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# FRONT PAGE NEWS

PUBLISHING

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Good news sa ating mga Senior High Deped Voucher holder Ngayong araw (Nov. 8), sinimulan na natin ang pama-mahagi ng allowance sa 547 estudyante ng Senior High School na nag aaral sa private schools na may DepEd voucher para sa buwan ng June, July at August! Isangparaanitonggatingpamahalaanupangpatuloynamasuportahanangpag-aaralngkabataanatmasalongsilang sipaginsakanilang ginagawa. #SaDiyosSaTaoSerbisyongTotoo#sErbisyLangpO #BagongParañaque



Tayo po ay nakipagpulong kasama ang City Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (CDRRMC) para sa Pre-Disaster Risk Assessment (PDRA) meeting bilang paghahanda sa posibleng epekto ng Severe Tropical Storm #UwanPH. Tinalakay po natin ang iba't ibang scenario at mga kinakailangang hakbang upang maiwasan ang pinsala mula sa inaanahang malakas na pag-ulan at pagbaha. Kabilang dito ang maagang pag-deploy ng mga kagamitan, pagbibigay ng babala sa mga apektadong lugar, at paghahanda para sa posibleng evacuation at relief operations. Paalala po sa lahat na maging alerto at makinig sa mga abiso para sa kaligtasan nating mga Imuseño. #AlistImuseño #AngatAngImus #AlagangAdvincula



**Persons With Dignity, Persons With Dreams.** Para sa inyong lingkod, ang PWD ay hindi lang Persons With Disability. Sila ay Persons With Dignity at Persons With Dreams. Araw-araw ninyong pinapatunayan na ang kapansanan ay hindi hadlang para mangarap at magsumikap. Kayo ay inspirasyon sa aming lahat. Maraming salamat sa PWD in Cavite Inc., affiliate ng Alliance of PWD in Luzon Inc., sa inyong imbitasyon. Isang malaking karangalan para sa akin na makasama kayo sa pama-mahagi ng prosthetic legs at hearing aids at maging saksi sa inyong mga kuwento ng lakas, pag-asa, at tagumpay.

Bilang inyong kinatawan sa Kongreso, patuloy nating isusulong ang mga programang magpapalakas, magbibigay-proteksyon, at mag-aangat sa kapakanan ng ating mga PWD. Nawa'y patuloy ninyong maabot ang inyong mga pangarap, para sa inyong sarili at sa inyong mga mahal sa buhay.

# FRONT PAGE NEWS

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## Strengthening Enterprise-Based Education and Training for sustainable growth and national development p. 5



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**ATI CALABARZON to Stage...**

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite—The Department of Agriculture—Agricultural Training Institute (DA-ATI) CALABARZON will stage two major events that will champion the innovative and empowering coconut industry this November 2025—the 2025 Coco Fiesta and the annual Techno Gabay Program (TGP) Summit.

**Coco Fiesta 2025**

The Coco Fiesta 2025 will take place on November 18-22, 2025, at the third level of SM City Trece Martires, Cavite. Anchored on the theme “Transforming Communities, Advancing Sustainability: Toward a Modernized Coconut Agriculture and Agribusiness Sector,” this fiveday event aims to provide a platform for local exhibitors and innovators to market coconutbased products, technologies, and services—thereby expanding market access and income opportunities. It also seeks to empower farmers, cooperatives, and the public on emerging innovations and value-adding endeavors related to the coconut industry development.

This celebration will feature exhibitor booths showcasing coconut-based products, technologies, and services from smallholder coconut farmers and associations across CALABARZON, alongside a technology forum with over 50 participants per session. Topics to be discussed include homemade coconut value addition for health and hygiene, innovative uses of coconut waste for handicrafts, processing of functional coco-based food products, food safety and quality standards in coconut processing, packaging and branding for coconut products, sustainable coconut agribusiness models, opportunities in coconut agritourism, and integrating coconut-based urban gardening to foster green skills and sustainability.

