

## MPT South and One Cavite Transport Consortium Join Forces for Bus Drivers' Road Safety Orientation



Metro Pacific Tollways South (MPT South), a subsidiary of Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), the toll road development arm of Metro Pacific Investments Corporation (MPIC), held its biggest in-person "Drayberks" road safety seminar over the past two years since the pandemic.

In partnership with One Cavite Transport Consortium Inc., and Paranaque Integrated Terminal Exchange (PITX), at least 50 bus drivers from the bus transportation companies of Saulog Transit, Westcabo, and

Saint Anthony De Padua were re-educated on road safety to improve awareness now that the travel demand continues to soar.

These are public utility vehicle drivers that ply Manila-Cavite Toll Expressway (CAVITEX) daily.

"MPT South continues to be an advocate for road safety especially now that we are getting back to the normal traffic we had pre-pandemic, buses and other public vehicles included. We hope that with this Drayberks road safety orientation program, it will help drivers be more

conscious of being a defensive driver.

This mindset of safety is valuable in keeping the bus drivers, other PUV drivers, and other motorists safe whilst sharing the road with one another" said Ms. Arlette Capistrano, Assistant Vice President for Communication and Stakeholder Management of MPT South. "Lubos po kami nagpapasalamat sa pamunuan ng MPTSouth (CAVITEX at CALAX) dahil sa pagkakataong ito na mabigyan ng seminar ang aming mga driver.

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## S&T Caravan made a glorious comeback in Batanes



Baseo, Batanes – The Department of Science and Technology (DOST) Region 02 thru the Provincial Science and Technology Office (PSTO) in Batanes officially opened the 2022 S&T Caravan, last September 14.

This year's S&T Caravan bannered with the theme "Moving Advance Valuable Innovations and Development (MAVID), which means DOST Region 02 is pushing forward in intensifying its implementation of the programs, projects, and services to become the lead Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) Hub in Cagayan Valley.

The S&T Caravan is an annual activity with various S&T partners that aims to showcase the different programs and projects of DOST. This will also increase their awareness and knowledge on the S&T Interventions they want to avail, adopt and commercialize.

The S&T Caravan is also a platform to showcase the products of the various DOST SETUP supported MSMEs.

In his written message, DOST Undersecretary for Regional Operations Engr. Sancho Maborang expressed his appreciation to the province for valuing Science, Technology and Innovation.

"Behind these achievements are our fellow Filipinos who had the courage to trust our

services and start ventures alongside our science interventions. Their success stories are the most important to us." Usec. Maborang highlighted this in his message.

"The families they sustain, the homes they build out of their growth, the satisfaction and quality service they provide to their customers, and its impact in a larger industry, is a great contribution for inclusive growth. They are worth a record of best practices and best experiences," he added. Meanwhile, DOST R02 Regional Director Virginia G. Bilgera also expressed his gratitude and challenged them to be the active players of S&T in the province through a written closing message.

"May this time bring the best in each and one of you. Let's join hands in enriching the culture of pagtutulungan. I believe that this ceremony would ignite more science, technology and innovation developments through our mandates."

The activity was attended by the Provincial Director of PSTO Batanes Ms. Nora Garcia, Batanes Governor Hon. Marilou H. Cayco,

Representative from the Batanes Lone District, Hon. Ciriaco B. Gato, President of the Batanes State College, Dr. Djovi R. Durante, among others.

▶ S&T Initiatives in

Batanes For many years, The Provincial Science and Technology Officer (PSTO) continuously succeeded in bringing science and technology closer to the people of Batanes. Here are some of the accomplishments of the agency in the province.

Many of the small businesses in the province had difficulty in maintaining their sales since customers are mainly locals. Thus, Ivatans wanted to build their own business that will help the province's local economy.

With determination and cooperation, DOST 02 thru PSTO Batanes took this opportunity to introduce to them the Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program (SETUP).

SETUP is the banner program of the Department of Science and Technology which aims to strengthen the country's innovation system by enabling (Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises) MSMEs to address their technological requirements and limitations to improve productivity.

