

THE

VOICE

NEWSWEEKLY

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NLEX delivers relief aid to flood-affected communities

P2

Nanay to PBBM: ‘Kawawa na po ang mga kabalen ko’



CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — “Mr. President, kawawa na po ang mga kababayan kong lubog sa baha!”

Emotions ran high as Pampanga Governor Lilia “Nanay” Pineda made an urgent appeal for a lasting solution to the province’s recurring floods, saying many of her constituents have suffered too long from rising waters.

Following a situational briefing on the impact of the enhanced southwest monsoon in Central Luzon led by President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Monday, August 24, Pineda appealed directly to the President to prioritize long-term flood-control measures, particularly in Pampanga’s low-lying communities.

“Mr. President, kawawa na po ang mga kababayan kong lubog sa baha,” Pineda

said in an emotional appeal to the national government.

The briefing brought together national government officials, Central Luzon governors and local officials to assess the extent of flooding, damage and the condition of affected families.

According to the Pampanga Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office, more than one million individuals in the province have been affected, while damage to agriculture, livestock and egg production has reached nearly ₱948 million.

Among the proposed measures discussed were

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NANAY

Over 1M affected by floods, Marcos assures sustained aid

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. assured flood-affected families in Pampanga of continued government assistance as he recently visited an evacuation center in Bacolor and led a situation briefing on the province’s massive flooding.

The Chief Executive visited the Bacolor Integrated School Evacuation Center in Barangay Cabambangan, where he met evacuees and observed the distribution of P10,000 cash assistance to heads of affected families under the Department of Social Welfare and Development’s (DSWD) Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation (AICS) program.

This visit came as flooding affected more than 1 million people across Pampanga, with a Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office

report showed that 314,945 families or 1,009,257 individuals had been affected in 253 barangays across 16 local government units.

Of these, 3,142 families or 11,366 individuals were staying in 197 evacuation centers, while another 2,599 families or 11,575 individuals had evacuated outside designated centers, with the entire province under a State of Calamity since August 12.

At the Pampanga Provincial Capitol, Marcos Jr. met with national government officials and local executives to assess the flooding and coordinate government response.

Authorities attributed the flooding to the combined effects of Super El Niño,

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OVER 1M AFFECTED



Photo shows a flooded Apalit town during the onslaught of the Habagat. More photos of floods which hit various towns in Pampanga on Page 6.

Filipino athletes to gain better training support with additional facilities at NAS



The Bases Conversion and Development Authority and the National Academy of Sports lead the groundbreaking of the 12,220-square-meter Student-Athletes' Dormitory in New Clark City, which will accommodate up to 400 students and feature a dining hall and kitchen, laundry and utility areas, recreational spaces, and a roof deck. (BCDA)

NEW CLARK CITY — The National Academy of Sports (NAS) is strengthening its capacity to develop the next generation of Filipino athletes with the addition of new training and support facilities at its campus in New Clark City.

Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) President and Chief Executive Officer Joshua Bingcang said the additional facilities were needed to provide young athletes with a stronger foundation to compete at the highest level.

Among the completed facilities recently turned over by the BCDA to NAS are the Sports Performance Building, Gymnastics Hall, and Staff Residences.

The Sports Performance Building will support conditioning, sports science, and performance

development, while the Gymnastics Hall will be utilized for specialized training.

The Staff Residences are also included to support personnel who train, guide, and care for the student-athletes inside the academy.

Meanwhile, NAS also broke ground for its 12,220-square-meter Student-Athletes' Dormitory, which will accommodate up to 400 students and include a dining hall and kitchen, laundry and utility areas, recreational spaces, and a roof deck.

It is targeted to be operational by 2027.

“With this project, our student-athletes will have more time for their studies and greater focus on their sports programs,” Bingcang said.

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FILIPINO

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Clark builds for next tech supply chain

CLARK — Clark International Airport Corporation (CIAC) is developing a growing aviation, logistics, and commercial hub around Clark International Airport (CRK), positioning the area to support the Philippines' emerging high-tech industries and supply chains.

Dubbed Clark Aviation Capital, the development is designed to provide businesses with integrated infrastructure for the movement of goods, people, and investment.

The initiative brings together airport facilities, expanded runway capacity, multimodal transport links, and industrial lots equipped with power, fiber, and other essential utilities.

CRK's cargo terminal already handles international and domestic freight and provides direct access to major Luzon expressways. Additional runway capacity and a multimodal hub connecting the airport to rail are also in the pipeline.

CIAC, the aviation and land development arm of the Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA), said the infrastructure is intended to meet the needs of industries requiring efficient logistics, including semiconductors, artificial intelligence, and critical minerals.