**TGP Summit 2025**

Simultaneously, the DA-ATI CALABARZON, as the lead agency for the TGP, in partnership with the Cavite State University (CvSU), the Provincial Government of Cavite, and the Southern Tagalog Agriculture, Aquatic, and Resources Research Development and Extension Consortium (STAARRDEC) will spearhead the TGP

Summit 2025 on November 19-21, 2025, at CvSU, Indang, Cavite.

The TGP Summit will gather implementers from across the region to strengthen collaboration, exchange best practices, and recognize outstanding contributions to the program. Guided by the principles of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—particularly SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 2 (Zero Hunger), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), SDG 12 (Responsible Consumption and Production), and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals)—the Summit will emphasize inclusive and sustainable agricultural transformation through innovation and multi-sectoral partnerships.

It also aims to recognize the achievements of Farmers' Information and Technology Services (FITS) Centers and Magsasaka Siyentista who have embraced agricultural technologies, digital innovations, and farmer-led extension systems. By bringing together key stakeholders and promoting collaboration, the summit strengthens the capacity of local actors to respond to current challenges and contribute to the long-term goal of a resilient, inclusive, and modern coconut industry.

Gracing the program are anticipated guests from various implementing agencies of the Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDP) and Mr. Apl.De.Ap, international artist and founder of the Apl.De.Ap Foundation, who recently launched his project to plant 100 million coconut trees—symbolizing a united front for sustainable coconut industry growth.

Through these back-to-back events, the DA-ATI CALABARZON reaffirms its commitment to building resilient, sustainable, and forward-looking agricultural communities that thrive through innovation, partnership, and shared purpose.

**DTI Rizal holds Food Safety Awareness Webinar thru its local mentoring program**

CARDONA, RIZAL | DTI Rizal through its Collaborative Harnessing Assistance for Mentoring Program for SMEs (CHAMPS) held its Food Safety Awareness module on October 22, 2025 and was attended by 75 attendees, consisting

of CHAMPS Beneficiaries and other existing and potential MSMEs.

Negosyo Center Cardona Business Counselor Johanna Faye R. Javier facilitated the session, while Ms. Charo Ola, President of SARAP, Inc., delivered the welcome remarks highlighting the vital role of food safety in sustaining customer trust and business success.

Ms. Niña Sherylle Giron, Supervising Science Research Specialist from DOST-Rizal, served as the resource speaker. She provided a detailed discussion on the meaning, importance, and practical applications of food safety—from understanding types of food hazards to implementing control measures that reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses.

Ms. Giron encouraged participants to adopt good manufacturing practices and consistent sanitation protocols in their daily operations. For her parting words, Ms. Giron stressed that “Food Safety is a shared responsibility” to remind participants that everyone – from farmers, manufacturers, to the final consumers is responsible in safeguarding the quality and integrity of the food that we serve and consume.

Now on its sixth year, the Collaborative Harnessing Assistance for Mentoring Program for SMEs (CHAMPS) Rizal is a local mentoring program designed to groom Rizal-based MSMEs to qualify for flagship programs of DTI such as Kapatid Mentor ME and OTOP NextGen.


**Mekeni Launches 40 Years...**

CLARK, PAMPANGA—Mekeni Food Corporation made a strong statement on the first-ever One Pampanga Food and Beverage Expo on Sept 13-14 with the launch of its newest offerings, while giving visitors a glimpse of what's ahead as it gears up for its 40th anniversary in 2026.

**New Sausage Creations**

At the Mekeni booth, the largest at the expo, guests were treated to first tastes of its newest sausage creations.

The 4 Cheese Sausage, bursting with cheddar, gouda, cream cheese, and mozzarella, was a crowd favorite among cheese lovers. The Breakfast Sausage, though small in size, delivered big flavors perfect for quick and hearty meals. For those with a more refined palate, the Country Style Sausage, infused with herbs and crafted in gourmet style, offered a premium experience.

These products reflect Mekeni's commitment to creating flavors that appeal to both Filipino and international consumers.



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**Street Flavors: A New Offering**

Adding to the excitement, Mekeni launched Street Flavors, a cart concept

featuring the company's premium take on Filipino street food staples such as fish balls, squid balls, and kikiam.

Beyond being a new way to enjoy well-loved favorites, Street Flavors is also open for booking at events, offering a fun and high-quality food experience for gatherings and celebrations. At the same time, it serves as a business opportunity for those interested in operating their own events cart business, making it an accessible entry point for aspiring entrepreneurs.

