



SBMA bares record-breaking 2018 corporate performance

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT — With a seven-year high investment figure of P29.6 billion, the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) on Wednesday announced a record-breaking corporate performance last year in the Subic Bay Freeport Zone.

SBMA Chairman and Administrator Wilma T. Eisma declared in her State of the Freeport Address (SOFA) on Wednesday that the agency hit the highest level of annual committed investment in the last seven years with P29.6 billion in 2018, or an increase of 1,066% over the P2.5 billion generated in 2017.

She said the SBMA also posted record-breaking outputs in the 26-year history of the agency: the highest revenue ever at P3.45 billion; the highest net income at P1.45 billion; and the biggest EBITDA, or earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization, at P1.84 billion.

The revenue level in 2018 represented a 12% increase over the P3.08 billion in 2017; the net income a 60% surge from P907.9 million in 2017, and also the first time to breach the P1-billion mark; and for EBITDA, an 18.98% growth over the P1.55 billion in 2017.

Eisma also pointed out that the growth in expansion projects in Subic, which exponentially jumped from P926.6 million in 2017 to P25.05 billion in 2018 for an overwhelming year-on-year increase of 2,603%, was the more telling sign of investor confidence on Subic.

"This means that (investors) who are already here in Subic remain to be see SBMA bares, page 02



SBMA Chairman and Administrator Wilma T. Eisma reports on the record-breaking 2018 performance of the Subic Bay Freeport Zone during her State of the Freeport Address on Wednesday, March 6.

Subic prepares to host 17 SEAG events



Subic's Remy Field, shown here as a transition area during the 2018 Full Ironman, will be the centerpiece of Subic's development as a SEA Games venue.

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT — The Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) will soon start preparing facilities and other infrastructure needed to host a total of 17 events in the forthcoming 30th Southeast Asian Games (SEAG) that the Philippines will host from November 30 until December 11, 2019.

SBMA Senior Deputy Administrator for Support Services Ramon Agregado said the SBMA expects to start project construction in the first week of March to upgrade existing facilities here and turn them into world-class sports accommodations.

"The centerpiece of Subic's infrastructure development project for the 2019 SEA Games will be the Remy Field. Its present six-lane track will be turned into a nine-lane oval complemented by three practice lanes, as well as shower rooms, dressing rooms and a new, bigger grand stand," Agregado said.

He added that three other sports

venues are scheduled for rehabilitation, as well: Subic Gymnasium, SBMA Tennis Court, and Subic Bay Exhibition and Convention Center.

"In the meantime that these facilities will be undergoing rehabilitation, they will be temporarily closed to the public," the SBMA officials said.

For Subic's SEA Games preparation, Agregado said the national government has set aside P170 million, although the SBMA was expecting twice that amount for all the required development.

Lately the national government has cut the SEA Games budget from P7.5 billion to P5 billion, but Agregado said that the SBMA is "still hoping the budget for Subic will be increased."

The SEA Games committee has initially assigned 17 events to the Subic Bay Freeport: duathlon, triathlon, pencak silat, sepak takraw, chess, table tennis,

see 17 SEAG, page 02

ZOOBIC NIGHT SAFARI "Experience the Safari at Night"

Imagine the wildlife at night. The excitement and enchantment from big cats to flying bats, and other animals in their natural habitat as the evening falls. Zoobic Safari brings back the much awaited "Night Safari", packed with more thrill and excitement. Awaken your curious side and see all the exotic yet captivating animals in real life. You can also walk together with the greyhound dogs and step into a twilight sanctuary in the Enchanting Forest with Greyhound Walk.

Gear up your nocturnal senses and prepare for a series of roaring nights of fun in visiting Zoobic Safari's classic attractions, Serpenterium; a wild encounter with snakes, lizards and iguanas, Zoobic Park, a walk-through petting zoo, Tiger Safari, an enclosed safari jeep ride that will take you to the tigers' natural habitat, Croco Loco, a crocodile lair where you will have a chance to feed and watch them.

