : Poblacion II, Alifan, Cavite, 9:00 am
2. ANABU BRANCH : Brgy. Anabu I-C, Imus City, Cavite, 9:00 am
3. BINAKAYAN BRANCH : Balutayan Binakayan Kawi, Cavite, 9:00 am
4. BINAKAYAN KAWIT, CAVITE BRANCH 2 : Tinita, Hiway, Tinita, Binakayan, Kawi, Cavite, 9:00 am
5. BAILEN BRANCH : Real St. Poblacion 2 General Emilio Aguinaldo Hi Way, Cavite, 9:00 am
6. BACLARAN BRANCH : 0061 Quirino Ave. BacLaran, Parangue City, 9:00 am
7. BACLARAN, PARANGUE CITY BRANCH : C-Side Conant Cir. A. Guara St. Corner Roxas Blvd., BacLaran, Parangue City, 9:00 am
8. BINAN CITY, LAGUNA BRANCH : Caporin St. Poblacion Binas City, Laguna, 9:00 am
9. BUIHAY NA TUBIG: Buhay na tubig Imus City, Cavite, 9:00 am
10. BUCANDALA BRANCH : FCRS Building Bucandala II, Imus City, Cavite, 9:00 am
11. CAVITE CITY BRANCH : 634 P. Bergon Ave. Caridad Cavite City, Cavite, 9:00 am
12. AREA D BRANCH : Bldg 9 Lot 2 Cluster A, Brgy. Luzviminda I, Dasmariñas City, Cavite, 9:00 am
13. AREA E BRANCH : Congressional Road Sta. Cruz II DBB Area E, Dasmariñas, Cavite, 9:00 am
14. AREA G BRANCH : Congressional Road, North Brgy. Sta. Lucia, Dasmariñas, Cavite, 9:00 am
15. DASMA BAYAN BRANCH : 108 G/F. CEM Plaza Bldg., 861 Don P. Campos Zone III Dasmariñas, Cavite, 9:00 am
16. MALABON BRANCH : Brgy. Pinza, General Trias, Cavite 9:00 am
17. INDIANG BRANCH : A. Mahini St. Poblacion III, Indang, Cavite, 9:00 am
18. IMUS NUGUID : Appliance 6 & 5 Imus, Public Market Imus, Cavite, 9:00 am
19. IMUS PUBLIC MARKET BRANCH 2 : Imus Public Market, TanzangLuma I, Imus City, Cavite, 9:00 am
20. IMUS PUBLIC MARKET, CAVITE BRANCH : Drygoods 48 Imus Public Market, Tanzang Luma I, Imus, Cavite, 9:00 am
21. KADIWA, DASMARIÑAS CITY, CAVITE BRANCH: Congressional North Avenue, Brgy. H2, Dasmariñas City, Cavite, 9:00 am
22. KADIWA BRANCH 2 : H2 2 Lot 1 Settling Sikap Brgy Brnd I Dasmariñas, Cavite, 9:00 am
23. LIPA 2 BRANCH : Bldg 3, 15 V. Malabanan St. Brgy. 4 Lipa City Batangas, 9:00 am
24. LIPA 3 BRANCH : Semendoc Bldg. P. Torres St. Brgy. 5 Lipa City Batangas, 9:00 am
25. LEMERY BRANCH : Sengulagat St., Maguinhay, Lemery, Batangas, 9:00 am
26. LAS PIÑAS BRANCH : 4250 Aguilar Ave. Polang Lupa Des. Las Piñas City 1700, 9:00 am
27. LAS PIÑAS 1 BRANCH : 311 G/F Ochoangco Bldg., 404 Alabang, Zapote Road, Talon Uno, Las Piñas City, 9:00 am
28. LAS PIÑAS CITY BRANCH 1 : 425 Alabang, Zapote Road Talon I, Las Piñas City, 9:00 am
29. LAS PIÑAS BRANCH - 132 Saging St., CAA BF International, Las Piñas City 1700, 9:00 am
30. LAS PIÑAS CITY BRANCH 2 : Door 2 G/F Rubenar Bldg. I, CV Sam Ave., Panglana Dos, Las Piñas City, 9:00 am