**A Sneak Peek of 40 Years**

Visitors were also invited to a sneak peek of Mekeni's 40th anniversary campaign through the showcase of its 40th year logo and an AI-powered photobooth featuring countries where Mekeni products are now available.

These experiences underscored Mekeni's expanding global presence and its mission to share Kapampangan flavors with the world. “As we approach our 40th year, we want to give our customers a taste of what's next,” said Garcia. “Our newest products, our ventures like Street Flavors, and our continued expansion abroad are all part of the story we want to tell, because truly, May Kwento sa Bawat Timpla”, he added. With its newest offerings and forward-looking initiatives, Mekeni reaffirmed its position not only as a pillar of Kapampangan cuisine but also as a Filipino brand with a global vision.

**Supporting OPFBEX**

As a Kapampangan company that has grown into a globally recognized brand, Mekeni's participation in the inaugural expo is both symbolic and purposeful. While the company continues to expand its presence in international markets, it also views the event as an opportunity to reaffirm its identity as a symbol of Kapampangan pride and to share its story with aspiring entrepreneurs and small businesses. “This expo is close to our hearts because it allows us to give back by showing others that it is possible to grow from humble beginnings and make an impact globally,” said Mekeni President Pruds Garcia. “We hope our story inspires others to pursue their dreams with passion, values, and resilience.”

**MPTC GEARS UP FOR UNDAS 2025**

Enhanced traffic management, shoulder lane regrading, and motorist assistance set across MPTC expressways Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC) is reactivating its "Biyaheng Arangkada" Motorists Assistance Program to ensure safe and convenient travel during the Undas season. With an expected surge in traffic across NLEX, SCTEX, NLEX Connector, CALAX, CAVITEX, and CCLEX, MPTC is intensifying operations through increased personnel deployment, 24/7 traffic monitoring, and quick-response teams.

Free towing for Class 1 and Class 1M (for CCLEX) vehicles to the nearest exit will be available from 6:00 AM of October 30 to 6:00 AM of November 3 to assist motorists, while roadworks will be suspended from October 29 to November 3, except for emergency repairs, to keep traffic flowing smoothly.

To reduce bottlenecks, NLEX Corporation has regraded shoulder lanes in key areas to support counterflow operations. Motorists are advised to plan their trips ahead and avoid peak hours, particularly during the following periods:

- Afternoon of October 29
- Afternoon of October 30 to evening of October 31

- Morning of November 1
- Afternoon of November 2

- Morning until noon of November 3

Around 2,000 traffic, toll, and emergency personnel will be on duty across MPTC expressways, in coordination with the PNP, LGUs, and key agencies. At CAVITEX, "Biyaheng Arangkada" will be implemented with PEA Tollway Corporation, a subsidiary of the Philippine Reclamation Authority.

Motorists can use the MPT Drive-Hub app for real-time traffic updates, RFID reloading, and assistance. As part of the MVP Group's efforts, Maynilad will provide free bottled water, while Smart Communications will offer free Wi-Fi and charging stations in select areas.

MPTC encourages motorists to ensure their vehicles are in good condition and RFID accounts are sufficiently loaded before traveling.

For updates, follow @NLEXex-

pressways, @OfficialCALAX, @CaviteX-pressway, and @CCLEXexpressway on Facebook, or call 1-35000 for 24/7 assistance.

MPTC is the tollways infrastructure unit of the Manuel Pangilinan-led Metro Pacific Investments Corporation.


**DILG cancels local execs' foreign trips amid Tino, Uwan aftermath**

MANILA – The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) has barred local officials of affected areas from traveling abroad to ensure smooth disaster response in the aftermath of tropical cyclones Tino and Uwan.

In a television interview on Monday, DILG Secretary Juanito Victor "Jonvic" Remulla said he has ordered all elective and appointive local officials to cancel or suspend their foreign trips from Nov. 9 to 15 to ensure their presence during pre-disaster preparations, response, and recovery operations for Super Typhoon Uwan (Fung-wong).