Take a ride on the wild side as you tour around the vicinity of the zoo in a bright and colorful tram. Get a glimpse of these interesting animals full of energy and go gaga for it is already their playtime. Enjoy a different and bolder show specially prepared for the night's entertainment; expect an explosive presentation that will surely growl your mind away.



DOH Chief lauds Gordon, PRC'S Assistance

Health Secretary Francisco T. Duque III commended Senator Richard J. Gordon and the Philippine Red Cross, which Gordon heads, for aiding the Department of Health, especially in responding to the measles outbreak does is currently affecting Metro Manila and some parts of Luzon and the Visayas.

"Nagpapasalamat po ako kay Sen. Gordon – ang laki-laki ng kanyang tulong. Sa totoo lang po, mga isang libong pasyente po ang napangasiwaan, napagaling sa tulong po ng Philippine Red Cross sa atin pong mga ospital – sa San Lazaro, sa Amang Rodriguez Medical Center, sa atin pong iba pong mga pagamutan. Si Sen. Gordon po ay isa sa pinakamalakas na taga-suporta ng ating Department of Health. At siya ang taga-pangulo ng napakahusay at napaka-epektibo na Philippine Red Cross," Duque said during the kick off of the Philippine Red Cross' mass vaccination program in Olongapo on Tuesday.

The health chief disclosed that aside from setting up air-conditioned emergency medical units to augment the wards of some overcrowded hospitals, the Philippine Red Cross have also aided the DOH in ensuring that its vaccination program covers more areas in the country.

"At lingid sa kaalaman ninyo, meron na pong mga pitong libo na nabakunahan sa pamamagitan ng mga Philippine Red Cross volunteers. Sa San Lazaro, sa Kalinga, sa Marikina, sa Rizal, sa Cebu City, sa Lapu-lapu City, sa Talisay, sa Baguio ay ang laki na po ng tulong ng Philippine Red Cross para mapalawig ang ating bakunahan at marami pang ibang naitutulong ang Philippine Red Cross. Wag po nating kalimutan Back-to-Bakuna sa Lahat Bakuna. Ito po ay nakakasalba ng buhay," he said.

For his part, Gordon disclosed that aside from the areas where the PRC has already launched a measles mass vaccination program, they are also set on launching similar program in other regions in Luzon, starting with Bulacan, Pangasinan and Pampanga, as he expressed alarm that in less than two months, the number of measles cases recorded have surpassed more than half of the total number of cases recorded for the whole year last year.

SBMA bares.....from page 01

committed, and trust that good things will happen again this year," she told members of the Subic Bay Freeport Chamber of Commerce, which is hosting the annual SOFA presentation.

The biggest fresh infusions last year were for a five-star hotel, industrial parks, warehouses, and a golf course and retirement community, she said.

As a portent of continuing favorable business climate in the Subic Bay Freeport, the SBMA also drew a strong import and export performance in 2018, signifying Subic's progressive role as an engine of growth.

Eisma said that Subic's import value increased by 3.6% from P1.77 billion in 2017 to P1.84 billion in 2018, while export value rose by 8.2% from P2.3 billion to P2.5 billion.

Meanwhile, total debt decreased by 1.7% from P6.2 billion to P6.1 billion due to the volatile exchange rate in 2018.

Subic made another record-breaking performance in port operations when it handled 212,103 TEUs in containerized cargo volume and 7,052 metric tons of bulk and non-containerized cargo in 2018. Subic seaport's robust growth last year, which was up 50% from the 2017 level, brought in total revenue of P1.23 billion.

The local tourism industry, on the other hand, continued with its impressive performance with an 8.2% increase in walk-in visitor arrivals from 8.5 million to 9.2 million, and a 2.2% rise in overnight tourist arrivals from 1.68 million to P1.72 million. The tourist arrivals also increased hotel occupancy to 68.46%.