The development also complements broader initiatives such as the Luzon Economic Corridor and Pax Silica, as the Philippines seeks to strengthen its position as a regional logistics and technology hub.

While passenger growth, route connectivity, and cargo throughput remain CIAC's core priorities, the corporation said the expansion of Clark Aviation Capital will provide additional support for technology-driven and other industries that depend on a reliable Central Luzon logistics network.

PSHS Training Center to rise in NCC soon

NEW CLARK CITY — The Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) and the Department of Science and Technology (DOST) signed an agreement to advance the construction of the Philippine Science High School (PSHS) Training Center in New Clark City, establishing clear commitments for facility management, campus infrastructure, and shared venue usage.

The project moves forward following BCDA's securing of funding for Phase 1, supporting the development of New Clark City's Research and Development (R&D) district, where the PSHS Campus is situated. The building is expected to be partially operationalized by early 2027.

Project development initially commenced in 2021 and wrapped up its early phase in March 2023, covering 35 percent of the overall scope.

"Supporting the completion and operationalization of the PSHS Training Center is part of our commitment to make New Clark City a place for learning, innovation, and discovery, where Filipinos can participate and thrive in building the industries of tomorrow," said BCDA President and CEO Joshua M. Bingcang.

Under the agreement, the BCDA has committed to executing the complete fit-out works for the training center alongside essential surrounding campus infrastructure. In support of the development, the framework streamlines utility connections through direct tapping protocols and

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PSHS

NLEX delivers relief aid to flood-affected communities

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO — NLEX Corporation has distributed around 500 sacks of rice and relief packages to 11 local government units (LGUs) and 64 host barangays, supporting families affected by recent flooding and severe weather.

The relief assistance reached communities in Dinalupihan and Hermosa in Bataan; San Simon, Sto. Tomas, and Apalit in Pampanga; Guiguinto, Bocaue, Balagtas, Pulilan, Plaridel, Malolos, Meycauayan, and Marilao in Bulacan; as well as the cities of San Fernando and Angeles in Pampanga, and Manila and Quezon City.

"Our responsibility goes beyond keeping our expressways safe and operational. We are also part of the communities we serve, and we have a responsibility to stand with them when they need support the most," said NLEX President and GM Luis S. Reñon. "Through our coordination with local leaders and community partners, we can respond directly to the needs of affected families and get assistance to them as quickly as possible."

For Barangay Duhat Chairman Faustino M. Dela Cruz of Bocaue, Bulacan, the assistance came at a

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NLEX



CCA opens up more opportunities for young Angelenos

ANGELES CITY — More opportunities for young Angeleños are opening up as the City College of Angeles (CCA) formalized a strategic partnership with Universal Access and Systems Solutions (UAS) through a Triple Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) signed on August 26, 2026.

Mayor Carmelo "Jon" Lazatin II, chairman of the CCA Board of Trustees, led the college in formalizing the partnership, which seeks to strengthen the link between education and industry while providing students and faculty with greater exposure to current workplace practices.

The agreement covers three key areas:

- **Faculty Immersion** — providing faculty members with direct exposure to current industry practices and standards;
- **Student Internship** — giving students hands-on experience in actual IT and BPO work environments; and
- **Credentialing-to-Employment Agreement** — establishing a clearer pathway from professional certification to potential employment opportunities.

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CCA



Cong Pogi supports M4GG call against corruption

FIRST DISTRICT, PAMPANGA — "I support the renewed call of the Mayors for Good Governance against corruption and to observe public oversight in the national budget."

Thus said Pampanga First District Representative Carmelo "Pogi" Lazatin, Jr. on August 26, 2026, following the renewed pledge of the Mayors for Good Governance (M4GG) to push for "transparent, accountable, and people-centered governance through strong and empowered local governments" during their third anniversary summit on August 22.

M4GG is a coalition of incumbent mayors of various cities and municipalities in the country. The coalition was formed in August 2023 when more than 100 Philippine mayors signed a "good governance" manifesto.

Lazatin, who served as Angeles City Mayor from 2019 to 2025, was a member of M4GG from 2023 to 2025 before being elected as Congressman in 2026.

The current

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CONG POGI





Best acting performances by Ensembles in Cinemalaya



CINEMALAYA Philippine Independent Film Festival has given Balanghain trophies for Best Acting performances by an ensemble eight times: Tribu (2007); Mga Mumunting Lihim (2012); Transit (2013); #Y (2014); Hiblang Abo (2016); Duyan ng Magiting (2023); Open Endings (2025); and Tayo Lang Ang Nakakaalam (2026).

Tribu (2007) stars real-life rival gang members from Tondo who played the characters. The story unfolds through the eyes of Ebet, a 10-year-old boy who witnesses a random street killing that triggers a vicious, explosive gang war among juvenile "tribes". The film heavily features underground hip-hop culture, freestyle gangsta rap, local street language, and the harsh realities of urban poverty.