"Those who are applying or about to leave, their travel leaves are cancelled," he said.

Prior to that, Remulla said he also canceled the foreign travels of some 40 local officials amid the devastation caused by Typhoon Tino, which prompted President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to declare a national state of calamity.

"There are some 40 travel leaves that I cancelled, so no one was able to depart for the last six days, seven days I think," he said.

A former Cavite governor, Remulla said governors, mayors, barangay captains and other local officials must lead on the ground in accordance with Marcos' directive and the declaration of a state of national calamity.

"We issued a sweeping memorandum that all travel leaves are cancelled," the DILG chief said. "Hindi puwedeng makaalis ang mga tao ngayon (People can't leave now) especially the local officials."

Remulla reminded local leaders that under the law, they are the chairpersons of their respective Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Councils (DRRMCs) and must be physically present during all phases of disaster management, which are preparation, response, and recovery.

Local government units (LGUs) are also mandated to assist affected communities, reactivate Local Price Coordinating Councils to prevent overpricing, and coordinate with regional and provincial DRRMCs and DILG regional offices for timely and unified action.

All DILG regional directors, meanwhile, have been instructed to ensure that these are all complied with. (PNA)



**NO FOREIGN TRIPS.** Department of the Interior and Local Government Secretary Juanito Victor "Jonvic" Remulla (center) leads a press briefing at Camp Crame, Quezon City on Sept. 12, 2025. In a television interview on Monday (Nov. 10), Remulla said he has barred local officials of cyclone-affected areas from leaving on foreign trips to ensure their presence during pre-disaster preparations, response and recovery operations. (PNA photo by Robert Oswald P. Alfiler)

**DTI-Laguna Conducts Seminar on Business Ideas and Entrepreneurial Mindset**

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) – Laguna Provincial Office, through Negosyo Center Pakil in partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) – Pangil, successfully conducted a seminar on Business Ideas and Entrepreneurial Mindset at the Pavilion, Pangil River Eco Park, Brgy. Natividad, Pangil, Laguna, on October 23, 2025.

The seminar aimed to educate potential entrepreneurs about the different types of businesses they can pursue, the proper process for registering a business name, and the importance of adopting the right entrepreneurial mindset while learning the basic principles of entrepreneurship. Through this seminar, participants were introduced to practical business concepts, creative livelihood opportunities, and effective strategies for starting a business within their communities. A total of twenty-four (24) potential MSMEs attended the event.

Resource speakers from DTI-Laguna and DSWD-Pangil shared their expertise and experiences in entrepreneurship development, emphasizing the value of innovation, perseverance, and continuous learning in sustaining a business. They also highlighted government programs and services that can help aspiring entrepreneurs gain access to financial assistance, business mentorship, and market linkage opportunities.

Participants actively engaged in interactive activities designed to help them identify their own business potentials and assess their readiness to embark on entrepreneurial ventures. Many of them expressed their appreciation for the seminar, noting that it not only broadened their un-

derstanding of business concepts but also motivated them to turn their ideas into reality.

The seminar concluded with a question and answer session, allowing participants to clarify doubts, share their concerns, and receive personalized advice from the resource speakers. The organizers encouraged attendees to continue their entrepreneurial journey with the support of the DTI's Negosyo Center, which offers ongoing guidance and assistance for MSME development (CMRCaballero, DTI-Laguna).


**Strengthening Enterprise-Based...**

In a collaborative effort to enhance workforce competencies and strengthen the link between education and industry, the Office of the Provincial Public Employment Service Manager (OPPESM), in partnership with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), successfully conducted the seminar on "Strengthening Enterprise-Based Education and Training (EBET) for Sustainable

Growth and National Development" on October 28, at the New Provincial Government Center, Trece Martires City.

The program formally opened with a welcome message from TESDA Provincial Director Gerardo R. Marasigan, who underscored the importance of partnerships between the government, private sector, and training institutions in cultivating a competitive workforce. This was followed by a message from Engr. Jovencio M. Ferrer, Jr., TESDA Regional Director, highlighting the role of enterprise-based training in bridging education and real-world industry needs.

Governor Francisco Gabriel D. Remulla, Jr. also graced the event and expressed his full support for initiatives that promote skills development and sustainable employment for Caviteños.