Eisma added that the 19 cruise ship arrivals in 2018—compared to a single arrival in 2017—ignited a whole new tourism niche for Subic, which also made a huge P129-million economic impact in the Central Luzon region.

With the continuous growth in Subic, SBMA's contributions to the national treasury in the form of tax collections, customs duties, and government dividends also went up by 27% from P19.9 billion in 2017 to P25.3 billion in 2018, Eisma also said during the SOFA.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Notice is hereby given to the public that an **EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE OF DECEASED PERSON WITH DEED OF RENUNCIATION-AND QUITCLAIM** was made and executed by the lawful heirs and successors of the deceased **RUBEN SANTIAGO, SR. and NATIVIDAD L. SANTIAGO**, who died intestate on **OCTOBER 10 and AUGUST 24, 2001 RESPECTIVELY** in San Fernando City, Pampanga, Philippines as per Doc no 46, Page No. 11 Book No X Series of 2019 in the notarial registry of Atty. Juanito C. Atienza.

All interested parties, creditors, and persons having money claims against the decedent are hereby required to file their claims with the court appointed executor of their estate.



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Subic Freeport firm builds PH coastal defense boats

By Malou Dungog



A high-speed tactical watercraft being produced by Safehull Marine Technologies Inc. inside a warehouse at the Subic's Global Industrial Park. (Photo by Malou Dungog)

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT -- A Filipino-owned boat building company based in this Freeport is now producing high-speed patrol boats to boost the Philippine military's littoral combat force.

Wilma Eisma, chairperson and administrator of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), said on Friday that Safehull Marine Technologies, Inc., which occupies a factory and warehouse at Subic's Global Industrial Park, has delivered 21 high-speed tactical watercraft (HSTW) for deployment by the Philippine National Police (PNP) in Mindanao this year.

"These are sleek, good-looking boats that you would mistake for pleasure yachts, but they're really fast and stable and could be mounted with guns for tactical missions," Eisma said.

"It makes us proud that these vessels are made in Subic, and that they are a product of a Filipino company," she said.

The 40-foot long HSTWs were commissioned by the PNP for patrolling the country's exclusive economic zone, law enforcement and peace and order, as well as

for humanitarian assistance and disaster response.

Each equipped with three Honda outboard motors, the fiberglass-hulled boats can reach a top speed of 45 knots and are intended to operate approximately 200 miles from shore under slight to moderate sea conditions.

Safehull company officials said they were able to make a breakthrough in production after perfecting the vacuum infusion process, which shortened the period of hull construction from three weeks to one day.

Safehull Marine, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Manila-based Propmech Corporation, is engaged in the fabrication of ship and its components, ship repair, and engineering services for design and installation of parts and modules.

Thirty percent of the boats built here in Subic are for clients in the defense industry, including the United States military.

The boats are designed, assembled and outfitted in Subic by Safehull and Propmech by means of local naval architects and workers, and in partnership with foreign technology companies like the Damen Group of Netherlands, Saab Group of Sweden, Taiwan's Lung Teh Shipbuilding Co., and Israel's Rafael Advanced Defense System

The Propmech and Safehull joint venture has also built three multi-purpose attack craft (MPAC) that were delivered to the Philippine Navy in 2009, 2012 and 2017; a 15-meter landing craft vehicle personnel (LCVP) for the Philippine Navy; as well as 136 units of 50-horsepower rubber boats for the PNP.

This year, it is scheduled to build another unit of MPAC that the Philippine Navy is outfitting with short-range surface-to-surface missile.

Aside from the defense projects, Safehull and Propmech also build 21-meter passenger/cargo boats; multi-purpose patrol boats for the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources; and aluminum rescue boats for the Philippine Coast Guard. (PNA)

600-MW thermal power plant to rise in Bataan

BALANGA CITY, Bataan -- A 600-megawatt (MW) thermal power plant will be put up here to meet Bataan province's increasing power demand, Governor Albert Garcia said the project will be under a public-private partnership with Hanjo Group Manufacturing, Inc. of Seoul, Korea.

