

PBBM ADMIN SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDS PHILHEALTH BENEFIT PACKAGES TO EASE FILIPINOS' HEALTHCARE BURDEN **P.2**

PH ENVOYS: CONTINGENCY PLANS IN PLACE AS US JOINS IRAN-ISRAEL CONFLICT

MANILA – The Philippine government has assured that contingency measures are in place to safeguard overseas Filipinos as the conflict between Iran and Israel intensifies, now further complicated by the direct military involvement of the United States.

In a virtual briefing on Sunday night, Philippine diplomats in the Middle East, led by Ambassador to Jordan Wilfredo Santos and Deputy Chief of Mission Anthony Achilles Mandap of the Philippine Embassy in Israel, said the government is closely monitoring developments.

"As you know, the safety of our nationals, their well-being, they're the primary concern of the Philippine government and we are reacting to these developments to ensure that they are safe," Santos said.

"We are taking the necessary preparations to ensure their safety, their well-being, despite the increasing tensions between Israel and Iran, and now the recent attack of the United States on Iran," he added.

Santos clarified that Jordan remains under Alert Level 1, with no direct attack on Jordan nor any immediate threat to Filipinos in the country.

However, he said that missile debris from Iran would at times hit parts of Jordan since it is in the path of missiles being fired by Iran towards Israel.

He said that there have been no reported Filipino casualties so far in Jordan, but assured that the Philippine government remains vigilant.

He said that alert level adjustments will depend on how the situation unfolds, adding that the embassy maintains active coordination with Jordanian authorities and regularly updates its contingency plans.

Mandap said that while Jordan is currently the main transit point for Filipino repatriates from Israel, alternate routes through Egypt or the Mediterranean are being considered in case of escalation of tension.

"This situation is very fluid so it's not always the case that the safe passage will be towards Jordan. Pwede po magbago 'yan (That could change), again, depending on how the war develops and how the risk spreads," Mandap said.



"It can (change) maaring sa mga darating na araw, ang Egypt ang (Egypt could be the) safe passage in the South, it could also be towards the Mediterranean, or it could be evacuation by sea, especially now that the airspace of Israel closed, all flights are suspended," he added.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) are likewise monitoring the situation in Iran, where eight Filipinos, including seven workers and one tourist, are scheduled for repatriation.

Meanwhile, Migrant Workers Secretary Hans Leo Cacdac said that there are around 30 Filipino workers and over 1,100 Filipinos, mostly family members of locals, currently in Iran.

"By the embassy count, it's around 30. Of course, we know from (DFA) Secretary (Enrique) Manalo that some have already sought assistance in terms of repatriation. At ito na nga, yung announcement ni Usec. Ed de Vega, na may walong pauwi (and this was the announcement of Usec Ed that there are eight going home)," he said.

Cacdac added the Philippine government is fully aware of the situation of Filipino seafarers whose vessels are docked in the ports of Iran.

He assured that the Philippine government is also assisting them, and that the DMW will get the Filipino seafarers out of harm's way.

"Right now, we know of a case of at least two who have sought for our help and the matter is currently being addressed. Pinatawag na namin 'yung licensed

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STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO IRENE KHAN'S REPORT ON MEDIA FREEDOM AND THE ISSUE OF IMPUNITY

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SAFETY AND SECURITY AT NIGHT FOR KIDS

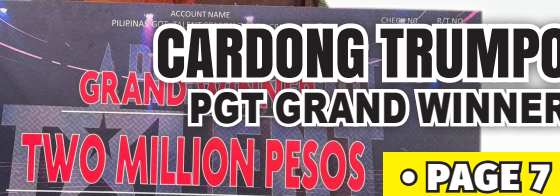
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HOOPS REPUBLIC FIERCE BATTLE SEEN AT JPGT DEL MONTE GIRLS' PREMIER CATEGORY

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BI HAILS APD FOR ARREST OF SUSPECT OFFERING FAKE IMMIGRATION CLEARANCE TO INADMISSIBLE FOREIGNERS **P.4**

~ SOUL FOOD ~

"Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good!
Blessed is the man who takes refuge in him!"

- Psalm 34:8 -



LEARN BY PARADOX
THE LORD'S WORK AS
THE RIGHTEOUS
SATISFACTION

P.5

PBBM admin significantly expands PhilHealth benefit packages to ease Filipinos' healthcare burden

Under President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s administration, the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) has increased the coverage for kidney transplant procedures by more than 230 percent, or from Php600,000 to Php2 million.

The increased kidney transplant coverage is on top of other improvements in the PhilHealth benefits package, including expanded hemodialysis sessions from 90 to 156 annually, meant to ease the out-of-pocket payments of Filipinos with stage 5 chronic kidney disease (CKD).

President Marcos' administration has significantly expanded the health benefit packages through PhilHealth, marking one of the most proactive efforts to enhance public healthcare coverage.

Under President Marcos' directive, PhilHealth has enhanced the benefits for members with chronic kidney disease (CKD) stage 5.

These improvements include increased maximum number of hemodialysis sessions from 90 to 156 a year, which is equivalent to Php990,600 under the new rate of Php6,350 from the previous Php4,000 per dialysis session; increased coverage for peritoneal dialysis up to Php1.2 million; and increased coverage for kidney transplantation from Php600,000 to Php2 million under the Z benefits package.

This is the first time PhilHealth has increased the Z benefits package for kidney transplant procedures since the launch of the package in 2012.

The Z benefits packages cover catastrophic illnesses and health conditions such as cancer, which require expensive treatments and hospitalizations.

Under President Marcos's administration, Filipinos with serious healthcare needs can now avail of PhilHealth's new and expanded benefit packages.

The state health insurer has also launched improved benefit packages for ischemic heart disease-acute myocardial infarction covering various procedures related to heart attack treatment; and the outpatient emergency care benefit which pro-



vides comprehensive coverage for emergency services.

PhilHealth also introduced the 50-percent adjustment in case rates which applies to almost 9,000 benefit packages for all admissions starting January 1, 2025.

Last Thursday, President Marcos led the launching of PhilHealth's new benefit package for post-kidney transplantation services at the National Kidney and Transplant Institute (NKTi) in Quezon City.

PhilHealth has offered two new support packages for adult and pediatric post-kidney transplant patients in further response to President Marcos' directive to prioritize healthcare.

During a Palace press briefing, PhilHealth President and chief executive officer Edwin M. Mercado said the agency will strive to improve its benefit packages.

"Patuloy naming ipinatutupad ang adhikain ng ating mahal na presidente, si Pangulong Marcos, na bigyan ng pag-asa at bagong buhay ang mga Pilipinong nagtitiis sa kanilang mga dinaramdam," Mercado said.