The discussion on the Enterprise-Based Education and Training (EBET) Framework was facilitated by Mr. Joel M. De Guzman, Senior TESD Specialist, while Engr. Jerry Webb E. Muhi, President and Executive Director of Dualtech Training Center, presented insights on "Bridging Skills and Industry: A TVI Perspective on Education for Employment." Both sessions were followed by open forums, allowing participants to share perspectives and raise inquiries on implementation and collaboration opportunities.

To conclude the program, OPPESM Head Ms. Rizalie P. Enero delivered the closing message, emphasizing the continued partnership between the government and private sector in advancing enterprise-based education and training programs.

The event was attended by human resource personnel from various private companies across Cavite, reflecting a shared commitment to developing industry-ready workers and supporting national growth through education and skills development.(CPIO)

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**NHA, NAMAHAGI NG P12.37-M AYUDA SA MGA BIKTIMA NG LINDOL SA CEBU**

Mga katoto walang patlang na ipinatutupad ni National Housing Authority (NHA) Joeben A. Tai at Assistant General Manager Alvin S. Feliciano ang lahat ng mga direktiba ng ating butihing Pangulong Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. hinggil pamamahagi ng lupa't bayan, peoples caravan, at milyong halagang tulong sa mga nasunigan kabilang na ang mga nasalanta ng bagyo, lindol at malalagim na trahedyang Cebu.

Kung saan namahagi ang National Housing Authority (NHA) ng may kabuuang P12,370,000.00 halaga ng cash aid, sa ilalim ng Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP) nito, sa 1,085 pamilyang naapektuhan ng magnitude 6.9 na lindol na tumama sa munisipalidad ng San Remigio, Cebu kamaikan.

Sa ilalim ng gabay ni NHA General Manager Joeben A. Tai, pinangunahan ni Assistant General Manager Alvin S. Feliciano ang pamamahagi ng tulong pinansyal, katuwang sina Region 7 Regional Manager Engr. Hermes Jude G. Juntillo, at Cebu District Officer-in-Charge Engr. Dante U. Estrobo.

Bilang kinatawan ni GM Tai, nagpahayag ng pag-asa si AGM Feliciano na makatulong ang financial assistance para sa pagpapabuti ng kalagayan ng mga benepisyaryo. "Bilang bahagi ng pagsunod sa direktiba ng ating Pangulong Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. at ni NHA General Manager Joeben A. Tai, agaran po naming inihatid ang EHAP dito sa inyong lugar upang kaya po ay matulungan. Kalakip nito ang pag-asa na maibigat na cash assistance ang mabigat na pasanin na dulot ng nagdaang kalamidad," wika ni AGM Feliciano.

Sa kabuuang bilang ng mga benepisyaryo, 76 na pamilya na ang mga bayan ay lubos na nasira ay nakatanggap ng tig-P30,000, na may kabuuang halaga na P2,280,000; habang 1,009 pamilya na bahagyang nasira ang mga bayan ay nakatanggap ng P10,000, na may kabuuang P10,090,000.

Ang bawat benepisyaryo ay tumanggap ng P10,000 para sa mga bayan na partially damaged at P30,000 para sa mga totally

damaged, base sa validation ng NHA 7. Nakasama rin ng NHA sa okasyon si San Remigio Councilor Miguel Martinez, na kumatawan kay Mayor Mariano R. Martinez. Magsasagawa pa ng mga EHAP distributions ang NHA sa susunod na mga linggo para sa iba pang biktima ng lindol at bagyo.

Ang EHAP ay isa sa mga kasalukuyang programa ng NHA na nagbibigay ng tulong pinansyal sa mga pamilyang naapektuhan ng mga sakuna tulad ng bagyo, sunog, lindol at baha. Layunin nitong tulungan ang mga benepisyaryo na makapagsimulang muli sa pamamagitan ng pagsasaayos ng kanilang mga tahanan.

Samantala, kasalukuyan namang nagpapatupad ang NHA ng isang buwang moratorium sa pagbabayad ng housing loan at lease payment ngayong Oktubre para sa mga lalawigan ng Cebu at Masbate, bilang paraan ng ahensya upang maibsan ang pinansyal na pasanin na nararamdamang ng mga benepisyaryo matapos ang mga nagdaang trahedyang Cebu.