"Aside from job creation and development it will give Bataan, the thermal power plant is a clean source of energy. As demand for energy increases, it is good to know that our partners think clean and green," the governor said during the signing of a memorandum of agreement (MOU) between the Korean firm and the provincial government of Bataan on Thursday.

The project reportedly has an investment of about USD1 billion and would employ 10,000 workers during the construction phase.

Garcia said there is no specific date on the start of the construction of the thermal power plant.

"We are expediting the process so that the thermal power plant will be built immediately. Likewise, there is no specific site on where it will be put. It is still under study," the governor said.

plant to rise in Bataan

When asked if they will bring in Korean workers, Kibum Kim, one of the investors, said, "No, no, I don't think so. We will get workers here. Filipino workers are very good in technical side."

Garcia thanked the Koreans and Japanese partner, Chris Takayama, Hanjo chief finance officer, for selecting Bataan.

"Hope this will be the start of something big for Bataan," the governor said.

Hak Joo Choi, Hanjo chief operating officer, was all praise for the province.

"Bataan is a real gold in Central Luzon," he said through an interpreter.

He spelled the importance of the project.

"This is in response to the increasing demand for electricity in the next five years and to expand the capacity of the Philippine Energy," he added.

The planned thermal power plant will be in addition to coal power plants already operational and some still under construction in Limay and Mariveles towns. (PNA)

Cleanergy facility in Benguet reaches 1m safe man hours

The 19-MW La Trinidad Hydro power plant, under construction by AboitizPower, has recently reached one million safe man hours without lost time incident since it broke ground in 2017.

The facility, set to be completed in 2019, is part of AboitizPower's Cleanergy portfolio, its renewable energy brand which also includes geothermal and solar energy sources. This new project reinforces that AboitizPower, together with its partners, is the country's largest producer of renewable energy from the private sector.

Renato Calderon, Officer-in-Charge of Whessoe Philippines Construction, Inc., one of Hedcor's partners for the project, said that safety has been at the forefront of their operations since day one.

"AboitizPower is very particular with the safety of our workers for the construction of the hydropower plant. Thus, we ensure that all our workers are given the necessary education on safety prior to deployment," Calderon said. He also



SAFETY FIRST. Every day, construction workers of La Trinidad Hydro in Benguet begin their operations with a reminder on the use of personal protective equipment alongside task briefing and risk assessment. More than striving for the successful completion of the project, AboitizPower and its partners seek to ensure their workers' safety at

shared that they conduct Daily Safe Task Instruction (DSTI), which includes a discussion on the area condition, task briefing, and risk assessment, as well as reminders on the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

Chris Sangster, AboitizPower Executive Director for Project Development and Execution, said that this safety milestone is a collaborative effort between AboitizPower and its partners, Whessoe and Alangdeo General Construction.

"This, for us, is certainly a time to celebrate and to congratulate everybody for such a milestone of a million safe man hours. It certainly is a team effort to get to

this point. You don't get here by chance. It takes a lot of planning, control, and discipline," Sangster said.

Apart from ensuring the safety of workers, AboitizPower and its subsidiary Hedcor have also been giving back to the host communities for their support for the project.

To date, over Php 2 million worth of corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives were implemented in the municipality of La Trinidad. Moreover, the hydropower plant project has spurred employment in the host communities. Once completed, La Trinidad Hydro is expected to create more economic opportunities in Benguet.

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muay thai, karatedo, vovinam, obstacle sports, modern-date pentathlon, beach volleyball, beach handball, weightlifting, and all water sports: sailing, wind surfing, and traditional boat race.

"We will be hosting 17 events, and we are lucky because we will have a lot of medal events like triathlon and weightlifting, as well as spectator-friendly sports, so Subic's hosting will really be exciting" Agregado said.