"Katuwang ng aming kalihim, Secretary Teodoro Herbosa, at ang ating NKTi Executive Director Dr. Dante Dator, hatid namin ang bagong benepisyong naglalayong ipagpatuloy ang alagang PhilHealth para sa mga pasyenteng sumailalim na ng kidney transplantation," he said. (PND)

President Marcos: Government enhancing OFW services at home and abroad

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Saturday assured overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) of the government's unwavering commitment to improve services that protect their welfare and ease their travel experience, whether they are leaving the country for work or returning home for vacation.

Speaking to members of the Filipino community in Osaka, President Marcos highlighted key initiatives aimed at making overseas employment safer and more dignified, while also providing sustainable reintegration options for OFWs who wish to return to the Philippines.

"Sinisiguro po ng ating gobyerno na may sapat na oportunidad na naghihintay para sa OFWs na gustong umuwi at tuluyan nang manirahan sa Pilipinas," the President said.

To support the comfort and dignity of OFWs during travel, President Marcos cited improvements in airport services, particularly the establishment of the OFW Lounge exclusively for migrant workers.

"Kaya naman naglaan tayo ng OFW Lounge sa airport para may lugar kung saan puwedeng magpahinga," the President said, noting that such spac-



es are intended to give OFWs the recognition and convenience they deserve.

Beyond facilities, President Marcos also pointed to the government's efforts to forge stronger bilateral labor agreements with host countries to ensure safe, humane, and fair working conditions for Filipino workers.

"Masigasig din ang ating pakikipag-ugnayan sa iba't ibang bansang tumatanggap ng ating manggagawa para makabuo ng bilateral labor agreement upang matiyak natin na ligtas at makatao ang trabaho, at nabibigyan ng pagkakataong umunlad ang ating mga kababayan," the President said. (PND)

DILG offers 'buy 1, give 1' scheme for police vehicles in NCR



(PNA photo by Robert Oswald P. Alfiler)

MANILA – Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Jonvic Remulla proposed "buy one, give one" scheme to Metro Manila mayors, offering to match every police vehicle they procure with an additional unit from the national government.

"What I am proposing is we go back-to-back. You buy one, we give you one," Remulla told local chief executives at the regional Peace and Order Council - National Capital Region (NCR) meeting in Taguig on Saturday.

He said the procurement of additional police vehicles is in line with President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.'s directive to strengthen emergency and crisis response mechanisms nationwide.

"There is a clear disparity. Metro Manila, with over 14 million people, has only 635 police vehicles. Cavite, with 4.5 million people, has 801. This has to be corrected," he said.

He said the DILG also plans to acquire more motorcycles that match the riding competency of police personnel.

"Fifty percent of our police force cannot drive, but 90 percent know how to ride a scooter. That is a gap we must address," Remulla said.

Remulla said the DILG is also set to procure mini fire trucks that can access narrow alleys in densely populated areas to improve fire response operations.

He led the recent turnover of 41 electric vehicles procured by the Valenzuela City through the 2024 Local Government Support Fund, promoting greener mobility and more efficient law enforcement operations.

At the 3rd Hotel Sales and Marketing Association Sales and Marketing Summit in Manila on Friday, Remulla outlined the DILG's priority programs in public safety, including the upcoming launch of the unified emergency 911 system, nationwide installation of closed-circuit television sets, and procurement of patrol vehicles to improve emergency response capabilities.

Remulla said the whole-of-government approach is in motion to strengthen the tourism sector by ensuring peace, order and responsive governance.

"The President is working very hard to restore the institutions of governance and the rule of law, which are essential in addressing longstanding injustices. And that is the backbone of what we would do for the tourism industry," Remulla said. (PNA)

PHOTO RELEASE



IN PHOTOS: Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) Secretary REX Gatchalian leads the oath-taking ceremony of newly promoted officials at the DSWD Central Office in Quezon City on Wednesday (June 18).

Among those who took their oath were Mr. Peter Paul Ang, promoted as Director III and designated Head of the Media Welfare Unit and Advocacy Team under the Office of the Undersecretary for Innovations and Program Development Group, and Ms. Kaye Sacapaño, promoted as Director III of the Center and Development Office under the Operations Group.

The DSWD continues to support the growth of its dedicated career personnel by recognizing their hard work and commitment to public service.

STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO IRENE KHAN’S REPORT ON MEDIA FREEDOM AND THE ISSUE OF IMPUNITY

The Presidential Task Force on Media Security (PTFOMS) welcomes the report released by UN Special Rapporteur Irene Khan, which underscores issues related to press freedom and the safety of journalists and civil society actors in the Philippines.

The report acknowledges the positive steps undertaken by the government, such as the adoption of the UN Action Plan on the Safety of Journalists, the establishment of the Presidential Task Force on Media Security, and recent legal reforms. However, we recognize that certain challenges persist, including attacks on journalists, delays in investigations, and vilification campaigns that continue to threaten free expression and the safety of media practitioners.

Despite these challenges, we are pleased to highlight significant progress in the media landscape. The Philippines recently experienced a considerable improvement in the Press Freedom Index, reflecting the country’s best ranking in 21 years. Additionally, for the first time in two decades, there were no reported killings of media personnel in 2024, marking a substantial milestone in our ongoing efforts to protect journalists.

PTFOMS remains steadfast in its commitment to implementing concrete reforms that align with international standards. We are actively working to enhance the capacity, independence, and institutional support for the Task Force while expanding collaboration with law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, media partners, civil society, and international partners.

Our primary objective is to foster a safer environment that enables journalists to fulfill their vital roles without fear, ensuring that impunity for crimes against media workers is decisively addressed. PTFOMS values the constructive engagement of the international community and pledges to sustain efforts to uphold the right to freedom of expression, protect journalists, and promote a culture of respect, safety, and accountability.

We are dedicated to making tangible progress and ensuring that the Philippines continues to advance as a vibrant democracy where media freedom is firmly respected and protected. We thank UN Special Rapporteur Irene Khan for her insights and recommendations, which we will carefully consider as we uphold our unwavering commitment to human rights, press freedom, and the rule of law in the Philippines. (PTFOMS)

BatStateU The NEU climbs in 2025 Times Higher Education Impact Rankings, breaks into 401-600 band globally

Strengthening its commitment to advancing the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Batangas State University, The National Engineering University (BatStateU The NEU), has made a significant leap in the 2025 Times Higher Education (THE) Impact Rankings, rising from the 601–800 band to the 401–600 band out of 2,318 participating universities worldwide, as announced on June 18.