31. MANGGAHAN I BRANCH : 001 Governor's Drive, Brgy. Manggahan, General Trias, Cavite, 9:00 am
32. MANGGAHAN II BRANCH : Cuisento M. Delos Reyes Ave. Brgy. Manggahan, General Trias, Cavite, 9:00 am
33. MALAGASANG IMUS, CAVITE BRANCH : Malagasang II - A Imus, Cavite, 9:00 am
34. MOLINO I BRANCH : 278 Molino Rd. Molino 3, Bacoar, Cavite, 9:00 am
35. MOLINO BRANCH : Infront of Camella Springs/Elle Molino III Bacoar, Cavite 4102, 9:00 am
36. MOLINO BACOAR CITY, CAVITE BRANCH 3 : Molino Road, Molino I Bacoar City, Cavite, 9:00 am
37. NAIC BRANCH : Pasual Poblete St. Cor. Zamora St Gonzalez Nac, Cavite 4110, 9:00 am
38. NAIC CAVITE BRANCH 1 : Capi. C. Nazareno Naic, Cavite, 9:00 am
39. NASUGBE BRANCH : #168 J.P. Laurel St. Brgy. 2 Nasugba Batangas, 9:00 am
40. NOVELETA 2 BRANCH : Polifacot, Noveleta, Cavite 9:00 am
41. PALIPARAN BRANCH : Paliparan Wet & Dry Market, Paliparan III, Dasmariñas, Cavite, 9:00 am
42. PALIPARAN BRANCH 2 : Stall #2 Bessam Bldg. Dela Cuerra St., Sino-Panang/Gubat, Paliparan 3, Dasmariñas, Cavite, 9:00 am
43. PALA PALA DASMARIÑAS CITY, CAVITE BRANCH : RJVA Bldg. Aginaldo Highway, Brgy. Sempaloc I, Dasmariñas City, Cavite, 9:00 am
44. PASAY BRANCH : 688 Andrade Avenue Villamor Air base, Brgy. 183 NCR Fourth District Pasay City 1300, 9:00
45. RETIRO BRANCH : #73 ANS Amoranto St. Ave. Pang Bando Quezon City, 9:00 am
46. SALITRAN DASMARIÑAS CITY, CAVITE BRANCH : Jose Abel Santos Ave., Brgy. Sempaloc I, Dasmariñas City, Cavite, 9:00 am
47. SILANG BRANCH : 55 P. Montoya St., Poblacion V, Silang, Cavite, 9:00 am
48. STA. ROSA 1 BRANCH : Unit 4 Bld. 131 Ciudad Grande Subd., Market Area, Sta. Rosa City, Laguna, 9:00 am
49. STA. ROSA 2 BALIBAGO BRANCH : G/F JNH Bldg. F. Reyes St. Balibago Sta. Rosa City, Laguna, 9:00 am
50. STA. ROSA 3 : #1601 Pank 5 National Highway Dda Sta. Rosa Laguna, 9:00 am
51. BALIBAGO 2 : #1478 National Hi Way Balibago Sta. Rosa Laguna, 9:00 am
52. TANZA, CAVITE BRANCH : A Sison Highway, Daang Anyaya I, Tanza, Cavite, 9:00 am
53. TANZA CAVITE BRANCH 2 : Curia St. De Roxas Subd. Daang Anyaya I, Tanza, Cavite, 9:00 am
54. TRECE MARTIRES BRANCH : S-B Extension West Public Market, San Agustin, Trece Martires City, Cavite, 9:00 am
55. TRECE BRANCH 2 : Purok 7, Brgy. San Agustin Trece Martires City, Cavite, 9:00 am
56. TRECE BRANCH 3 : Brgy. Hugo Perez Trece Martires City, Cavite, 9:00 am
57. ZAPOTE, BACOAR CITY, CAVITE BRANCH : Stall #2 HDR Bacoar Public Market Zapote IV, Bacoar City, Cavite, 9:00 am
58. ZAPOTE BRANCH 2 : Zapote IV, Bacoar, Cavite, 9:00 am

