

Panglao's waters safe, clean – DENR

By MINERVA BC NEWMAN

CEBU CITY – The waters of Panglao Island in Bohol remain still safe for swimming and other tourism activities, according to the Department of Environment and Natural Resources-Environmental Management Bureau (DENR-EMB).

According to the DENR-EMB

2017 Panglao Coastal Water Quality Status Report, coliform level in Panglao dropped to 284.15mpn/1000ml during the fourth quarter of 2017 and even lower in the third quarter at only 116.94mpn, way below the DENR-EMB standard of 1000mpn/1000ml.

Engr. Cindylyn Pepito of EMB-7 clarified during her presentation that “Not everything about coli-

form is negative, except for the fecal coliform. We even have coliform in our tummy which helps in digestion,” said Engr. Cindylyn Pepito of EMB-7.

The level of fecal coliform is the important parameter to determine the water quality of a body of water, she explained.

The DENR-EMB 2017 report also showed a sustained decline in the fe-

cal coliform levels: 305.70mpn/100ml in the first quarter; 277.20mpn, second quarter; 87.31mpn, third quarter; and 77.59mpn, fourth quarter.

According to EMB-7 regional director William Cunado, the major contributing culprits for the coastal water coliform is the absence of waste water treatment facilities, substandard septicage or septic systems, and non-compliance to and

loose enforcement of sanitation and environmental laws and guidelines.

Cunado said only 33 Panglao resorts, hotels, accommodation establishments and related facilities are with waste water dispatch permits.

We already sent notices to 90 environmental violators who will be called to a “massive technical conference” early next month, he added.

Northern Samar and its white sand beaches

By NESTOR LABREIMATEA

CATARMAN, Northern Samar – Pristine, white sand beaches in Northern Samar await local and foreign tourists in search of a soothing, serene summer getaways.

Northern Samar Governor Jose L. Ong Jr. said with the environmental issues hounding world-renowned Boracay Island in Aklan, the white sand beaches of Northern Samar is an alternative tourist destination.

Ong said the white – sand beaches of Northern Samar can compete with the beaches of Boracay Island.

He said he will be meeting with the mayors of the province to ensure that

environmental laws are strictly followed.

Ong welcomed the daily flights from Clark in Pampanga to Catarmán, which is expected to boost tourism.

New hotels and resorts have since opened in Northern Samar to host tourists.

Among the famous beaches that can be visited by foreign and local tourists are those in San Antonio Island, Biri Island, Unay beach in Laoang Island and Canawayon beach in Lapinigin.

Northern Samar can also be reached by commercial flights from Manila and by land through Matnog in Sorsogon to Allen via ferry boats.

13 OPAPP projects set in Negros Oriental

DUMAGUETE CITY – The Office of the Presidential Adviser for the Peace Process (OPAPP) is set to roll out 13 additional projects in Negros Oriental this year.

Projects set in

OPAPP area coordinator Jennifer April Cusalem said these projects include six farm-to-market roads (FMRs) in Tanjay City, Amlan and Sibulan.

Cusalem added that the budget for these FMRs have been downloaded from the Negros Oriental provincial government under the PAMANA livelihood program.

PAMANA is the national government's peace and development program to address the peace and development needs of conflict-affected or vulnerable communities and peace agreement areas, Cusalem explained.

According to her there are other PAMANA livelihood programs that will be implemented by the Tanjay local government unit, including the purchase of portable chicken dressing machines, cattle and goat, and construction of common facilities such as evacuation center, gymnasium, and multi-purpose building in Barangay San Miguel.

Cusalem reported that there are now 1,850 beneficiaries enrolled under PAMANA-PhilHealth Sponsored

Program while 30 individuals were granted scholarships under the PAMANA-CHED (Commission on Higher Education) Study Grant Program.

Some P7,500,000 worth of livelihood projects under the PAMANA-DSWD Sustainable Livelihood Program were awarded to 15 barangays in Negros Oriental in 2017.

Forty more barangays will also receive aid packages this year. (Minerva Bc Newman)

Bohol shuts down illegal quarry site

By DANDAN A. BANTUGAN

TAGBILARAN CITY – Bohol Governor Edgar M. Chatto last week ordered the closure of an illegal quarry site where two ill-fated workers died following a recent landslide.

“The provincial government's answer is no,” said Chatto in his firm reply to local government officials, residents of Barangay Candabong in Anda town and national agency representatives when asked for a compromise agreement on the quarry operations.

Chatto, who rushed to Anda Wednesday night right after receiving reports that the bodies of Valerio Ga-

leya and Ariel Abac were already retrieved, met with the victims' families and Anda officials.

With the governor were Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (PDRRM) Officer Anthony R. Damalerio and provincial police chief Angel Geñorga.

Chatto learned that many residents chose to work in the illegal quarry site to earn easy money and bigger income.

Hence, Chatto directed the Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development (OPSWD) to promptly meet with residents and help them look for better safer sources of livelihood.