Among 113 Philippine (PH) higher education institutions making the list, BatStateU The NEU secured 2nd place nationally—further affirming its leadership in driving SDG-aligned initiatives and championing inclusive, sustainable development.

Despite intensified global competition—with 355 additional institutions participating this year—BatStateU not only ascended to a higher bracket but also recorded its highest overall performance score to date: 74.9. This marks a 10.47% increase from the previous year and an impressive 19.65% growth since its inaugural participation in 2023.

“BatStateU is honored to be recognized once again by Times Higher Education,” said Dr. Tirso A. Ronquillo, University President. “This achievement reflects the steadfast efforts of our academic community—faculty, staff, students, alumni, and partners—who bring our mission to life every single day. As we continue to elevate our global standing, we remain grounded in our purpose: to engineer meaningful change through inclusive, sustainable, and forward-thinking innovation. My deepest thanks to everyone who walks this journey with us as we strive to build a more resilient and sustainable world,” he added.

The THE Impact Rankings represents the first global initiative to assess how universities contribute to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), evaluating performance across four key areas: research, stewardship, outreach, and teaching.

Among the 17 UN SDGs, BatStateU stood out in four key areas, earning placements within the Top 101–200 universities globally, with one SDG breaking into the Top 100. Leading the charge is SDG 5: Gender Equality, where the University ranked 68th out of 1,559 institutions, its highest SDG ranking to date. This achievement was driven by a substantial rise in the percentage of senior female academic leaders—from 34.6 to 72.5—as well as enhanced measures for student access and increased representation of first-generation female stu-

CONGRATULATIONS!

BATANGAS STATE UNIVERSITY
The National Engineering University

Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings 2025

Ranked 401-600 Globally

Placed **68th** in SDG 5

Positioned **101-200** in 3 SDGs

Leading Innovations, Transforming Lives, Building the Nation

Top Universities in the Philippines

Times Higher Education
Impact Rankings 2025

101-200	Ateneo de Manila University
401-600	Batangas State University The National Engineering University
401-600	Isabela State University
401-600	University of the Philippines

Leading Innovations, Transforming Lives, Building the Nation

dents. Equally noteworthy is the University’s performance in SDG 6: Clean Water and Sanitation, where it earned high scores in water usage and care, boosting its overall score to 72.3, a significant leap from 63.3 in 2024. For SDG 14: Life Below Water, BatStateU maintained its strong global standing through consistent efforts in aquatic ecosystem preservation and improved marine-sensitive waste management. Lastly, under SDG 15: Life on Land, the University maintained its upward momentum, achieving a commendable score of 71.0 through expanded environmental education programs and advances in biodiversity research.

In addition, the University has also outperformed the global average scores in 9 out of 17 SDGs, including Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17), which is a mandatory goal for the said ranking.

Batangas State University, designated as the Philippines’ National Engineering University through Republic Act No. 11694, is widely recognized for its excellence in engineering education. A Level-IV state university, it has produced over 180 engineering board topnotchers, solidifying its reputation as the country’s largest engineering university. Notably, BatStateU is also a pioneer in quality assurance for engineering education. It is the first state university in the Philippines to have engineering programs accredited by the Philippine Technological Council through its Accreditation and Certification Board for Engineering and Technology (PTC-ACBET). Moreover, it remains the first—and to date, the only—state university in the country with engineering and computing programs accredited by the US-based Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), through both its Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC)

(Cont’d on page 5)

26 FILIPINOS EXIT ISRAEL VIA JORDAN, SET FOR PH RETURN TRIP

MANILA – A total of 26 overseas Filipinos in Israel have been repatriated through the Philippine Embassy's Voluntary Repatriation Program, amid heightened tensions between Israel and Iran.

In a social media post Sunday, the Philippine Embassy in Israel said the repatriates were assisted by its team, led by Ambassador Aileen Mendiola, at the Allenby Border Crossing to ensure their safe passage.

The group received full logistical and welfare support, including transportation, transit visas, travel documents, and plane tickets back to the Philippines, according to the embassy.

Prior to departure, they stayed at the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) shelter, where they received relief packages, free legal assistance regarding their pikadon (final pay/benefits), and pre-departure briefings about their reintegration benefits.



(Photo courtesy of PH Embassy in Israel)

REPATRIATES. Twenty-six overseas Filipinos prepare for their journey home after availing of the Philippine Embassy in Israel's voluntary repatriation program amid heightened tensions between Israel and Iran. In a social media post Sunday (June 22, 2025), the Philippine Embassy in Israel said the repatriates were assisted by its team at the Allenby Border Crossing to ensure their safe passage from Israel to Jordan.

The embassy also reported that arrangements are underway for the return of a second batch of 33 Filipinos.

The Philippines earlier raised Alert Level 3 (voluntary repatriation) in Israel and Iran due to the conflict, urging Filipinos to take necessary precautions and avail of repatriation assistance when needed.

There are around 30,000 Filipinos in Israel, most of whom are employed in the caregiving and domestic service sectors.

In Iran, there are 1,180 Filipinos, most of them married to nationals, according to the DMW.

The Department of Foreign Affairs and the DMW continue to monitor the situation and are prepared to facilitate further repatriations if necessary.

The repatriates are expected to arrive in Manila within the week and will undergo reintegration processing through DMW and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration. (PNA)

EMPOWERING OFWS, FUELING INNOVATION: DOST REGION 1 INKS FIIFWD PH PROJECTS IN LA UNION



CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, La Union— In a significant milestone for migrant worker reintegration in Region 1, the Department of Science and Technology Region 1 (DOST Region 1), through the Department of Science and Technology-La Union (DOST-La Union), has formalized a partnership with Medmed Prints, marking the first innovation support project under the Innovations for Filipinos Working Distantly from the Philippines (iFWD PH) Program in La Union. The collaboration, sealed through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), is designed to empower Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) by equipping them with technology-based solutions to build or enhance sustainable enterprises as they return to the country for good.

Medmed Prints, a customized digital printing business located in Baguiling, La Union, is owned by Ms. Gemma P. Saldo—a former OFW who dedicated eight (8) years to the hospitality sector in the Middle East. Inspired by her experience abroad and the increasing demand for affordable, high-quality printing services in her hometown, Ms. Saldo established Medmed Prints to offer a wide range of personalized items including mugs, T-shirts, vinyl stickers, and invitation cards. Her application to the iFWD PH Program in 2024 marked a turning point; after completing Phase 1, which focused on

core business development capacity building, she proceeded to Phase 2, requesting DOST's innovation support to upgrade her enterprise and improve production facilities.