Since the implementation of the program in 2021, SETUP continuously strengthened MSMEs in the region and improved their products, services and operations. It also helps them increase their productivity and competitiveness through their adoption

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## Cavite special polls depends on fate of 2022 BSKE: Comelec



Comelec acting spokesperson John Rex Laudiangco (File photo)



Medical Mission @ Sunshine Homes, Brgy. Francisco De Castro, GMA: Cavite Provincial Government conducted a medical mission at Sunshine Homes, Barangay Francisco De Castro, General Mariano Alvarez, Cavite on September 14, 2022 serving around one hundred five adults and children with free consultation, maintenance medicines, multivitamins and vitamin C supplement. The health outreach program was organized by the medical mission team from the Office of the Provincial Governor and consultations were done by medical doctors from General Emilio Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital composed of Dr. Arnhem T. Patiño, Dr. John Joseph A. Martal, Dr. Gem Cyrell M. Peñalba, and Nurse 1 Roy S. Viscarra, with Dr. Jocelyn P. Belzario, Medical Specialist II from RHU- GMA. Patients underwent screening process and antigen swab testing prior to medical consultation and medicine distributions. Minimum safety health protocols were also observed during the conduct of the event. The successful conduct of the medical mission was made possible with the support of Brgy. Captain Sofronio C. Alcantara and the Barangay Health Workers who assisted in the activity. (PICAD)

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The special polls for the 7th congressional district of the province of Cavite will depend on the fate of Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan Elections (BSKE) set for Dec. 5 this year, an official of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) said on Wednesday.

Comelec acting spokesperson John Rex Laudiangco said they are looking at two scenarios on the holding of the special polls.

"If the BSKE will push through in December, we will set it (special polls) on March 25, 2023. If a law was passed postponing the village and youth polls, we are looking into the possibility of setting it this year, perhaps late December 2022 or at the very least, January 2023," he said in a

message to reporters.

On Tuesday, the House of Representatives passed on third and final reading the measure to postpone this year's BSKE to December 2023.

Meanwhile, the Senate has yet to come up with its decision on the fate of the Dec. 5 polls.

On the other hand, Laudiangco noted that they are now preparing resolutions on the holding of the special polls in Cavite as the permanent vacancy of the province's 7th district has been transmitted.

"The budget and the machines to be used are being prepared. We are looking at holding automated polls since it is cheaper and faster. The machines are there,

we just have to prepare the program and print the ballots for it," he said at the Laging Handa briefing Wednesday.

"In the coming weeks, we will issue resolutions on this. One thing is certain that the special elections for the representative of 7th District of Cavite will be held," he added.

The congressional post was left vacant after elected Representative Jesus Crispin Remulla accepted President Ferdinand Marcos Jr.'s nomination to be the Secretary of the Department of Justice (DOJ).

Commissioner Marlon Casquejo was designated earlier by the Commission en banc as Commissioner-in-Charge for the Cavite special polls. (PNA)

## Solar irrigation system to boost Cavite farmers' productivity



Cavite farmers will now have access to sustainable water sources that will improve the quality and quantity of their crops after the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) recently turned over two units of solar powered-irrigation system (SPIS) worth PHP6 million each.

Danilo Arnes, Tres Cruces Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries and Farmers

▶ Solar Irrigation • 3

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EDITORIAL

Go out. Shut the door. Listen from the outside. This is one of the tenets of "Oblique Strategies" as written by Peter Schmidt, another practitioner of the oblique approach.

Recently, there were reports of garlic and cabbages rotting in Northern Luzon. Given the issues of food security being tackled today, these incidents need to be taken seriously.

Images of rotten vegetables being disposed of and fishermen throwing their catch because no one would buy their produce at the proper price have been in the news for the past few years.

Often, government and private stakeholders look at the problem in terms of simple marketing and subsidy. Some view this as an "oversupply" problem created by food producers.

Science and technology have always had a great impact on agriculture. From the invention of the hoe and the plow to the use of GPS and biotechnology, the impact of innovations cannot be denied.

Food loss: Sci-tech, cold chain, cheap acquisition cost bias



Corruption presents biggest hurdle to economic recovery - PHL biz leaders

The biggest roadblock to innovation however is our age-old bias toward the cheapest acquisition cost. Enshrined even in our government procurement laws is the tenet that government should purchase the cheapest item possible.

It is unfortunate that aggressive and progressive managers are often hampered by uninformed senior managers and so-called analysts who shout overpricing when the cheapest and most ineffective equipment is not bought.