Masayang tumanggap ng ayuda ang mga taong naging biktima ng lindol mula sa Lungsod ng Cebu, kung saan ang ayuda ay mula Emergency Housing Assistance Program (EHAP) Cash Assistance Distribution ng National Housing Authority (NHA). Pasky Natividad

## GREETINGS:

Hi to NCRPO RD PMGEN ANTHONY A ABERIN, PCOL Ed Cuti-Deputy Chief of Staff NCRPO, PCOL Erosito Miranda-Regional Chief of Staff NCRPO. & D5 PCOL Joseph Garcia God bless you more mga katoto!!! Hi MPD DISTRICT DIRECTOR PBGEN ARNOLD ABAD, MPD PIO HEAD Maj Philipp Ines & MPD SMART Head Kuya Eagle Maj Eduard Samonte same with Kuya Eagle SPO3 Kevin Capili Sanchez! Hi to MANILA HEALTH DEPARTMENT Head & concurrent OMMC Hospital Director DRA. GRACE PADILLA! God bless you more katoto!!! Hi to MHD Dr. Creselda Coroza- Head District 1 Officer, District 1 Manila, God bless u more katoto!!! Hi to OMMC ICU Dr. Luigi Francisco & Internal Medicine Dr. Jarmiah Margalo, Ross Adornado, Mikaela Gabriella Martin, at Hilario Laqui. HEART STATION DEPT. KLINIK; Shiela Rodriguez, Carina Domagoso, Neil Salvador, Dove Ann Dela Torre, God bless you more! Kumusta kay Workoholic new ENT Head Dr. DON MACARIO kabilang na si Dra. DIAN SY, at Dr. Jacob, God Bless you more mga katoto!!! Hi to MEDICAL LABORATORY; Head Evelyn Salcedo, Asst. Head Celeste at Jorie. God bless you more mga katoto!!! Hi to our young friend Dra. Vivien Jupirez, welcome to OMMC, Hi to Philippine Orthopedic Center, Hospital Director(POC) Dr. Brix Puhalte Jr. na nagmama sa ama nitong si Dr. Puhalte Sr. na nagiwan ng isang di matatwarang alaala sa POC at byuting secretary nito Ms. Jing Adriano!!! God bless you more mga katoto!!! Hi to POC OPD Dr. Baron, Dr. Robin Medalle at Dra. Gina Espinosa! Hi to POC XRAY RECORDS Head Gina Geronimo, Marivel, Ronnie, & Marvin God bless you more mga katoto! Hi to Hospital Director Ma. Isabelita M. Estrella at Director's Office Secretary Staff Ms. Rowie S. Bulaong ng Tondo Medical Center (TMC), Hi to Medical Social Service Head Leonida Lagumbay and to Cecilia, Nova, Jeremy, Archie, John Rex, Shalom, Joy at Gaida of Gat Andres Bonifacio Medical Center. Hi to byuting Atty. Edith Napalan Chief City Treasurer's Office of Bacoor City Province of Cavite, and Asst. Chief Carol Marges, same as their Staff Ma. Florentina, Roselyn, & Chistina. God bless u more mga katoto!!! Hi to Atty. Marites Tamayo Register of Deeds (RD) & R D examiner Darwin Bantiles of Bacoor City province of Cavite! Usaping DABAKARDS lalo na sa mga kalapit na tanggapan sa paligid ng Intramuros!! Mga Katoto, kung nais niyong masarap na Lutong Pinoy na tsibug. Mag-aliv at mag relax habang nakikining ng live acoustic at folk songs mag tungo sa I-TOP VIEW CAFÉ & RESTAURANT 4th floor, Roof Deck Intramall Bldg. 706 Escuela st. Intramuros, Manila. Lets eat, enjoy, and relax.