The MOA signing was held with DOST-La Union Provincial Director Jonathan M. Viernes following an orientation on the project's terms and implementation process. He underscored the shared commitment between the DOST and the project cooperator to uphold accountability, innovation, and community impact. The formal agreement not only initiates technical and funding support for Medmed Prints but also sets a precedent for future partnerships that promote science-driven entrepreneurship among OFWs in the province.

Through the iFWD PH Program, DOST Region 1 continues to embody its mantra of "Providing Solutions, Opening Opportunities," by turning the dreams of returning OFWs into tangible ventures. This initiative underscores DOST Region 1's dedication to inclusive innovation—bridging science and technology with the entrepreneurial aspirations of modern-day heroes. By fostering resilience, productivity, and local economic growth, DOST Region 1 paves the way for OFWs like Ms. Saldo to thrive as innovators and changemakers in their communities. (Katrina F. Ronquillo, Senior SRS)

BI HAILS APD FOR ARREST OF SUSPECT OFFERING FAKE IMMIGRATION CLEARANCE TO INADMISSIBLE FOREIGNERS

PASAY, Philippines—The Bureau of Immigration (BI) extended its gratitude to the Airport Police Department (APD) for apprehending an individual caught offering unauthorized immigration "clearance" services to foreign nationals previously found inadmissible.

The arrest, which occurred evening of June 13 at the Departure East area of Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 1, underscores the government's resolve under President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to reinforce border control and ensure clean governance within frontline agencies entrusted with national security and public welfare.

According to the BI, the female suspect was intercepted by the APD after attempting to persuade an excluded passenger to pay for expedited clearance.

Excluded passengers are foreign nationals found to be inadmissible due to criminal history, invalid documentation, or other violations.

"We have received previous reports of alleged airport personnel approaching excluded travelers and claiming they can reverse or bypass exclusion orders for a fee," said BI Commissioner Joel Anthony Viado. "Such offers are fraudulent

and place national security at risk."

Viado clarified that upon exclusion, foreign nationals are turned over directly to their respective airlines and must be boarded on the next available flight back to their country of origin, following strict immigration protocols.

"Any person offering 'clearance services' for money is impersonating authority and must not be trusted," Viado added. "They should be reported immediately to airport officials," he stated.

The suspect allegedly demanded P850,000 in exchange for the clearance, threatening the victim deportation if the money was not paid.

The Bureau reminded the public and travelers to remain vigilant and avoid falling prey to impostors promising illegal shortcuts.

"We commend the Airport Police for their swift action in thwarting this scheme," Viado said. "This case highlights the importance of inter-agency cooperation in safeguarding our borders and reinforcing public confidence in immigration procedures."

An internal investigation is ongoing to determine if the operation involves additional individuals or accomplices. (BI)

LOTILLA ASSUMES DENR POST

Secretary Raphael P.M. Lotilla formally assumed leadership of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) during a turnover ceremony on Monday, 16 June 2025, at the DENR Central Office in Visayas Avenue, Quezon City from Secretary Maria Antonia Yulo Loyzaga.

Secretary Lotilla brings with him a wealth of experience as a public servant, legal scholar, and energy policy expert. Prior to his appointment to DENR, he served two terms as Secretary of Energy under Presidents Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

His public service track record includes key leadership roles at the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), and the Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corporation (PSALM).

An academician at heart, Secretary Lotilla has been a profes-

sor at the UP College of Law since 1985 and served as Vice President for Public Affairs of the University of the Philippines from 1991 to 1996.

He is also widely recognized for his contributions to global discussions on clean energy, environmental governance, and sustainable marine and coastal development.

The DENR expects Secretary Lotilla's background in law, public policy, and sustainable development to strengthen the Department's ongoing efforts in environmental protection, climate resilience, and resource conservation.

Outgoing Secretary Loyzaga, who has led the DENR since 2022, is credited for steering science-based policy reforms and advancing climate resilience programs that benefited vulnerable communities across the country. (DENR)



LEARN BY PARADOX

BY: PASTOR PETER JOHN F. CO

THE LORD’S WORK AS THE RIGHTEOUS SATISFACTION

Romans 3:25-26

In ancient times, a subject cannot directly stand in the presence of the king without being summoned. To neglect this may instantly cost one their life. A sinner was even more at risk, for they did not have the favor of the king. Today, this is not so much in common, but the essence is still the same: no one can approach the king whenever they want to. And this is merely for a temporal, earthly king. How much more is expected when approaching the eternal, transcendent King of all kings?

In the Bible, since all are sinners, the way to be forgiven and remain in the favor of God was to be ceremonially clean. This was done by the High Priest who is the only one allowed to enter in the Holy of Holies, and only with the blood of a blameless animal to be poured as atonement for people’s sins, poured upon the ark of the covenant hidden behind the veil of holy of holies.

In contrast to the ark of the covenant hidden, God displayed Christ’s death publicly (v25), revealing the true mercy seat in the ark of the covenant–Jesus Christ. Jesus entered the holy of holies, not in a temple made by man but through the greater and more perfect tabernacle (Heb 9:11), poured His own precious blood–not the blood of animals–to atone for the sins of the people.

He is the Great High priest who fulfilled the demand of atonement to satisfy the wrath of God against His sinful nation. He showed His justice. He showed He is just. And since, no offering would sustain for all eternity, and that Man can never please God, Jesus, the God-Man offered Himself, thus justified His people (v26). Jesus Christ’s righteousness is the only one worthy to satisfy the requirement of God to be with Him forever. It is ours by God’s gracious gift to us, because Christ earned it for us.

Therefore, we can freely come before the God King not because we did great, or we have a righteousness of our own–because clearly there is none (Rom 3:10), but solely because of the work of Christ, who continues, even now, to stand and intercede for us before God.

QC GOV’T SHUTS DOWN 2 HOTELS OVER CHILD TRAFFICKING, EXPLOITATION; URGES PUBLIC TO REPORT CASES VIA HELPLINE 122

QUEZON CITY, (PIA) — The city government led by Mayor Joy Belmonte has ordered the closure of two hotels following separate operations that rescued 26 minors from trafficking and sexual exploitation, officials announced.

The Business Permits and Licensing Department (BPLD) issued a temporary closure order on Friday against Blazingwood Apartelle in Barangay San Agustin. The order cited a violation of the city’s revenue code, which allows the closure of businesses used for criminal activities.

The action followed an entrapment operation by the Philippine National Police Women and Children Protection Center – Luzon Field Unit (PNP WCPC-LFU) and the Quezon City Police District (QCPD), which resulted in the rescue of six minors. Authorities arrested two individuals for alleged violations of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act.

Earlier in the week, the BPLD also shut down MC Hotel after 20 minors were rescued from the establishment on June 18. The hotel was cited for violating the city’s liquor ordinance after some minors were found consuming alcohol on the premises.