He noted that the Philippines won two gold and two silver medals in triathlon for both men and women divisions in the 2017 SEA Games held in Malaysia, while Filipina weightlifter Hidilyn Diaz snatched a gold medal in the 2018 Asian Games and took home silver from the

2016 Summer Olympics in Rio De Janeiro.

"After hosting this year's SEA Games, our next target will be the ASEAN Games. We will try to level up," Agregado also said.

The Philippines will be hosting the Sea Games after it hosted the biennial multi-sports event 14 years ago. Subic also hosted several events when the Philippines last hosted the SEAG in 2005.

For the 2019 SEA Games, Subic, along with New Clark City, Metro Manila, and the Batangas, La Union and Tagaytay cluster, will be the venue for some 56 sports and 523 events to be held in the country in a span of 12 days.

Kontrata sa pagtatayo ng PNR Clark Phase 2, isusubasta na



Inilahad ni Transportation Undersecretary Timothy John Batan na naglabas na ng imbitasyon ang ahensya para sa mga nais maghain ng panukalang kontrata sa isusubastang Philippine National Railways o PNR Clark Phase 2. Binubuo ito ng tatlong contract packages na magtatayo ng railway viaduct na may habang 53 kilometrong mula sa Malolos hanggang Clark International Airport. (Shane F. Velasco/PIA 3 File Photo)

LUNGSOD NG MALOLOS -- Naglabas na ng imbitasyon ang Department of Transportation o DOTr para sa mga nais maghain ng panukalang kontrata sa isusubastang Philippine National Railways o PNR Clark Phase 2.

Ayon kay DOTr Undersecretary Timothy John Batan, binubuo ito ng tatlong contract packages na magtatayo ng railway viaduct na may habang 53 kilometrong mula sa Malolos hanggang Clark International Airport o CRK.

Inaprubahan ng National Economic and Development Authority Board ang PNR Clark Phase 2 bilang kaula-unahang airport-railway link o riles na nakadirekto mismo sa isang paliparan sa Pilipinas.

May kabuuang P628 bilyon ang proyekto na target matapos at maging operational sa Setyembre 2022. Kaya nitong magbiyahe ng 550,000 pasahero araw-araw.

Magkakaroon ito ng mga istasyon sa Malolos, Calumpit, Apalit, San Fernando, Angeles at CRK.

Ayon sa inilabas na terms of ref-

erence ng DOTr, dadaan sa ilalim ng lupa o magiging underground train ang bahagi nito pagdating sa CRK.

Base sa tala ng Department of Finance, may halagang P488 bilyon ang gagamitin para sa proyekto na pagtutulungan ng Asian Development Bank o ADB at Japan International Cooperation Agency o JICA.

Sasagutin ng ADB ang halagang P286 bilyon upang maitayo ang mga pangunahing istraktura mula sa railway viaducts, tulay at mga istasyon nito habang popondohan ng JICA sa halagang P201 bilyon ang para sa pag-assemble ng mga tren at ang electromechanical nito.

Bukod dito, may P140 bilyon na sariling pondo ang inilaan ng pamahalaan ng Pilipinas para sa PNR Clark Phase 2.

Samantala, sinisimulan na ang konstruksiyon ng 38 kilometrong Phase 1 mula Tutuban sa Maynila hanggang Malolos. Nagkakahalaga naman ang proyekto ng 149 bilyong piso kung saan 93 bilyong piso ay mula sa JICA. (PIA 3)

1,000 kalahok natapos ang Bataan Freedom Trail 2019



May 1,000 na kalahok ang nakatapos sa Bataan Freedom Trail 2019 na bahagi ng paggunita sa ika-77 anibersaryo ng Death March. Kabilang sa mga nakatapos sa Freedom Trail ang mga reservists gayundin ang mga kasundaluan mula sa Army Special Forces, 1st Scout Ranger Regiment, Air Force Special Operations Wing, Marine Battalion, Training and Doctrine Command at United States Navy Seal. (Cherie Joyce V. Flores/PIA 3)

Ayon kay Philippine Veterans Bank o PVB Chairperson Roberto De Ocampo, layunin ng aktibidad na maikintal ang halaga, katapangan, sakripisyo at pagmamahal sa bayan sa pamamagitan ng pagtunton sa aktwal na 140 kilometrong ruta ng Death March sa mga probinsya ng Bataan, Pampanga at Tarlac.