Exports, imports down in first half

Merchandise exports rose for the third straight month in June while imports contracted also for three consecutive months, auguring well for second-quarter economic growth.

Even as exports inched up during the second quarter, the value of Philippine-made goods sold abroad during the first six months declined 0.8 percent to \$34.11 billion from \$34.4 billion a year ago, the latest preliminary data released by the Philippine Statistics Authority last Aug. 7 showed.

Meanwhile, June imports declined by 1 percent to \$53.12 billion from \$53.63 billion last year.

Since imports continued to exceed exports, the balance of trade in goods remained at a deficit, but narrower by 1.2 percent at \$19 billion in the first half from \$19.24 billion a year ago.

In June alone, the value of imported products that entered the country dropped 10.4 percent year-on-year to \$8.48 billion, the biggest decline so far in this year and reversing the 29.9-percent jump posted during the same month last year.

On the other hand, goods exports rose 1.5 percent year-on-year to \$6.01 billion in June, the

fastest monthly growth recorded thus far in 2019 but still slower than a year ago's 3.7-percent increase.

As such, the trade-in-goods deficit during the month of June slid by 30.4 percent to \$2.47 billion.

Between January and June, the top three destinations of Philippine exports were the United States (\$5.61 billion, up 9.7 percent year-on-year), Japan (\$5.14 billion, down 1.8 percent) and China (\$4.59 billion, up 7.7 percent).

First-half imports to the Philippines were dominated by Chinese goods, which at \$11.8 billion accounted for more than a fifth of the six-month total and grew 14.3 percent year-on-year.

While imports from Japan and South Korea followed those from China, shipments from the two countries dropped 7.8 percent year-on-year to \$5.01 billion and 20.4 percent to \$4.31 billion, respectively.

"Despite the challenging external environment, the Philippines has shown resilience in its trade performance. The Philippines is among the countries in Asia with positive export growth," Socioeconomic Planning Secretary Ernesto Pernia said in a statement.

Meralco rates fall for 4th straight month

Customers of Manila Electric Co. will enjoy lower charges for the fourth straight month, with the August billing getting the biggest cut so far at 42.76 centavos a kilowatt-hour (kWh) as improved supply conditions sent spot prices falling.

The company said that for the August billing period, its overall charge went down to ₱9.5674 a kWh from ₱9.8850 in the July billing period.

The generation charge alone went down by 46.17 centavos a kWh to ₱4.862 from ₱5.4227 previously, representing a 10.5 percent decrease of ₱0.5607.

the bill for a typical residential customer consuming 200 kWh a month.

The company said that for the August billing period, its overall charge went down to ₱9.5674 a kWh from ₱9.8850 in the July billing period.

The generation charge alone went down by 46.17 centavos a kWh to ₱4.862 from ₱5.4227 previously, representing a 10.5 percent decrease of ₱0.5607.

Meralco said "The share of WESM to Meralco's supply needs went up to 11 percent."

A yellow alert means the reserve generating capacity is insufficient if power plants were on unplanned or forced outage. A red alert means electricity demand is likely to exceed available capacity.

However, there was an increase of 8.11 centavos a kWh in the cost of electricity sourced from independent power producers, which provided 41 percent of Meralco's supply. This happened despite the strengthening of the peso against the US dollar and lower fuel prices as a result of quarterly repurchasing of Malampara natural gas and continued decline in coal prices.

Power giant said higher IPP costs were largely due to lower average plant dispatch with the scheduled maintenance work at the Sta. Rita power plant in Batangas last month.

"This was offset as cost of power from the Power Supply Agreements (PSAs) decreased by 6.56 centavos a kWh due to lower fuel prices and peso appreciation," Meralco added.

3,150 firms got P1.12-T tax perks from 2015-2017

The Department of Finance (DOF) is pushing for the rationalization of tax incentives to investors as it had resulted in a total of P1.12 trillion in foregone revenues for the government between 2015 and 2017.

In a statement last Aug. 6, the DOF said a recent study it conducted showed that the country's investment promotion agencies gave away ₱901.2 billion in tax and other fiscal perks in 2015, ₱980.7 billion in 2016, and ₱460.1 billion in 2017.

These fiscal incentives were enjoyed by a "select group" of 3,150

firms, the DOF added. "We are not saying that all these incentives are not worth it and we acknowledge that there have been benefits in the form of job creation and investments in the domestic economy. However, we cannot keep giving away tax incentives indiscriminately and indefinitely, especially if the amount keeps going bigger and bigger every year," Finance Undersecretary Karl Kenneth T. Chua said.

"We need to modernize and improve the incentive system and this is why President Duterte in his fourth State of the Nation Address called on the Congress to immediately pass package 2," Chua added, referring to the proposed measure earlier known as Tax Reform to Attracting Better and High-Quality Opportunities bill.