Social workers reported that some of the rescued minors had been staying at the hotel for more than two weeks and were involved in sex work.

All 26 minors are now in the care of city facilities, including the Quezon City Processing Center and Bahay Kanlungan, as social workers attempt to contact their families.

Mayor Belmonte has ordered the BPLD, the Social Services Development Department (SSDD), and the QCPD to intensify inspections of motels, inns, and similar establishments.

The city government is also collaborating with barangay officials, police, and church organizations to strengthen monitoring and prevention efforts. Under City Ordinance SP-3413, S-2024, tourism-related businesses are mandated to report suspected child abuse or exploitation within 24 hours, require valid IDs from guests, and demand proof of relationship for any accompanying minors.

Residents are urged to report suspected cases of child trafficking and exploitation by calling the city’s Helpline 122 or messaging the official Facebook page of the Quezon City Government. (AVS/PIA-NCR)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
Las Piñas City

OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF COURT
AND EX-OFFICIO SHERIFF

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
Mortgagee

FORECLOSURE NO. F-25-046
EXTRA-JUDICIAL FORECLOSURE OF
REAL ESTATE MORTGAGE UNDER
ACT 3135, AS AMENDED BY ACT 4118

-versus-

ANDREA F. VICO MARRIED
TO ROMMEL M. VICO AND
JOHN ALDWIN F. MAGPANTAY
MARRIED TO LAYLA A. MAGPANTAY
Mortgagor/s.
x-----x

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon verified petition for sale under Act 3135, as amended by Act 4118, filed by the Mortgagee/s BDO UNIBANK, INC., with office/business/residence address at 33rd Floor BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, #12 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City, against the Mortgagor/s/Debtor/s ROMMEL M. VICO, SIGNING FOR HIMSELF AND AS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT OF ANDREA F. VICO AND JOHN ALDWIN F. MAGPANTAY, SIGNING FOR HIMSELF AND AS ATTORNEY-IN-FACT LAYLA A. MAGPANTAY, with residence/postal/office address at (1) Unit 0203-B B05 2BR Faily Suite B Bldg. 5 Field Residences, Las Piñas City (2) Mabilog na Bundok, Sitio Ilaya, Lobo, Batangas (3) Purok 7, Brgy. Quilib, Rosario, Batangas, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of April 21, 2025 amounts to Php3,538,240.91 including/excluding interests, penalties, charges, attorney’s fees and expenses incidental to this foreclosure and sale, the undersigned Clerk of Court and Ex-Officio Sheriff of the Regional Trial Court of Las Piñas City or any of the Deputy Sheriffs will sell at public auction on July 22, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. or soon thereafter at the ground floor (main entrance) of the Hall of Justice of Las Piñas City to the highest bidder, for CASH and in Philippine Currency, the following described real property/ies, together with all the improvements existing thereon to wit:

CONDOMINIUM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO. 005-2023000745

"FIELD RESIDENCES BUILDING 5"
BUILDING NO.: B05
FLOOR: 02
UNIT NO.: 0203-B
UNIT TYPE: 2 BR FAMILY SUITE B WITH BALCONY
UNIT AREA: 25.96 SQ.M.
BALCONY: 1.80 SQ.M.
TOTAL: 27.76 SQ.M.
LOCATED: CITY OF LAS PIÑAS, METRO MANILA, PHILIPPINES

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 date. It shall be held on August 12, 2025 without further notice.

Las Piñas City, this 2nd day of June 2025.

(Sgd.)
JEREEN NG P. GRACILLA –TINGCHUY
Clerk of Court VI
and Ex-Officio Sheriff

(Sgd.)
RIZALDY P. LONGAKIT
Deputy Sheriff

WARNING
Publication: SENTINEL POST NEWS PUBLISHING
Dates: June 10, 17 & 24, 2025

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THE SENTINEL POST
June 10, 17 and 24, 2025

BatStateU The NEU climbs in..... (From P.3)

and Computing Accreditation Commission (CAC).

With a QS Stars Rating of three stars, BatStateU has also earned global recognition for its commitment to sustainability, ranking as the 304th Most Sustainable University in the 2024 UI GreenMetric World University Rankings. Furthermore, it was also recognized as the 128th most innovative university globally in the prestigious World University Rankings for Innovation (WURI) 2024.

At the forefront of these efforts is the University’s Center for Sustainable Development (CSD), which serves as the central hub for advancing BatStateU’s sustainability agenda. Recognizing the urgent need for action in support of national and global sustainability goals, the CSD integrates sustainability across the University’s core functions—instruction, research, innovation, extension, and administrative services.

Through active collaboration with students, faculty, staff, and partner communities, the Center fosters a shared responsibility for building a sustainable future. As such, it is envisioned to evolve into a leading platform for transformative action and thought leadership in sustainable development, both locally and globally.

For the full rankings and methodology of THE Impact Rankings, detailed information can be accessed at the THE Website https://www.timeshighereducation.com/impactrankings#!/length/25/locations/PHL/sort_by/rank/sort_order/asc. (Batangas State University)

Republic of the Philippines
National Capital Judicial Region
Metropolitan Trial Court
Branch 16, Manila

4th Flr., Old NAWASA Bldg., 176 Gat. Antonio Villegas St., Manila
Tel. No. 8669-1314/Mobile No. 09562908529
E-mail: metclmn1016@judiciary.gov.ph

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR THE
SETTLEMENT OF THE INTESTATE ESTATE
OF MARCELO CRISOSTOMO NARCISO

SP. Case No. 25-02440-CV
For: Intestate Proceedings

FELICITACION MARCELO-CRISOSTOMO,
IN PRESENTATION OF THE ESTATE OF RUBEN
CRISOSTOMO, AS REPRESENTED BY
MARLYN CRISOSTOMO CHICO
x ----- x

ORDER

Acting on the verified Petition for Intestate Proceedings filed by the Petitioner Felicitation Marcelo-Crisostomo as represented by Marlyn Crisostomo Chico through their counsel and finding the same to be sufficient in form and substance, set this case for hearing on **May 30, 2025 at 10:00 in the morning** at which date, place and hour, the named heirs and any interested person may appear and show cause, if there be any reason why said petition should/should not be granted.

Let copies of this order be furnished the designated or other known heirs, devisees, legatees and executors of the testator pursuant to Sec. 4 Rule 76 of the Revised Rules of Court.

Likewise, let a copy of this order be published in a newspaper general circulation once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in compliance with Sec. 3, Rule 76 of the same rules at the expense of the petitioner.

Petitioner is likewise DIRECTED to proceed to the Office of the Clerk of Court, Metropolitan Trial Court (MeTC), Manila for calendar of rattle of newspaper for publication.