There are times when machines and technology with higher acquisition costs are needed and are often more cost-efficient in the end. In human resources, there is a saying "you pay peanuts you get monkeys".

The science and technology to help solve the problem of geographical and time phase "oversupply" are already here in our country. One such technology is the advanced mobile cold chain system.

or no power supply a collateral technology of mobile combo renewable energy generators could be attached to the same. With its single-phase design, its energy requirement is so low that the user could save 75 percent of normal electric usage for ordinary and outdated cold storage facilities.

These working cold chain facilities are already being used by Food Terminal Inc. (FTI). Purchased under the visionary leadership of its former President and chief executive officer (CEO), the late Ariel Buenaventura, these facilities were an integral part of his 5-year Reinvigoration Program of FTI.

Perhaps it is time to look to new and more cost-effective technology. Perhaps, it is time to invest in efficient cold storage and other collateral technology. Perhaps it is time to revisit the basic tenets of procurements and modify the same to adjust to the changing needs of the present.

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"Kalakal Quezon featuring bamboo", binuksan sa Quezon

LUNGSOD NG LUCENA, Quezon- Pinangunahan ni Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)-Quezon Provincial Julieta L. Tadiosa Alegre, Assistant City Manager ng SM City Lucena at ilang mga hepe mula sa iba't-ibang pamahalaan ang pagbubukas ng "Kalakal Quezon featuring Bamboo" noong Setyembre 21 sa SM City Lucena.

Ayon kay PD Tadiosa, may 14 na exhibitors mula sa mga lalawigan ng Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal at Quezon ang lumahok sa "Kalakal Quezon featuring Bamboo". "Layunin po ng aktibidad na ito na mapaunlad ang industriya ng kawayan sa pamamagitan ng pagtuturo ng paglikha ng "by products" mula sa kawayan. Sinabi pa ni Tadiosa na ang bayan ng

Pagbilao ay maraming mga tanim na kawayan kung saan malaki ang maitutulong nito sa paglikha ng trabaho at pag generate ng income sa mga taga Pagbilao at maging sa mga karatig-bayan nito. Sinabi pa ni Tadiosa na sa programang ito, ituturo din ang tamang pagtatanim ng kawayan at magkakaroon din ng pagsasanay sa paggawa ng handicrafts at furnitures at mga food products mula sa

kawayan. Sa paksa ng "Industriyang Kawayan, para sa Paglago ng Ekonomiya at kalikasan, nais ng DTI-Quezon na maging katuwang ng pamahalaan ang mga magsasaka at maging ang mga interesadong mamamayan sa lalawigan sa paglago ng industriya ng kawayan. Ang Kalakal Quezon ay magtatagal hanggang sa Setyembre 26, 2022. (RMO/PIA-Quezon)

Pitong Ulirang Guro sa Filipino, pararangalan ng KWF

Pararangalan ng Komisyon sa Wikang Filipino (KWF) ang pitong (7) guro mula sa iba't ibang panig ng bansa bilang Ulirang Guro sa Filipino.

Sa taong ito, dalawang (2) guro sa elementarya ang pararangalan, sina Warren A. Norberteng Lungsod Butuan SPED Center at Gladys M. Jovellanong Bagacay Elementary School. Dalawang (2) guro din ang nagwagi mula sa sekundarya, sina Alma T. Bautista ng Santos Ventura National High

School at Christina D. Macascas ng Pamantasang Normal ng Pilipinas. Tatlo (3) namanang mula sa kolehiyo, sinaLita A. Bacalla at Rowena C. Largo na parehong nagmula sa Cebu Normal University, at Alvin Rom De Mesa ng Leyte Normal University.

Ang Ulirang Guro sa Filipino ay taunang gawad na ipinagkaloob ng KWF sa mga gurong nakapag-ambag sa pagpapalaganap at promosyon ng wikang Filipino at/o mga wikang

katubong Pilipinas at kultura sa larang ng pagtuturo sa kanilang komunidad sa pamamagitan ng pananaliksik, seminar, pagsasanay, palihan, at iba pang katulad na gawain.

Gaganapin ang Arawng Parangal sa 4 Oktubre 2022. 10:00nu sa Hotel Lucky Chinatown, Binondo, Maynila. Mapapanood din ito nang live sa Facebook page ng KWF. #UlirangGurosaFilipino 2022 #KWFUGFilipino2022



MPT South...