Mga Mumunting Lihim (2012) stars Judy Ann Santos, Iza Calzado, Janice de Belen and Agot Isidro. The film tells the story of four female friends and the secrets behind their friendship. Themes of forgiveness, acceptance, and the resilience of true friendship are explored as the characters try to come to terms with the revelations and find a way to rebuild their bond.

Transit (2013) stars Irma Adlawan, Marc Alvarez, Mercedes Cabral, Jasmine Curtis, and Ping Medina. The film tracks the intersecting lives of five Filipino migrant workers facing a sudden crisis. A new Israeli law mandates the deportation of children of foreign workers under the age of five. It focuses on Moises, a single father who must hide his young son Joshua from immigration police.

#Y (2014) stars Sophie Albert,

Coleen Garcia, Elmo Magalona, Chynna Ortaleza, and Kit Thompson. The film chronicles the lives of modern, affluent youth. It focuses on a college student named Miles who struggles with suicidal thoughts, contrasted against his group's fast-paced lifestyle of social media, parties, drugs, and alcohol.

Hiblang Abo (2016) features Lou Veloso, Jun Urbano, Leo Rialp and Nanding Josef. The story follows four elderly men spending their twilight years inside a hospice facility while dealing with muted memories, infinite struggles, and the shared inevitability of death.

Duyan ng Magiting (2023) stars Dolly De Leo, Bituin Escalante, Agot Isidro, Miggy Jimenez, Jojit Lorenzo, Frances Makil-Ignacio, Paolo O'Hara, Joel Saracho, and Dylan Ray Talon. The film is a collection of interwoven stories about life and violence in the Philippines, following a college professor, a university chancellor, a social worker, a police chief, two students, two mothers, and a lawyer.

The cast was cited for "powerful acting that credibly renders the opposing viewpoints in the history of political violence and culture of impunity that seem to have bedeviled the Philippines since the turn of the new century."

Open Endings (2025) stars Jasmine Curtis-Smith, Janella Salvador, Klea Pineda and Leanne Mamonong. It is a sapphic film on four queer women in their 30s who are ex-girlfriends turned girl friends navigating the best and worst moments of romance, friendship, and past ties.

The cast was cited for "the seamless chemistry, emotional depth, and playful vitality of four performances that breathe life into a rare story of chosen family and intimacy; and for capturing with

honesty, humor, and grace the enduring bonds between queer women navigating love, loss, and friendship."

Tayo Lang Ang Nakakaalam (2026) features Martin Del Rosario, Yayo Aguila, Miguel Oldron, and Epy Quizon. Neil and Bong are closeted gays. Their relationship is only known to their immediate families—Bong's parents and Neil's mom. The real illness of Bong (HIV) that led to his death is concealed and replaced by the less stigmatizing and more acceptable colon cancer, stage 4.

The cast was cited for "their deeply cohesive and moving portrayals; for authentically rendering through their characters the tender dynamics and throbbing warmth of Philippine family life; for bringing profound tenderness to an agonizing existential crisis; and

for portraying a devoted partner and a loving family united in care and grief as they stand by their terribly sick loved one's side."

There were ties in the Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress, and Special Jury awards.

In 2024, the Best Actress award was shared by Marian Rivera (Balota) and Gabby Padilla (Kono Basho). In 2026, it was shared by Marietta "Pokwang" Subong (2 Valid IDs) and Ruby Ruiz (Status: Rejected).

The Best Supporting Actress award was shared in 2016 by Lollie Mara (Ang Bagong Pamilya ni Ponching) and Elizabeth Oropesa (America).

The Best Supporting

Actor award for 2026 was a tie between Lucas Andalio (Maglina) and K.D. Omalin (Hand Of God).

The Special Jury Prize was shared in 2009 between "Ang Panggagahasa kay Fe" by Alvin Yapan and "Colorum" by Jobin Ballesteros.

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Pax Silica: The New Cold War Comes to Clark

A pair of maps has been making the rounds online. One shows a blue coalition called Pax Silica, clustered around the United States and its partners, with the motto "Securing the Silicon Supply Chain." The other, in red, charts China's World Artificial Intelligence Cooperation Organization, or WAICO, stretching across much of the Global South.

The caption accompanying the maps was blunt: "So this is the battle line for the new cold war, huh?"

Here in Central Luzon, that battle line is no longer abstract. It runs through 1,620 hectares of New Clark City in Capas, Tarlac—and through communities where people have been farming, drawing water, and raising families long before anyone began calling the area an "AI-native industrial hub."

Clark has been here before.