SO ORDERED.
Manila, 28 March 2025.

(Sgd.)
MINERVA M. ALEJANDRIA-BAUTISTA
Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

Atty. Jason R. Migriño (Counsel for the Petitioner)
-11B West Drive Street, Marikina Heights, Marikina City

Felicitation Marcelo-Crisostomo
Rep. By: Marlyn Crisostomo Chico (Petitioner)
-Blk. 2 Lot 12 St. Joseph Avenue, Pulang Lupa Dos,
Las Piñas City

Rita Crisostomo Bernardo
Angelito Crisostomo Bernardo
Aurelio Crisostomo Bernardo
-Phase 4 Blk. 61 Lot 21 Wellington Tres Cruces, Tanza, Cavite

Manuel Camua Crisostomo
-785 Sevilla Street, Binondo, Manila

OCC, Metropolitan Trial Court, Manila
7th floor Parkview Plaza Kalaw Street Corner Taft Avenue,
Manila

Republic of the Philippines
National Capital Judicial Region
Metropolitan Trial Court
Branch 16, Manila

401, 4th Flr., Parkview Plaza, Trida Bldg. (Masagana Bldg.)
984 Taft Ave. corner T.M. Kalaw St., Brgy. 660-A, Ermita, Manila
Tel. No. 8669-1314/Mobile No. 09562908529
E-mail: metclmn1016@judiciary.gov.ph

IN THE MATTER OF PETITION FOR THE
SETTLEMENT OF THE INTESTATE ESTATE
OF MARCELO CRISOSTOMO NARCISO,

Special Proceedings:
M-MNL-25-02440-CV
For: Intestate Proceedings

FELICITACION MARCELO-CRISOSTOMO,
IN PRESENTATION OF THE ESTATE OF RUBEN
CRISOSTOMO, AS REPRESENTED BY
MARLYN CRISOSTOMO CHICO
x ----- x

ORDER

For resolution of the Court is an "Urgent Motion to Reschedule Hearing (with issuance of Subsequent Notice of Hearing)" filed by the petitioners through counsel Atty. Jason R. Migriño.

In said Motion, Atty. Migriño, among others, alleges that petitioners failed to coordinate with the Office of the Clerk of Court of Manila for the schedule of raffle of the accredited newspaper for the publication of their Petition under the Order of the Court dated 28 March 2025, since petitioners are still raising funds needed for publication. Atty. Migrino further alleged that he had a prior commitment and could not appear at the scheduled hearing on 30 May 2025 at 8:30 in the morning.

ACCORDINGLY, the instant Motion is hereby GRANTED. Let the hearing of this case be reset to **27 June 2025 at 8:30 in the morning**.

Send notices to the petitioners and their counsel.

SO ORDERED.
Manila, 16 May 2025.

(Sgd.)
MINERVA M. ALEJANDRIA-BAUTISTA
Presiding Judge

Copy furnished:

Atty. Jason R. Migriño (Counsel for the Petitioner) - 11B West Drive Street, Marikina Heights, Marikina City

Marlyn Crisostomo Chico (Petitioner) - Blk. 2 Lot 12 St. Joseph Avenue, Pulang Lupa Dos, Las Piñas City

THE SENTINEL POST
June 17, 24 and July 1, 2025

SAFETY AND SECURITY AT NIGHT FOR KIDS

There is an ambitious move to reshape public perception of safety.

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. is spearheading an initiative aimed at encouraging families to feel secure about their children being outdoors at night.

The President stated that he is committed to creating a safe environment where parents can confidently allow their children to roam after dark, thereby fundamentally challenging long-held fears regarding nighttime safety in the Philippines.

For many communities, the idea of children walking to local shops or playing outside after sunset has been overshadowed by concerns over crime and safety. But keeping the streets secured would change the people’s mindset.

“Being safe is not enough; people must feel safe,” the President said, making a distinction between objective security and the public’s perception of it.

To address this challenge, the President has tasked the Philippine National Police (PNP) with the responsibility of reinforcing safety measures and restoring public trust.

“People should feel comfortable walking in their neighborhoods at night,” he emphasized, underscoring the importance of creating an environment where parents can send their children to the nearby sari-sari store without worry.

In a push directed by Marcos, PNP Chief P/Gen. Nicolas Torre III has initiated strategies aimed at in-

creasing police visibility and responsiveness.

Officers previously stationed in fixed police boxes are now patrolling more actively. They are better positioned to respond swiftly to emergency calls via the 911 hotline, which the President believes is crucial to regaining public confidence in law enforcement.

During a recent demonstration, President Marcos observed police officers responding to emergency calls within three to five minutes. This significant improvement is not just about statistics; it’s about changing how the community feels.

“People are starting to feel the difference,” he noted, acknowledging the progress the PNP has made under Torre’s leadership. The President’s vision is clear: for law enforcement to be effective, the community must believe in its ability to protect them.

The President’s approach reflects a deep understanding that safety transcends numbers; it requires a collective feeling of security that can only be fostered through trust and accessibility.

This commitment to the cause could lead to a transformative shift in the way people view night-



time safety in the Philippines. By creating a safer atmosphere, he hopes to cultivate a culture in which children and families can explore their surroundings without fear.

The initiative represents a crucial step toward a future where the streets are not just safe but also feel welcoming and secure—allowing families to reclaim the joy and freedom of life after dark.

In the quest for safety, President Marcos is leading a movement that shows that feeling safe is just as vital as being secure, setting the stage for a brighter, more confident future for the nation’s children and their families. (PIA)

TSP SHOWBIZ ROUND-UP

CARDONG TRUMPO
PGT GRAND WINNER



Images courtesy of X: pgtabscbn, absbn

LEON BARRETTO
THANKFUL FOR HIS NANNY WHO STAYED
WITH THEM FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS

theleonbarretto had to say goodbye to my yaya of 22 years. truly heartbreaking but happy knowing you finally get to rest and enjoy life back in cebu. you have sacrificed so much for our family, especially for me, from the moment you chose to take care of me.

you've been there through every phase of my life. from kinder all the way to me finishing college. would you believe that there was a time i was smaller than you 😊 you've guided me on the right path and taught me so many things, including how to speak tagalog to the point you reviewed me almost every night for my filipino subjects 😊

thank you for being so patient with me manang. i'm sorry for being such a kulit and pasaway kid growing up 😊 but because of your discipline towards me, i have become a better person. i'll never forget the times you picked me up from school, carried me on your back from my room to the living room just so i could wake up and eat, and most of all, for never leaving mom, helping her take care of us, protect us, and love us like your own.