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Una palang po ito sa sunod na mga session," said Mr. Droy Jalbuna, Operations Head, One Cavite Transport Consortium, Inc. Drayberks is an award-winning social advocacy of MPT South that educates motorists on road safety and shows how they can take advantage of the safety features of the expressway.

Since 2018, Drayberks continues to tap key stakeholders and transport groups to

share important reminders to motorists on safety behind wheels. Drayberks is an award-winning road safety education program that has been recognized in 2019 with a Silver Anvil Awards by the Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP), and this year with a Merit Award for Communication Management by the International Association of Business Communicators

Philippines (IABC Philippines).

MPTC is the biggest toll road builder and operator in the country. Aside from the CAVITEX, MPTC's domestic portfolio includes the concessions for the CAVITEX C5 Link, Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX), North Luzon Expressway (NLEX), the NLEX Connector Road, the Subic-Clark-Tarlac Expressway (SCTEX), and the Cebu-Cordova Link Expressway (CCLEX) in Cebu.

Solar irrigation...

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Association Inc. president, said tapping solar energy is an environment-friendly way of providing farmers with water for their palay (rice) and high-value crops.

"I was talking to market vendors. They said they would buy our vegetables because it is clean as compared to rain-fed or vegetables that were irrigated from the creek," Arnes said in a news release. "We can plant anything when there is water."

James Arthur Dubongco, DAR-Cavite Provincial Agrarian Reform Program Officer II, said the SPIS offers a viable energy solution for irrigated agriculture. The project would contribute to rural electrification as it

provides a reliable source of energy in remote areas, help reduce energy costs for irrigation, and enable low-emission agriculture.

It can irrigate 32 hectares of agricultural lands that will primarily benefit 34 agrarian reform beneficiary households and neighboring farmers. "SPIS runs on solar energy, so that bringing water to farmlands will be much more affordable than the traditional diesel and gasoline-powered engine pumps," Dubongco said.

During the turnover on September 14, DAR Undersecretary for Support Services Office Milagros Isabel Cristobal asked the beneficiaries

to take care of the SPIS. "You should take care and be responsible for this project because not all agrarian reform cooperatives are given the opportunity to be provided with it," she said.

Arnes assured DAR that they will preserve and properly use the SPIS. The project was implemented under DAR's Climate Resilient Farm Productivity Support and in partnership with the National Irrigation Administration.

The SPIS units are located in Sitio Gugo, Barangay Tres Cruces in Tanza and Barangay Baliwag in Magallanes.

Secretary Conrado Estrella III previously identified the provision of irrigation as one of the primary goals of DAR. (PNA)

S&T Caravan...

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of various technological innovations.

Moreover, the agency also continuously extends its assistance through S&T services on technology transfers, iFund, food safety, packaging and labeling, technology training and fora, and other technical consultancies.

To date, there were a total 65 firms assisted in Batanes and already funded with P41.16 million innovative funds. From all the active beneficiaries of the program, firms which engaged in the food industry continuously had the most adopters with a total of 66% of the whole beneficiaries. The remaining 34% goes to other priority sectors such as ICT/Electronics, agriculture, metals and

engineering, gifts, decors and housewares (GDH).

The province was also awarded with computer units for the installation of the Science and Technology Academic and Research-Based Openly Operated KioskS (STARBOOKS) for each beneficiary namely, Basco Central School, St. Dominic College of Batanes, Inc., and LGU Itbayat.

STARBOOKS is an offline S&T based educational and learning platform designed to reach those with limited or no access to S&T information resources. It aims to provide STI (Science, Technology) and PH#ScienceForThePeople#DOSTRegion2

Furthermore, LGU

Sabtang (RHU) and LGU Itbayat (RHU) were also awarded with one (1) set each of Xbox. Xbox is a multi-component program designed to provide better access to life-saving health care services in isolated and disadvantaged communities. With the continued support and close collaboration with the provincial local government and other stakeholders, the Provincial Science and Technology Office of Batanes, together with its national and regional offices, are looking forward to a more dedicated projects in serving and giving quality living to every Ivatan and Ipula (non-ivatan) alike. (DOST R 2 )