## 'Proven in the Philippines, Trusted by the World': DOST charts bold course to make PH a global hub for credible technologies



DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr. speaks before the media during the Inno.Venta 2025 press conference, held at Batangas State University, The National Engineering University on October 23, 2025. Beside him is DOST-CALABARZON Regional Director Emelita Bagsit. (Photo by Xyrus Ivan B. De Gracia)

The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) envisions a future where the words "Proven in the Philippines. Trusted by the World." stand as the seal of quality for every Filipino-made innovation.

At the first-ever culmination of Inno.Venta 2025: Transforming Discoveries into Economic Impact, DOST Assistant Secretary for Technology Transfer, Communications, and Commercialization (TTCC) Dr. Napoleon K. Juanillo Jr. revealed the Department's plan to make the Philippines a trusted home for validated and globally competitive technologies.



DOST Assistant Secretary for Technology Transfer, Communications and Commercialization (TTCC) Napoleon K. Juanillo Jr. PhD, delivers his message to formally open the Inno.Venta 2025 at Jose Rizal Building, Batangas State University (The National Engineering University). (Photo by Xyrus Ivan De Gracia, DOST-STII)

Central to this vision is PHI-TEST, short for the Philippine Higher Education Validation and Innovation Testbed—a pioneering collaboration between DOST and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED). It will serve as a nationwide testing and certification mechanism that ensures every Filipino innovation is not only functional but scientifically sound, ethically verified, and globally credible.

"The pursuit of credibility is really a numbers game," Juanillo said. "If we can scientifically demonstrate, through rigorous methods and large-scale testing, that tens of thousands of users or adopters have validated a technology, then we can confidently tell investors and regulators that it works. That's credibility."

Under PHI-TEST, technologies developed by universities, research institutes, and even independent innovators will undergo standardized protocols and validation processes aligned with global benchmarks such as ISO, CE, JIS, and KS. Through this system, Filipino innovations can achieve certification comparable to international standards, allowing them to compete in foreign markets with greater confidence.

"When a product earns PHI-TEST certification, it won't just say 'Made in the Philippines,'" Juanillo emphasized. "It will proudly declare, 'Proven in the Philippines.'"

DOST Secretary Renato U. Solidum Jr. highlighted how the country's network of state universities and colleges (SUCs) could play a key role in this effort. "Many SUCs focus on training and extension work, but beyond that, the real finish line is commercialization," he said. "We see them as vital partners in testing and validating technologies alongside developers. That's the essence of PHI-TEST."

Through the DOST-CHED partnership, PHI-TEST will mobilize the expertise and facilities of higher education institutions nationwide, creating a unified ecosystem where innovation meets accountability. This framework, Juanillo explained, could transform isolated research projects into evidence-backed technologies ready for large-scale deployment and export.

"With PHI-TEST, we are building trust at scale," he said. "We're turning the Philippines into a regional hub for innovation validation and certification—where

credibility becomes our most powerful export." Once operational, PHI-TEST is expected to accelerate the adoption of Filipino technologies in high-impact industries such as health, agriculture, manufacturing, and energy. It aims to open new global market pathways for local innovations, strengthen public-private collaboration, and generate billions of pesos in commercialization revenue. In doing so, it is also expected to contribute to improving the country's ranking in the Global Innovation Index and other international benchmarks.

Ultimately, PHI-TEST represents more than just a testing framework—it is a strategic economic enabler. By institutionalizing rigorous technology validation, the Philippines can transform homegrown R&D outputs into high-value commercial solutions, creating thousands of quality jobs and establishing the country's credibility in the global science and technology arena.

Held at Batangas State University (The National Engineering University) from October 23 to 25, 2025, Inno.Venta 2025 served as a vibrant marketplace of ideas and innovations. The event, funded under Program PROPEL, brought together scientists, entrepreneurs, investors, and industry leaders to bridge the gap between research and commercialization.

Inno.Venta also reflected DOST's broader commitment to advancing innovation for national development—anchored on four strategic pillars: human well-being, wealth creation, wealth protection, and sustainability—embodying its unifying mantra, OneDOST4U: Solutions and Opportunities for All.

"The Philippines can be the region's proving ground for science-based technologies," Juanillo concluded. "With PHI-TEST, we are not only validating innovations—we are validating the country's future. (With information from Claire Bernadette A. Mondares, DOST-STII)