love you so much manang. enjoy your well-deserved retirement.
❤️ less

marjbarretto i would not have survived all those years without Manang Ninay. We love you!!!!❤️



Images courtesy of Instagram: theleonbarretto

GABBI GARCIA
THANKFUL BUT ALSO SAD AS PBB COLLAB
HOSTING ENDS



Gabbi Garcia ♥
@gabbi

3am thoughts; iniisip ko palang na matatapos na yung PBB season na 'to, nasasad na ko 😊 Hosting this show became such a core memory. 'Di lang siya trabaho, it's a journey that gave me growth, purpose, and so much heart. Sana magkaroon pa ng chance to host another season, kasi grabe na yung attachment at pagmamahal ko sa show na 'to 😊❤️ thank you din sa pbb fans sa pag tanggap sakin ❤️



Images courtesy of X: gabbi



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CROSSWORD PUZZLE

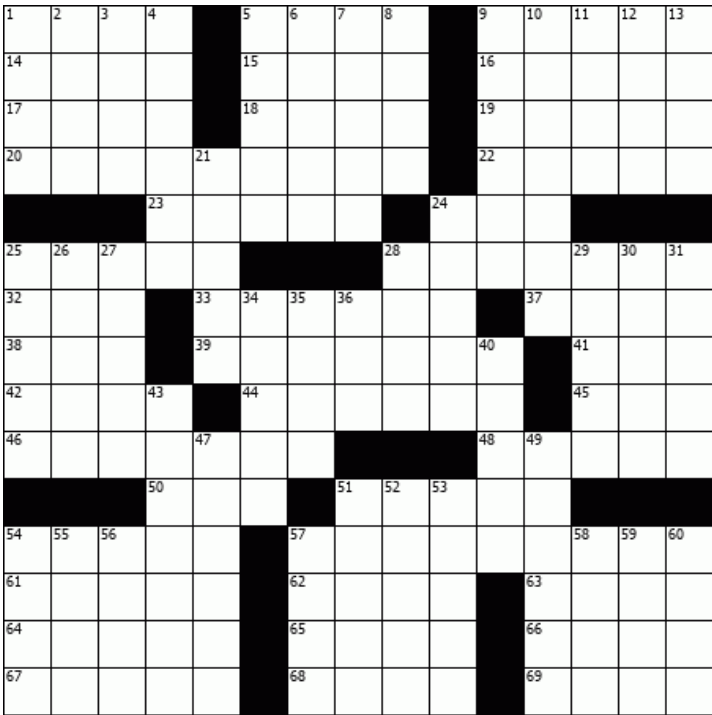
Across

- Bad actors
- Short skirt
- Commence
- Urgent abbr.
- Summer drinks
- Golfer ____ Woods
- Actress ____ Hayworth
- Astronaut ____ Armstrong
- Sports site
- Support for an institution
- Flavorful
- Hit show
- Child
- Trio number
- Fast auto (2 wds.)
- Beam of light
- Less far
- Go it alone
- Antique
- Symposium
- Zero
- Bullring cheers
- Far off
- High card
- Relate

Down

- Angelic instrument
- Largest continent
- Damon or Dillon
- Scanty
- Heavenly food
- Thoughts
- Horse sound
- Man or Wight
- Radio noise
- Ranting speeches
- Ripens
- Housing expense
- Platter
- Prophetic signs
- Gold measure
- Scout unit
- Oscar winner ____ Berry
- Actress Winona ____
- Nevada city
- TV Host ____ O'Brien
- Wonderland girl
- Parts
- Scary

- Rice and Frank
- Have being
- Long gun
- Tennis, e.g.
- Ambulance worker
- Large spoon
- Face shape
- Hill of sand
- Command
- Court dividers
- Give temporarily
- Grouchy
- Merriment
- If not



LAST WEEK'S ANSWER:

R	A	S	P		O	R	A	L		A	M	I	G	O
O	B	O	E		F	A	T	E		R	O	M	A	N
S	E	L	E	C	T	I	O	N		R	E	A	M	S
S	T	I	L	L		S	P	O	R	E		G	E	E
		T	E	A	S	E			A	S	S	E	R	T
S	P	A	R	S	E		T	E	N	T	H			
A	L	I		P	A	L	E	R		S	E	N	S	E
W	O	R	D		T	U	L	I	P		D	E	N	Y
S	T	E	A	M		G	L	E	A	M		V	I	E
			N	A	M	E	S		T	E	N	E	T	S
S	E	N	A	T	E			C	H	A	I	R		
N	E	O		A	L	O	H	A		T	A	M	E	D
A	R	M	E	D		P	E	R	I	S	C	O	P	E
P	I	A	N	O		T	R	O	D		I	R	I	S
S	E	D	E	R		S	O	L	O		N	E	C	K

SUDOKU

TODAY'S PUZZLE:

			1					
5	6	3		4	2	1		
7	2		3	8				
1	5	4			3		8	7
	3	7		9		5	1	
6	8		5			2	4	3
				7	1		2	4
		2	9	6		3	5	1
					5			

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER:

5	3	7	8	1	2	6	4	9
4	1	6	7	9	3	2	5	8
8	2	9	4	5	6	1	3	7
1	7	5	9	6	4	8	2	3
3	6	4	2	7	8	5	9	1
2	9	8	5	3	1	4	7	6
6	5	1	3	2	7	9	8	4
9	4	3	1	8	5	7	6	2
7	8	2	6	4	9	3	1	5

HOOPS REPUBLIC

Fierce battle seen at JPGT Del Monte girls' premier category



HOMEGROWN TALENT. Zero Plete is among the title contenders in the premier girls' 15-18 category of the ICTSI Del Monte Junior PGT Championship set to unfold at Del Monte Golf Club in Bukidnon on June 25, 2025. The tournament features the country's most promising junior golfers.

MANILA – Homegrown talents Zero Plete and Crista Miñoza prepare for a strong challenge against Precious Zaragosa of Davao in the premier girls' 15-18 category of the ICTSI Del Monte Junior PGT Championship starting Wednesday at Del Monte Golf Club in Bukidnon.

Plete and Miñoza will take advantage of their familiarity with the course, while Zaragosa is eager to shine in the premier division after ruling the younger category last year.

Kenley Yu and Venice Guillermo of Cagayan de Oro (CDO) and Santinna Patosa of Davao are also hoping to perform well in the 54-hole competition kicking off the four-leg Mindanao swing of the ICTSI Junior PGT Visayas-Mindanao Series.