Giit niya, ang mga hamon na hinarap ng mga nagmartsa ay isang pag-alaala, pagkilala at pagpaparangal sa katapangan at sakripisyo ng mga beterano noong Ikalawang Digmaang Pandaigdig.

Binigyang-diin din ni De Ocampo na ang makasaysayang pagmartsa ay sumasalamin sa lahat ng pagtitis ng mga beterano para sa kasarinlan ng Pilipinas.

Bukod dito, pinagtibay din nito ang relasyon ng mga sundalong Amerikano at Pilipino bilang mga "blood-brothers."

Samantala, ipinahayag ni De Ocampo na patuloy na pangungunahan ng PVB ang pagkilala sa mga beterano at gagawin ang lahat para hindi sila makalimutan.

Aniya, bukod sa pagtulong sa mga beterano ay itataguyod din ng PVB ang kanilang kagitingan sa pamamagitan ng mga larawan at souvenir sa "History Wall" sa lahat ng sangay ng PVB.

Kabilang sa mga nakatapos sa Freedom Trail ang mga reservists gayundin ang mga kasundaluan mula sa Army Special Forces, 1st Scout Ranger Regiment, Air Force Special Operations Wing, Marine Battalion, Training and Doctrine Command at United States Navy Seal.

Kabilang sa iba pang aktibidad para sa paggunita sa Death March ang Ride for Valor sa Marso 10 at Bataan Freedom Run sa Abril 14. (CPIA 3)

BALITA SA WIKANG PINOY

NLEX Harbor Link bukas na



Pinangunahan ni Pangulong Rodrigo R. Duterte ang pagbubukas ng North Luzon Expressway Harbor Link Segment 10. (Shane F. Velasco/PIA 3)

LUNGSOD NG MALOLOS -- Mas mabilis na ngayon makakarating ang mga produktong ani mula sa Hilaga at Gitnang Luzon sa Metro Manila matapos pormal na buksan ang North Luzon Expressway o NLEX Harbor Link Segment 10.

Mismong si Pangulong Rodrigo R. Duterte ang nanguna sa pagbubukas ng 5.65 kilometrong elevated na daan na tumatahak sa mga lungsod ng Valenzuela, Malabon at Caloocan.

Ayon kay Public Works and Highways Secretary Mark Villar, mababawasan nito ang dating isang oras ng byahe mula C3 hanggang NLEX na magiging limang minuto na lamang.

Kasabay ng inagurasyon, isinagawa ang Groundbreaking Ceremony para sa konstruksiyon ng NLEX Connector na walong kilometrong elevated highway na magmumula sa dulo ng Segment 10 sa C3/5th Avenue patungo sa PUP Sta. Mesa. (PIA 3)

Bayad sa NLEX Harbor Link, pareho lang ng Bocaue Toll



Makikita sa larawan ang bagong bukas na 5.65 kilometrong NLEX Harbor Link na magbibigay ng direksong ruta ng mga mangangalakal at kargamento mula Hilaga at Gitnang Luzon papuntang Pier ng Maynila. (Shane F. Velasco)

BOCAUE, Bulacan -- Hindi mararamdaman ng mga motoristang dadaan sa bagong bukas na North Luzon Expressway o NLEX Harbor Link ang toll fee dahil sa Bocaue Toll Plaza pa din magbabayad.

Ayon kay NLEX Corporation Assistant Vice President for Corporate Communication Kit Ventura, hindi mababago ang collection point dahil mula sa Bocaue Toll Plaza sa NLEX-Southbound hanggang Balintawak ay open system.