For decades during the old Cold War, Clark Air Base was a strategic chess piece between the United States and the Soviet Union. It was one of the largest

American military installations outside the continental United States, serving as a forward base for projecting power across Asia and containing communist influence.

When the bases agreement ended and the Americans left in 1991, the land was converted for civilian use. Clark became an airport, a freeport, a business center, and one of Central Luzon's biggest development stories.

Now the same former military reservation is being drawn back into great-power rivalry. This time, the weapons are not tanks and bombers but semiconductors, critical minerals, data centers, and artificial intelligence. The old Cold War between Washington and Moscow has given way to an increasingly open technological contest between Washington and Beijing.

Clark is once again on the board.

The Philippines joined Pax Silica in April. Its flagship local project is a planned industrial hub inside New Clark City, on land managed by the Bases Conversion and Development Authority. Officials say it could attract tens of billions of dollars in investment, create 130,000 to 190,000 direct jobs, and help the Philippines move beyond assembling electronics and exporting raw minerals.

The first phase could begin within

three to five years. Full development may take three decades.

For many people in Clark, Angeles, Mabalacat, and Tarlac, those numbers sound like the next great economic opportunity after the BPO boom. Thousands of families in Central Luzon have benefited from the growth of Clark, and it would be foolish to dismiss the possibility that Pax Silica could create another generation of well-paying jobs.

But residents closest to the proposed site are hearing something else.

Farmers and Aeta communities in Barangays Sta. Lucia, O'Donnell, and Aranguren have raised fears about their homes, farms, and water sources. Miriam Ventura, a farmer from Sta. Lucia, has said that hundreds of families in her barangay could be affected. Petronroniza Capriz-Muñoz, an Aeta chieftain from Sapang Kawayan, has spoken about land not as a commodity on a development map, but as the community's home, livelihood, and inheritance for future generations.

Those voices should not be reduced to a paragraph in an environmental report after the major decisions

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were dredging and declogging waterways, construction of floodgates and pumping stations, sabo dams, rehabilitation of flood-control infrastructure, and a proposed 100-kilometer dike road.

While immediate relief remains critical, Pineda’s emotional plea underscored the deeper challenge facing Pampanga—finding a

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tropical disturbances Maymay and Luis, and the enhanced southwest monsoon.

The President said the extraordinary volume of rainfall overwhelmed existing flood-control measures, cautioning against viewing the disaster solely as an infrastructure failure and citing the intensity of rainfall and the effects of climate change.

“Ito ay ang naging resulta ng climate change. Kailangan maunawaan din ng tao na ‘yung climate change ay talagang nandito na at nandiyan tayo naaapektuhan,” he noted.

He said immediate priorities include food, shelter, health services and other assistance while authorities assess the damage and monitor weather conditions.

“Hindi pa tapos ito. So, we will continue to monitor. We will continue to do everything that we can so that we will mitigate the effects of this very strong rain and the flooding that follows it,” Marcos Jr. said.

The DSWD has provided P243.37 million in assistance to affected families and made P2.63 million in standby funds available for continuing relief operations.

It has also positioned 127,947 family food packs at its Central Luzon regional office for distribution to affected communities.

Marcos Jr. said national and local agencies would continue coordinating relief efforts for residents affected by the floods.

The President said authorities must first determine the extent of damage in submerged areas before major repairs begin to ensure that public funds are not spent on facilities that could again be destroyed by succeeding floods.

The Department of

permanent solution to floods that repeatedly displace families, damage livelihoods and leave communities struggling to recover.

President Marcos assured local officials of continued national-local coordination to speed up assistance and pursue stronger, long-term flood-control solutions for Central Luzon.

Public Works and Highways (DPWH) is conducting maintenance and de-clogging operations in drainage systems and waterways while prioritizing damaged flood-control structures.

DPWH Secretary Vince Dizon said the government would also determine whether contractors could be held accountable for damaged infrastructure still under warranty.

For her part, Pampanga Governor Lilia Pineda called for long-term measures to address the province’s recurring floods, saying downstream communities continue to receive large volumes of water from neighboring provinces and watersheds.

“Matagal na panahon na lagi kaming lumulubog,” Pineda said, noting that water from Aurora, the Sierra Madre, and Nueva Ecija eventually flows toward Pampanga and Manila Bay.

She said prolonged flooding has placed a heavy burden on residents, particularly senior citizens, children, and sick people who have difficulty leaving their homes to work or obtain food.

“Naaawa na ako sa mga kababayan natin. Tumataas yung tubig. Dati hanggang baywang lang. Ngayon inaabutan na ‘yung bubong. Saka matagal na silang nakalubog talaga,” Pineda said.