Package 2 will reduce the incentives being enjoyed by investors while also gradually shifting the corporate income tax rate to 20 percent from 30 percent at present—the highest in ASEAN.

ties and import value-added tax granted by the government was "a truly massive amount."

To put things in the right perspective, the P1.12 trillion that we gave away in incentives over that three-year period is over twice the 2019 budget of the Department of Public Works and Highways," which amounted to ₱568.4 billion, Chua said.

"Every peso given away in tax incentives is a peso that could have gone to constructing roads, classrooms or health centers, or to hiring more teachers, doctors and nurses.

PH now among main cyberattacks targets

The Philippines thrives between April is a magnet for online threats, landing as among the top five countries in the world in terms of internet-based attacks. Russian cybersecurity firm Kaspersky said.

Citing its Global Security Bulletin for the second quarter of the year, it said the Philippines was the fifth-most targeted country after Algeria, Nepal, Albania and Djibouti.

Data from the company's security network showed that 57.4 percent, or seven million, of Kaspersky's users in the Philippines were targets of a host of

attacks mainly took the form of a method called drive-by download.

Attacks mainly took the form of a method called drive-by download.

Call centers may not make it to DOF's tax perks list

The Department of Finance (DOF) thinks the voice sector of the business process outsourcing (BPO) industry should not be prioritized for tax incentives, since the sector is already competitive enough.

Finance Undersecretary Karl Kendrick Chua questioned why the voice services sector, which had been the global leader for several years now, still needed to have tax perks.

The Duterte administration is renewing its push to pass a second tax reform package, which will gradually lower the corporate income tax while rationalizing the incentives given to industries.

The Board of Investments, the investment arm of the Department of Trade and Industry, has the power to choose industries eligible for tax incentives under the new regime.

In the end, however, the DOF remains the central figure peddling President Duterte's comprehensive tax reform program.

"That [sector] could be, in my opinion, not a priority. We should give priority to where there is real competition," Chua said Aug. 7, referring to nonvoice service of

the BPO industry.

The Philippines would be top of mind for BPO players in the voice services, considering the top-notch talent it offers: English-speaking Filipinos.

Nonvoice services, on the other hand, are jobs that are not dependent on a BPO worker's ability to speak fluent English, such as medical transcription, accounting and finance. Thus, companies can always choose to locate in countries that offer better alternatives.

"They don't require the agent to speak. So we think they should be [assisted] because they are going to move out of the country, to Vietnam, or China, or even India. But the voice sector, in our view, has no competition at all," Chua said.

It remains to be seen how the industry will be affected by the change in policies, especially since much of its growth is still largely dependent on how well the voice services sector will perform.

Based on the industry's current road map, the voice services sector is expected to account for nearly 60 percent, or \$22.2 billion, of the industry's total revenue target of \$38.9 billion by 2022.

Alcohol products soon to bear tax stamps

After years of delay, the government will finally start affixing internal revenue stamps on alcohol products to discourage tax cheats

once higher excise taxes kick in by next year, according to Finance Undersecretary Karl Kendrick T. Chua.

"It is true that when you raise taxes, the incentive to smuggle or engage in illicit trade is higher. But that's not an excuse," Chua last Aug. 7.

Just as the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Act jacked up oil excise taxes, the same law also mandated fuel marking, he said. The sin tax reform law of 2012 also provided for the imple-

mentation of the internal revenue stamps integrated system (Irsis) or cigarette tax stamps.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue's (BIR) so-called "strike team" against illicit trade would also be on alert mode to catch unscrupulous traders amid increases in the prices of cigarettes, heated tobacco and vapor products alongside higher excise starting next year under Republic Act (RA) No. 11346, Chua added.

Thus, a tax stamp on alcohol products should go hand in hand with the DOF's next move to increase the excise for alcohol products. The goal was to deter consumption

and generate additional revenues to fund the universal health care program.

Citing a BIR report, Chua said the country's biggest tax collection agency was already in the middle of the procurement stage for the Irsis on alcohol.

The BIR began last year firming up a contract with state-run printer APO Production Unit Inc. and Irsis Corp. to churn out alcohol tax stamps.

BIR Commissioner Caesar R. Dulay had said APO would be printing the tax stamps while Irsis Corp. would provide the stamps' security features.