Ibig sabihin, lahat ng sasakyan na pumapasok sa southbound lane ng NLEX at Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway sa direksyong paluwag sa Metro Manila ay sa Bocaue Toll Plaza na nagbabayad ng toll fee.

Paglagpas dito, wala nang babayaran pa paglabas o pag-exit sa Marilao, Meycauayan, Lingunan, Valenzuela, Balintawak at ngay-

on sa pagdaan sa NLEX Harbor Link sa pamamagitan ng Smart Connect interchange.

Noong wala pa ang NLEX Harbor Link, inaabot ng isa hanggang mahigit dalawang oras ang nagiging biyahe mula NLEX papasok sa Pier ng Maynila. Mas matagal pa kung maiipit sa matinding trapik sa Balintawak dahil sa ginagawang Skyway Stage 3.

Ngayong pinasinayaan na ni Pangulong Rodrigo R. Duterte ang NLEX Harbor Link, magiging limang minuto na lamang ang biyahe papuntang Pier ng Maynila sa pamamagitan ng pag-exit sa Smart Connect interchange hanggang makarating sa C-3 road sa Caloocan.

Naglaan ng kabuuang P15 bilyon ang NLEX Corporation para sa naturang proyekto. (PIA 3)

Pang-apat na tunnel na magkakabit sa Ipo, Angat Dam nakumpleto na



Tumagos na sa Ipo Dam ang butas na siyang kukumpleto sa inilatag na tunnel o dambuhalang lagusan mula sa Angat Dam. Bahagi ito ng proyektong Angat Water Transmission Improvement Project sa Ipo Dam sa bayan ng Norzagaray. (MWSS)

NORZAGARAY, Bulacan -- Buo na ang pang-apat na higitang lagusan o tunnel na nag-uugnay sa Ipo Dam at Angat Dam sa bayan ng Norzagaray.

Bahagi ito ng proyektong Angat Water Transmission Improvement Project na inilunsad ng Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System o MWSS noong 2016.

Ayon kay MWSS Head Technical Assistant Susanne Sta Maria, nagpahiram ng US \$123 milyong ang Asian Development Bank o ADB sa MWSS para makapagbaon ng pang-apat na tunnel sa ilalim ng bahaging ito ng bulubundukin ng Sierra Madre.

Aabot sa 6.4 kilometro ang haba ng inilatag na Tunnel mula sa Bigte Reservoir ng Angat Dam papuntang Ipo Reservoir. Padadaliin ng proyektong ito ang paghahatid ng suplay ng tubig mula Angat Dam patungong Metro Manila, Rizal, ilang bahagi ng Cavite at paghahanda na rin sa kabuuang operasyon ng Bulacan Bulk Water Supply Project.

Sa pagkukumpleto ng proyekto, kaya nitong makapagbomba ng 19 cubic meters

per second na tubig na katumbas ng 1.6 milyong litro kada araw. Magiging alternatibong lagusan din ang pang-apat na tunnel kapag isinara ang tatlong lumang tunnel ng Angat Dam upang kumpunihin.

Dahil sa istratohiyang ito, hindi mapuputol ang suplay ng tubig sa nabanggit na mga lugar dahil patuloy na dadaloy ang tubig sa pamamagitan ng ikaapat na Tunnel.

Isa na itong permanenteng tunnel na kahit na matapos kumpunihin ang tatlong lumang tunnel, gagana pa rin ito nang sabay.

Ang Angat Dam ay nagsusuplay ng 95 porsyento ng pangangailangan sa tubig ng buong kalakhang Maynila.