The governor said she was encouraged by the government’s plans for upstream flood-control interventions, including dams and other structures to help regulate water flowing into Pampanga.

She said the President’s commitment to a long-term flood-management plan had given affected communities hope that the province could eventually find lasting relief from recurring floods.

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The expansion supports the administration of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.’s efforts to strengthen Philippine sports through improved facilities, training environments, and support systems.

This aligns with Marcos’ emphasis during his fifth State of the Nation

PSHS... FROM PAGE 2

establishes clear cost-recovery guidelines to cover ongoing campus maintenance.

The agreement also grants BCDA official access and venue-use rights to host events within the PSHS Training Center’s Plenary Hall and auxiliary spaces. Furthermore, the agency secures naming rights for designated facilities across the property, including major halls and training rooms.

“This collaboration goes far beyond building physical infrastructure. It is a long-term investment in our people, opening new pathways for learning, professional growth, and innovation,” DOST Secretary Renato Umali Solidum Jr. said.

The PSHS Infinitum in New Clark City will serve as a central hub for senior high school education, teacher resources, and administrative operations. Vital to the learning and service continuity of the PSHS System, the campus advances ongoing modernization efforts with laboratories, academic spaces, training venues, and

Address on the importance of sports and the national government’s increased investment in the sector.

Since becoming operational in 2021, NAS has continued to serve as a pathway for student-athletes to gain high-level sports training while pursuing academic excellence.

staff quarters designed to enable immersive learning and professional growth.

As an attached agency of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), the PSHS System contributes to nation-building by developing a critical mass of leaders and professionals in science and technology.

This initiative forms part of the national agenda of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to strengthen science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, bolster national research capacity, and empower the next generation of Filipino scientists and innovators.

Present at the signing ceremony were PSHS System Executive Director Dr. Ronnalee N. Orteza, PSHS System Deputy Executive Director Dr. Shena Faith M. Ganela, PSHS-Central Luzon Campus (CLC) Campus Director Theresa Anne O. Diaz, and BCDA Executive Vice President and COO Atty. Gisela Z. Kalalo.

CCA... FROM PAGE 2

Through the initiatives, CCA students will be able to apply classroom learning in real-world work settings while developing their technical skills, confidence, professionalism and workplace readiness.

The partnership will also allow CCA faculty members to gain a better understanding of evolving industry practices and workforce requirements, helping ensure that classroom instruction remains responsive to employers’ needs.

With the support of the Angeles City government, the partnership strengthens the connection among education, skills development and employment, giving young

Angeleños greater access to meaningful learning experiences and clearer career pathways.

The Triple MOA marks another step toward preparing CCA students not only to earn their degrees but also to gain the experience, credentials and skills needed to compete in today’s workforce.

For Lazatin, investing in education means investing in the future of Angeles City. By strengthening ties between academe and industry, the city is helping young Angeleños move closer to their career goals while preparing them to contribute to the community’s continued growth.

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convenors of the M4GG are Mayors Joy Belmonte of Quezon City, Vico Sotto of Pasig City, Benjamin Magalong of Baguio City, and Sitti Hataman of Isabela, Basilan.

“Public office is a public trust. It is our duty as public servants to ensure that we are always serving our constituents in good conscience,” Lazatin said.

It can be recalled that in September last year, Lazatin also released his Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Net Worth (SALN) to the public, in support of the call of House Speaker Faustino “Bojie” Dy III for government officials, particularly lawmakers, to reveal SALN, amid issues of massive corruption in infrastructure projects.

“The public disclosure of government officials’ SALN is one small step to slowly rebuild trust and confidence,” Lazatin said.

The SALN is an annual document submitted by all government officials and employees. Its purpose is to ensure transparency and

accountability in the civil service by requiring public officials and employees to declare their true assets, liabilities, net worth, business interests, and financial connections annually.

This promotes honest governance and serves as a deterrent against corruption, helping to identify public officials who may be enriching themselves through unlawful means.

During his time as Angeles City Mayor, Lazatin initiated the upgrade and computerization of revenue-generating processes – first initiated by Lazatin’s father, former Mayor Carmelo “Tarzan” Lazatin – in the local government not only to improve services but to minimize the risk of ‘fixers’ being used to bypass standard procedures.

Lazatin also expressed support for the move to put the entire national budget on blockchain, starting with the 2026 General Appropriations Act (GAA), which digitized the entire budget cycle, ensuring that it is recorded in a permanent and tamper-proof digital ledger.

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have already been made.

The government says no farmers will be displaced. But a promise alone is not enough. It must be supported by a public map of the final project boundaries, a complete accounting of the families and farms within and around the site, and legally enforceable protections. A press statement is not a land-rights policy.