S. No. 1239
H. No. 4863

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila
Seventeenth Congress
Second Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-fourth day of July, two thousand seventeen.

[REPUBLIC ACT No. 10973]

AN ACT GRANTING THE CHIEF OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) AND THE DIRECTOR AND THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION AND DETECTION GROUP (CIDG) THE AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER OATH AND TO-ISSUE SUBPOENA AND SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE “DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1990”

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. A new Section 26-A shall be inserted after Section 26 of Republic Act No. 6975, which shall read as follows:

“SEC. 26-A. *Subpoena Powers.* – The Chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Director and the Deputy Director for Administration of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG), referred to as the Criminal Investigation Unit in Section 35(b)(4) of this Act, shall have the power to administer oath, and issue subpoena and subpoena duces tecum in relation to its investigation: *Provided,* That such powers shall be exercised solely by the aforementioned officials and may not be further delegated to any other person or office.

“The subpoena shall state the nature and purpose of investigation, shall be directed to the person whose attendance is required, and in the case of a subpoena duces tecum, it shall also contain a reasonable description of the books, documents, or things demanded which must be relevant to the investigation.

“Failure to comply with subpoena and subpoena duces tecum shall authorize the filing of a case for indirect contempt under the Rules of Court with the Regional Trial Court.”

SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act shall be declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in force.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, decree, ordinance, or administrative circular not consistent with any provision of this Act is hereby amended, repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,
PANTALEON D. ALVAREZ
Speaker of the House of Representatives
AQUILINO “KOKO” PIMENTEL III
President of the Senate

This Act which is a consolidation of Senate Bill No. 1239 and House Bill No. 4863 was finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives on December 6, 2017.

CESAR STRAIT PAREJA
Secretary General
House of Representatives
LUTGARDO B. BARBO
Secretary of the Senate

Approved: MAR 01 2018

RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
President of the Philippines

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PRRD 2016 - 004618

Kerwin's ‘aide’ slain in Ormoc

By MARTIN A. SADONGDONG

The alleged right hand man of self-confessed drug lord Rolan “Kerwin” Espinosa was shot dead by the police in an operation in Ormoc, Leyte over the weekend.

Chief Inspector Maria Bella Rentuaya, spokesperson of the Eastern Visayas Regional Police Office (PRO-8), identified the victim as Max Miro alias Max, legal age, a native of Albueria, Leyte.

Rentuaya said that police operatives were serving a warrant of arrest against Miro for murder in his residence at around 10 p.m. Friday when he resisted arrest and fired at the authorities.

Rentuaya said that the police officers returned fire, which resulted in the death of Miro.

Last February 19, lawyer and Ronda, Cebu Vice Mayor John Ungab was killed by two unknown assailants in Cebu City. The incident happened near the Cebu City Hall of Justice.

H. No. 400

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila
Seventeenth Congress
Second Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-fourth day of July, two thousand seventeen.

[REPUBLIC ACT No. 10975]

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY PASONG TAMO, QUEZON CITY, METRO MANILA TO BE KNOWN AS EMILIO JACINTO NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Education, a national high school in Barangay Pasong Tamo, Quezon City, Metro Manila to be known as Emilio Jacinto National High School.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Emilio Jacinto National High School, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Education shall issue rules and regulations necessary to carry out the purpose of this Act.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,
AQUILINO “KOKO” PIMENTEL III
President of the Senate
PANTALEON D. ALVAREZ
Speaker of the House of Representatives

This Act which originated in the House of Representatives was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on December 13, 2016 and December 11, 2017, respectively.

LUTGARDO B. BARBO
Secretary of the Senate
CESAR STRAIT PAREJA
Secretary General
House of Representatives

Approved: MAR 06 2018

RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
President of the Philippines

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PRRD 2016 - 004618

H. No. 2506

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila
Seventeenth Congress
Second Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-fourth day of July, two thousand seventeen.

[REPUBLIC ACT No. 10976]

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL IN BARANGAY PASO DE BLAS, VALENZUELA CITY TO BE KNOWN AS PASO DE BLAS NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established, under the supervision of the Department of Education, a national high school in Barangay Paso De Blas, Valenzuela City to be known as Paso De Blas National High School.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Education shall immediately include in the Department's program the operationalization of the Paso De Blas National High School, the funding of which shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of Education shall formulate the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act within one hundred twenty (120) days after its effectivity.

SEC. 4. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,
AQUILINO “KOKO” PIMENTEL III
President of the Senate
PANTALEON D. ALVAREZ
Speaker of the House of Representatives

This Act which originated in the House of Representatives was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on August 9, 2017 and December 11, 2017, respectively.

LUTGARDO B. BARBO
Secretary of the Senate
CESAR STRAIT PAREJA
Secretary General
House of Representatives

Approved: MAR 06 2018

RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
President of the Philippines

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
PRRD 2016 - 004577