Dulay's predecessor, former BIR chief

Kim S. Jacinto-Henares, had wanted to introduce Irsis on alcoholic drinks during the Aquino administration.

The BIR under the Duterte government had pushed back the rollout of Irsis on alcohol and distilled spirits several times due to issues on costing and manufacturers' concerns on possible disruption in their production.

Still smarting over the experience with Mighty Corp., which supposedly faked cigarette stamps to evade tax payments, the government wanted to ensure that the version for alcohol products cannot be counterfeited.

Petron H1 profit falls 72%

Petron Corp. saw its first-semester net income drop 72 percent year-on-year to P2.6 billion as the oil firm felt a regionwide slump in refining margins.

The San Miguel group subsidiary said in a statement the slump slashed as much as P5 billion from its Philippine operations in the first six months.

Even then, strong

results from Petron's Malaysian operations and the extensive savings on fixed costs enabled continued growth during the period. However, consolidated sales revenue went down 7 percent to P254.8 billion, as a 4-percent growth in Malaysia tempered a decline in the Philippines.

Petron said domestic sales decreased in volume due to the implementation of the second tranche of the TRAIN (Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion) law, which brought total fuel taxes to an average of P6.75 per liter.

"These setbacks are just temporary and are all part of the business," Petron president and chief executive Ramon S. Ang said.

In the meantime, Petron is resuming normal operations at its Bataan Refinery after completing scheduled repair works.

Petron is continuing expansion of its retail network, completing 72 new stations in the Philippines in the first half.

In Malaysia, in the same period, Petron opened 24 new stations.



Farm sector shrank 0.24% in 1st half of 2019

The agriculture sector contracted by 0.24 percent in the first half of the year due to a drop in crop production brought by the El Niño dry spell.

The latest report of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) noted a 5.70-percent decline in the production of crops during the second quarter, which contribute almost half of the total farm output.

This dragged the minimal growth registered in the first quarter of 0.67 percent. For the second quarter, the industry shrank by 1.27 percent.

Palay and corn output fell by 5.82 percent and 8.73 percent in the second quarter,

respectively. The PSA said these were traced to the "decreases in harvested areas and yields in most of the regions because of the adverse effects of the dry spell/drought."

Other crops that posted declines were coconut, banana, peanut, mung, cassava, sweet potato, tomato, cabbage and calamansi.

Consequently, the value of crops was down by 11.09 percent during the second quarter to P215.5 billion. This was also due to the decrease in the production of certain crops as farmers shifted to planting other plants that were more profitable.

Sugarcane posted the biggest contraction in value at 55.89 percent as a result of the drop in the volume of production. The industry has been struggling with costlier inputs and lower yields, which prompted the Sugar Regulatory Administration to recently allow the importation of 250,000 metric tons of the commodity.

Livestock production, which accounted for 17.41 percent of total farm output, recorded a 3.22-percent increase in the second quarter.

The sustained demand for pork pulled hog production up by 4.1 percent, which partially offset declines in cattle and goat production.



Q & A on Consumer Rights

Q: DO YOU KNOW YOUR RIGHTS?

A: DAPAT

For inquiries and/or complaints, call the National DTI Office in your area or call DTI Direct 751-3330 or 0917-831-3330

Dar to tap private sector in irrigation plan

The country's new agriculture chief is planning to address the unavailability of water in agricultural areas through the construction of a million hectares of irrigation systems.

To do this, Agriculture Secretary Wilham Dar is proposing

to tap the private sector through investments under the BOT (build-operate-transfer) scheme.

In a press conference on food security last Aug. 7, Dar said it would take 18 years for the government to construct the needed irrigation systems given its

spending rate.

But allowing private entities to invest in the program could accelerate construction to be finished in six years, he said.

"We will start the process this year and hopefully, this will be put into action. We

will target the policy first before we get into the details. Let's hope the new policy direction will be accepted," Dar pointed out.

The official said he was also inclined to continue the Department of Agriculture's flagship project under Emmanu-

el Piñol—a P44-billion solar irrigation system that has the capacity to irrigate 500,000 ha of farmlands all over the country.

However, Dar noted that before any construction of additional irrigation systems, a year-round water sup-

ply must be ensured to maximize the returns of the project. He said systems must also be retrofitted to the needs of rural areas.

He cited data that the country gets 2,200 millimeters of rainwater annually, of which only 6 percent is used.