The project also raises hard questions about water and electricity. Semiconductor plants and data centers are resource-intensive operations. If Pax Silica requires new reservoirs, transmission facilities, power plants, or groundwater extraction, the public deserves to know where these will be built, who will pay for them, and whether nearby households and farms will end up competing with the hub for basic resources.

Central Luzon residents should not have to subsidize an international technology project through higher electricity rates, depleted wells, reduced irrigation, or the conversion of more agricultural land.

This is where the discussion must move beyond slogans about innovation.

The hub must produce more than assembly-line jobs. Any agreement should include measurable commitments for training Filipino engineers, technicians, programmers, researchers, and plant managers. Universities and technical schools in Pampanga and Tarlac should be part of the project from the beginning, not invited later to provide low-cost labor.

Technology transfer must also mean more than allowing Filipinos to operate foreign-owned equipment. Local companies should receive opportunities to become suppliers, develop intellectual property, and participate in higher-value work. Otherwise, the Philippines could remain where it has long been in the global electronics industry: essential to production but far from the most profitable parts of the business.

The same standard should apply to local economic benefits. Jobs, procurement contracts, training funds, and tax revenues must remain in the communities hosting the project. A development of this scale should produce public benefits that residents can see—not only investment figures announced in Manila or Washington.

Sovereignty is another concern that cannot simply be waved away.

Early reports suggesting that the zone might operate under American law or enjoy diplomatic immunity were firmly rejected by Philippine officials. They insist that the project will remain under Philippine jurisdiction and operate under the BCDA charter.

Good. That condition should be absolute.

There should be no legal gray zone, no special immunity, and no future arrangement allowing foreign companies or officials to avoid Philippine labor, environmental, tax, or criminal laws. If exceptions

and side agreements begin appearing once investors arrive, the sovereignty assurances being offered today will mean very little.

Globally, Pax Silica is Washington’s attempt to build trusted supply chains for the chips, minerals, computing systems, and infrastructure that power artificial intelligence. China’s WAICO offers a competing vision, emphasizing cooperation with developing countries and the narrowing of the technology gap.

By joining Pax Silica, the Philippines has moved closer to the American-led side of this contest. That choice may bring access to capital, advanced technology, and partnerships with countries seeking alternatives to Chinese-controlled supply chains. It may also reduce our dependence on a single market for minerals and electronics.

But alignment has a price. The Philippines is tying part of its industrial future to a rivalry that will probably intensify for decades.

We should therefore stop treating every concern about Pax Silica as opposition to progress. Farmers asking where the boundaries will fall are not opposing technology. Aeta leaders defending ancestral land are not rejecting national development. Residents asking about water, power, pollution, and jurisdiction are asking the questions government should have answered before unveiling a project of this size.

Before the first phase proceeds, several conditions should be non-negotiable: public disclosure of the final site and infrastructure plans; independent environmental and water studies; binding protection for farmers and Indigenous communities; guaranteed Philippine jurisdiction; clear targets for local hiring and technology transfer; and regular public reporting of the project’s water use, power consumption, jobs, contracts, and tax contributions.

If these requirements make the project more difficult or expensive, so be it. Safeguards are not obstacles to development. They are what separate development from exploitation.

Pax Silica could help the Philippines move up the semiconductor value chain and establish Central Luzon as a serious technology center. I want that promise to be real. But grand strategy does not automatically put food on a farmer’s table, lower an electric bill, protect a watershed, or create a career for a Filipino engineering graduate.

The maps of the new cold war look clean from a distance. On the ground in Capas, the lines pass through farms, water sources, ancestral claims, and actual communities.

Clark was once used as a chess piece in the struggle between Washington and Moscow. We should not allow it to become one again in the contest between Washington and Beijing.

This time, the Philippines must do more than host the board. We must set the rules—and enforce them.

Republic of the Philippines
SUPREME COURT
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT
THIRD JUDICIAL REGION
City of San Fernando, Pampanga

Office of the Clerk of Court & Ex-Officio Sheriff

BDO UNIBANK, INC.,
REPRESENTED BY LEINE A. DE
CASTRO,

Petitioner-Mortgagee,

-versus-

SPOUSES SCHERRAINE ROSE
TUAZON SANCHEZ AND
HUSSEIN AHMAD HUSSEIN,
REPRESENTED BY PRINCESS
JHEANYN TUAZON
VALIMENTO, ATTORNEY-IN-
FACT,