Nakakarating ang tubig patungo sa mga distributor nitong Maynilad at Manila Water, na pawang mga pribadong konsesyonaryo ng MWSS, sa pamamagitan ng Ipo bilang transmission dam. (PIA 3)

IN THE NAVY



KEY WEST, Fla. . The Cyclone-class patrol ship USS Tornado (PC 14), homeported at Naval Station Mayport, Florida, pulls into Naval Air Station Key West's Mole Pier in Truman Harbor, March 2, 2019. The ship and its 30-person crew are in Key West in support of Joint Interagency Task Force South. Naval Air Station Key West is the state-of-the-art facility for combat fighter aircraft of all military services, provides world-class pierside support to U.S. and foreign naval vessels, and is the premier training center for surface and subsurface military operations. (U.S. Navy photo by Danette Baso Silvers)



SAN DIEGO. Logistics Specialist 2nd Class Tre Francisco, from Suffolk, Virginia, greets his wife and meets his newborn son for the first time upon returning from deployment, March 1, 2019, aboard the San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock ship USS Anchorage (LPD 23). Anchorage, with embarked 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), is returning from a deployment to the western Pacific and Middle East. The U.S. Navy has patrolled the Indo-Pacific region routinely for more than 70 years promoting peace and security. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Jesse Monford)



SOUTH CHINA SEA . Sailors observe an F/A-18E Super Hornet assigned to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 97 launch from the flight deck of the aircraft carrier USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74) in the South China Sea, March 2, 2019. John C. Stennis is deployed in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations in support of security and stability in the Indo-Pacific region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Jeffery L. Southerland)



EAST CHINA SEA. Sailors attached to the U.S. 7th Fleet flagship USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) conduct rescue swimmer training in the Pacific Ocean, March 1, 2019. Blue Ridge is the oldest operational ship in the Navy and, as 7th Fleet command ship, actively works to foster relationships with allies and partners in the Indo-Pacific Region. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Mar'Queon A. D. Tramble)



SM Foundation Launches Batch 199th, 200th Farmers Training Program in Balanga Bataan and Olongapo City



In an aim to uplift the living standards of small Filipino farmers, SM Foundation, Inc. headed by Cristie Angeles, AVP-Outreach has continuously promoting the Kabalikat sa Kabuhayan Farmers Training Program (KSK-FTP) in various cities in the country. Last March 01 and March 06, batches 199th and 200th were launched in Barangay Tuyoy, Balanga, Bataan and Escalona Farm Jolo Tabacuhan, Barangay Sta. Rita Olongapo City respectively in partnership with Harbest AgriBusiness Corp., SM City Olongapo, SM Supermarket, BDO Foundation, LGU of Olongapo- City Agriculture Office and City Social Welfare and Development Office.

"Ang kaalaman na maibibigay ng training na ito ay habambuhay napo sa inyo na pwedeng maipasa sa anak o kapatid. Itong kaalaman na ito ay magiging kayamanan kung pagyayamanin. Sana ay marami din po kayong matulungan sa ibang lugar, mahawa niyo ng kaalaman at kabutihan," said Mark Herrera, SM City Olongapo Mall Manager.

Kabalikat sa Kabuhayan is a joint project of private and government agencies that assists the participants by providing alternatives to improve day to

day income through the production of high-value commercial crops like fruits and vegetables suited for their land. Producing a bio-safe commodities through the use of plastic mulch, organic fertilizers and organic pesticides opens the market for organically produced vegetables and aimed at developing a market match for the vegetable farmers through SM and other supermarket chains.

The 12-week training program consists of lectures and hands-on training using the concept of the farmers field school, which is a group-based learning process that incorporates concepts and methods from agro-ecology, experiential education and community development. Present during the launch were Olongapo City Agriculturist Victorino Garengo, Jr., DSWD SLP-Provincial Coordinator Fely Ann Bactad, CSWD Officer III Nova Codoy, City Tourism Officer Fifi Legaspi, City Planning and Development Office Engineer Marivic Nierras, SM City Olongapo Mall Manager Mark Herrera, SM Olongapo Central Mall Manager Ana Lorraine Azucena, SM City Olongapo PR Manager Nette Mortel, SM Supermarket Store Supervisor Sarriel Joy Tang, and the members of the media.