In the boys' 15-18 category, Mac-tan leg champion Alexis Nailga of Bukidnon aims to sustain his winning form against a tough field comprising Bacolod's Santi Asuncion, Cebuanos Nyito and Roman Tiongko, and Davao's Vince Naranjo, Zamboanga's Mhark Fernando III, CDO's Armand Copok, Santino Lim, Seth Santos, Cliff Nuñez, and Bukidnon's Clement Ordeneza, last year's match play winner.

In the 36-hole 11-14 category, fighting for the boys' title are South Cotabato's Jared and Laurence Saban, Davao's Nicolas Bernardo, and CDO's Ken Guillermo, Franco Lim and Kian Umpar, and Bukidnon's

Mikhail Namocatcat, James Langan and Miko Woo.

South Cotabato's Brittany Tamayo, eyeing back-to-back titles after her victory in Mactan, Cebu, will be up against locals Angel Wahing and Yvonne Colim, CDO's Margaux Espina and Sasha Edwards, and Davao's Kimberly Baroquillo and Ayla Pavadora in the girls' division.

In the girls' 7-10 category, Jilliane Namocatcat, Maegan Langamin and Ashia Frayco will try to defend home turf against CDO's Francesca Geroy and Sistine Yu, Davao's Soleil Molde, and Koronadal's Arianna Garcia.

Mactan leg winner Ethan Lago of Davao will be challenged by Bukidnon's Simon Apilat, CDO's James Rolida, Shaqeeq Tanog, Zian Umpar, and Hamish Barnes, Cebu's Charles Tan, Darren Ong, and Tobias Tiongko, and Davao's Lucas Revilla and Luke Habagat in the boys' division.

The JPGT Vis-Min swing is part of the seven-leg regional circuit, with the players' best three results in their age group (7-10, 11-14, 15-18) determining the final rankings. The top four in each division from both Vis-Min and Luzon series will advance to the ICTSI North vs South Elite Junior Finals on Sept. 30 to Oct. 3 at The Country Club in Laguna.

Meanwhile, the three-day Luzon series will resume with the fifth leg at Riviera Golf and Country Club in Silang, Cavite on July 29. (PNA)



TSP

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THE SENTINEL POST

24 - 30 JUNE 2025

PH sends 11 to Thailand Open trackfest

MANILA – The Philippines is sending 11 athletes to the Thailand Open Track and Field Championships in Pathum Thani province on June 22 to 25.

Clinton Bautista (110m hurdles, 4x100m), Anfernee Lopena (100m, 4x100m), Pi Wangkay (100m, 4x100m), Kent Jardin (long jump, 100m, 4x100m), Ronne Malipay (triple jump, 4x100m), Harry Diones (triple jump), Carlos De Imus (10km race walk), Junel Gabotia (3000m steeplechase), Joida Gagnao (3000m steeplechase), Ana Espenilla (javelin throw) and Evalyn Palabrica (javelin throw) will be accompanied by coaches Jeoffrey Chua, George Posadas and Danilo Fresnido.

De Imus dominated the men's 10km race walk in the Philippine Open at the New Clark City Athletic Stadium in Capas, Tarlac last month.

The 24-year-old Armyman clocked 46 minutes and 11.11 seconds to improve the 48:21.93 he registered in the 2024 Philippine Open



THAILAND-BOUND. Carlos De Imus of the Philippine Army will compete in the Thailand Open track and field on June 22 to 25, 2025. (PNA photo by Jean Malanum)

at PhilSports Arena in Pasig City.

The sports management graduate of University of Santo Tomas made the national team after setting a national record of 1:30.03 in the 20km race at Asian Race Walking Championships in Nomi, Japan on March 16.

The Thailand Open is part of the national team's preparation for the Southeast Asian Games in Thailand in December. (PNA)

Gilas revs up for FIBA Asia Cup; Brownlee expected in full strength

MANILA – Gilas Pilipinas will commence buildup for the FIBA Asia Cup 2025 later this month, with naturalized ace Justin Brownlee expected to return in full health following a thumb injury that sidelined him earlier this year.

Coach Tim Cone confirmed the national team will kick off weekly practices, starting June 30, before moving into a full training camp in Clark, Pampanga in preparation for the continental showdown slated Aug. 5 to 17 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

A friendly match against the Macau Black Bears is also lined up for late July, which Cone described as a potential "send-off" for fans before the team flies to the tournament.

But the veteran coach made it clear: Practice comes first.

"In my mind, right now, the friendlies are less important than playing games," Cone said in an interview on sportscaster Noli Eala's "Power and Play" radio program Saturday.

"We really need the practice time together... I'm really looking to sink our teeth into practice, get our system going a little bit more again."

Brownlee is ready to return to action af-

ter recovering from a thumb injury he sustained in the PBA Commissioner's Cup Finals in March. TNT beat Ginebra in seven games.

"Well, Justin's fine. We're hoping that he'll be here by June 30, which is our first Monday practice," Cone said. "His thumb is fine. He's ready to go 100 percent, so no worry about that right now."

Gilas Pilipinas has been drawn into a tough group alongside Chinese Taipei, New Zealand and Iraq in

the group phase of the 2025 FIBA Asia Cup.

READ: Gilas to open FIBA Asia Cup campaign vs. Chinese Taipei

The Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas is also in close coordination with international association FIBA amid security concerns over tensions involving Saudi Arabia's regional neighbors, Israel and Iran.

"We're wondering if this will all push through, or if the venues will change," Cone said. (PNA)

PH envoys: Contingency plans..... (From P.1)

manning agency tungkol dito (we have already called the licensed manning agency about this)," Cacdac said.

"I won't give any more details than that for security purposes kasi 'yung mga nakadaong doon (because those docked there) are also vulnerable security-wise, as you know," he added.

All Filipinos in the affected areas are encouraged to reach out to embassy hotlines for assistance.

The Philippine rmbassy urged Filipinos in Iran to contact the embassy for any security-related incidents, information, and requests for assistance through the Assistance to Nationals (ATN) hotline: +989122136801; email: tehran.pe@dfa.gov.ph; Facebook: PHiniran; and Instagram: /phliniran

The 1348 DMW-Overseas Workers Welfare Administration hotline also remains open for families seeking updates on their relatives.

"We are reacting swiftly, but more importantly, we are anticipating scenarios," Santos said.

"Our duty is to ensure the safety and well-being of our kababayans (nationals) amid these fast-moving developments, and we are prepared to act accordingly," he added. (PNA)



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Email Address: tspnewspublishing@gmail.com

Website: <https://thesentinelpost.net>

STAFF BOX

PUBLISHER: SARAH JEANE C. ANTOLIN

CHIEF EDITOR: ELIEZER J. ANTOLIN

LAYOUT ARTIST: CONNIE LYNN C. ERIVE

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