Respondents-Mortgagors,

E.J.F. No. 84-26
Real Estate Mortgage
Under Act 3135 as
Amended by Act 4118

NOTICE OF EXTRA-JUDICIAL SALE

Upon extra-judicial petition for sale under Act 3135/1508 filed by BDO UNIBANK, INC., represented by Leine A. De Castro, mortgagee, with its postal address at 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue, Wack-Wack, Mandaluyong City, against SPOUSES SCHERRAINE ROSE TUAZON SANCHEZ AND HUSSEIN AHMAD HUSSEIN, REPRESENTED BY PRINCESS JHEANYN TUAZON VALIMENTO, ATTORNEY-IN-FACT, respondents/mortgagors, with postal address at (1) No. 122 Bona St., Sta. Cruz, Lubao, Pampanga; (2) Unit 807 8th Floor Bali The Resort Residences, Azure North, North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) cor. Jose Abad Santos, Barangay San Jose, City of San Fernando, Pampanga, to satisfy the mortgage indebtedness which as of June 1, 2026 amounts to THIRTEEN MILLION FOUR HUNDRED SIXTY FOUR THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FIFTY FIVE PESOS & 57/100 (PhP13,464,155.57) excluding penalties, attorney's fees and expenses of foreclosure, the undersigned duly authorized deputy sheriff will sell at public auction on October 28, 2026 at 10:00 A.M. or soon thereafter at the main entrance of the Regional Trial Court, Capitol Compound, City of San Fernando, Pampanga, to the highest bidder for CASH or MANAGER'S CHECK and in Philippine Currency, the following property with all improvements, to wit:

CONDOMINIUM CERTIFICATE OF TITLE NO.
042-2025000601
(Republic Act No. 4726)

IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED that the unit identified as:

"AZURE NORTH
BUILDING TWO- BALI
LOCATION: EIGHT FLOOR
UNIT NO. ROOM 807
FLOOR AREA: 94.57 SQUARE METER

in the diagrammatic floor plan appended to the enabling or master deed of the condominium project annotated on TRANSFER CERTIFICATE OF TITLE 2018009773 which embraces and describes the land located at SAN JOSE, CITY OF SAN FERNANDO, PAMPANGA X X X, is registered in the name of:

Owner: SCHERRAINE ROSE TUAZON SANCHEZ,
FILIPINO CITIZEN, MARRIED TO HUSSEIN AHMAD
HUSSEIN, LEBANESE CITIZEN

Address: No. 122, BONA STREET, SANTA CRUZ, LUBAO,
PAMPANGA

X X X"

All sealed bids must be submitted to the undersigned on the above stated time and date.

In the event the public auction should not take place on the said date, it shall be held on November 4, 2026, without further notice.

City of San Fernando, Pampanga, August 24, 2026.

(SGD)
PILIPINAS P. CAMBA
Sheriff IV, RTC-OCC, CSF(P)

CC:
1. BDO UNIBANK, INC.
- 33rd Floor, BDO Corporate Center, Ortigas, No. 12 ADB Avenue,
Wack-Wack, Mandaluyong City

2. SCHERRAINE ROSE TUAZON SANCHEZ, m/t HUSSEIN
AHMAD HUSSEIN
- No. 122, Bona Street, Sta. Cruz, Lubao, Pampanga
- Unit 807 8th Floor Bali The Resort Residences, Azure North,
North Luzon Expressway (NLEX) cor. Jose Abad Santos, Barangay
San Jose, City of San Fernando, Pampanga

3. PRINCESS JHEANYN TUAZON VALIMENTO
- No. 122, Bona Street, Sta. Cruz, Lubao, Pampanga

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY. August 30 September 6,13, 2026

BCDA boosts community dev't through reforestation

NEW CLARK CITY — The Bases Conversion and Development Authority (BCDA) strengthened its efforts to promote sustainable community development in New Clark City through reforestation activities and continued partnership with the Ayta community.

BCDA President and Chief Executive Officer Joshua Bingcang emphasized that the development of New Clark City goes beyond infrastructure, with environmental protection and support for local communities also forming part of its development efforts.

"Every tree we plant today is an investment in a greener, healthier, and more sustainable future for generations of Filipinos," he said.

Through its latest tree-planting activity, BCDA reached 75 percent

of its 2026 reforestation target after planting 506 additional native tree saplings with the support of Pag-IBIG Fund, Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation, and members of the Ayta community.

With the activity, BCDA has already planted a total of 1,500 native trees in 2026, bringing it closer to its target of 2,000 tree saplings by the end of the rainy planting season.

The tree-planting initiative included native species which were selected for their contributions to biodiversity, soil stabilization, erosion prevention, carbon sequestration, and the strengthening of green spaces near waterways.

In addition, BCDA also strengthened its support for local farming communities by distributing 20 sacks of fertilizer to Ayta farmers

from Sitio Sapang Kawayan in Capas, Tarlac.

The agricultural inputs are expected to help improve farm productivity, reduce production costs, and support the livelihoods of farming families as they prepare for the next planting season.

Bingcang underscored the importance of supporting local communities alongside the development of New Clark City.

"Strong communities are built when development creates opportunities for everyone. Supporting our partner farmers is one way we can help strengthen local livelihoods while ensuring that progress is shared with the communities around New Clark City. We value the role of our partner communities in caring for our environment and helping build a more sustainable future together," he stated.

The initiative supports the national government's efforts under the leadership of President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. to promote sustainable development, protect the environment, and create inclusive opportunities for communities.

Through its various initiatives, BCDA continues to advance environmental protection while creating long-term opportunities for communities through environmental programs, community partnerships, and sustainable livelihoods as part of its agenda of developing New Clark City into a smart, green, and resilient metropolis.



Ayta farmers from Sitio Sapang Kawayan in Capas, Tarlac, join the tree-planting activity organized by the Bases Conversion and Development Authority in New Clark City, where they also received farming support. (BCDA)

DTI-3 assists MSMEs to adopt sustainable business practices



Intermediate Training on ESG and Sustainability Reporting under the Sustainable Practices and Reporting Kickoff (SPARK) Project of DTI-3 and GRI.

Republic of the Philippines
Third Judicial Region
Regional Trial Court
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE JUDGE
Angeles City
rtc1angocc@judiciary.gov.ph | 09319382192

ATTY. LETLET M. GULLUNAN- ISRAEL, Application No. 26-1413

Petitioner.

ATTY. CHARLES WILLIAM V. MANANSALA, Application No. 26-1414

x-----x

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

Notice is hereby given that summary hearings on the petition for notarial commission of:

ATTY. LETLET M. GULLUNAN-ISRAEL
ATTY. CHARLES WILLIAM V. MANANSALA

will be held on September 07, 2026 at the Regional Trial Court, Branch 60, Hall of Justice, Pulung Maragul, Angeles City at 1:30 p.m.. Any person who has any cause or reason to object to the grant of the petitions may file a verified written opposition thereto, received by the undersigned before the date of the summary hearings.

Angeles City, August 13, 2026.

(SGD)
EDA P. DIZON
Executive Judge

THE VOICE NEWSWEEKLY. August 30, 2026

The Department of Trade and Industry Region 3 (DTI-3) is helping micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) make their businesses more sustainable through training on Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) and sustainability reporting.

On August 12, 2026, DTI-3, through its Green Economic Development (GED) Program, conducted an Intermediate Training on ESG and Sustainability Reporting under the Sustainable Practices and Reporting Kickoff (SPARK) Project, in partnership with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI).

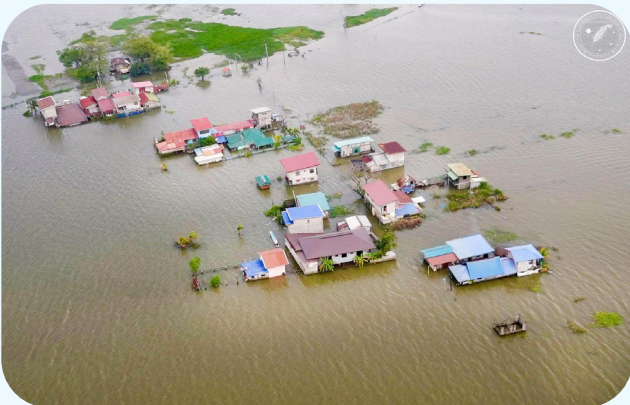
The training brought together MSME representatives from Aurora, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac, and Zambales. The participants learned how businesses can reduce their environmental impact, treat workers and communities responsibly, and improve the way they manage their businesses.

The training also introduced participants to sustainability reporting, which allows businesses to document and communicate their efforts and progress in areas such as environmental protection, employee welfare, community involvement, and good business practices.

Vincent Tan de Paz of GRI served as resource speaker for the session on ESG and sustainability reporting. Participants also took part in hands-on activities using the SPARK Template, covering the economic, environmental, and social aspects of sustainability. They applied what they learned through case studies, group activities, and presentations of their proposed sustainability initiatives.

"We want our MSMEs to see sustainability not as an added burden, but as an opportunity to improve their businesses. By adopting responsible practices, our MSMEs can become more competitive while creating positive benefits for their workers, communities, and the environment," DTI-3 Regional Director Edna D. Dizon said.

AERIAL INSPECTION.



President Ferdinand Bongbong Marcos Jr. and Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) Secretary Vince Dizon conducted an aerial inspection of flood-affected areas in Pampanga and Bulacan during a recent visit.

MACABEBE DISTRICT HOSPITAL



SAN LUIS



SANTA RITA PARISH CHURCH



LUBAO



STO. TOMAS



APALIT



APALIT



SAN FERNANDO

