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THE PHILIPPINE STAR:

Suspension lifted vs Bohol execs in Chocolate Hills case

[Elizabeth Marcelo](#) - The Philippine Star

October 2, 2024 | 12:00am



Captain's Peak Garden and Resort in Barangay Canmano in the municipality of Sagbayan.

Facebook / Screenshot from Ren The Adventurere

MANILA, Philippines — The Office of the Ombudsman has lifted the six-month preventive suspension order it earlier issued against several mayors and barangay officials in Bohol in connection with the construction of Captain's Peak Garden and Resort at the foot of Chocolate Hills.

In a 25-page consolidated order signed by Ombudsman Samuel Martires on Sept. 30, the preventive suspension of 32 local officials in Bohol was ordered lifted immediately.

The ombudsman's reason for the early lifting of the suspension order against the local officials was not immediately made public.

An official of the ombudsman's Public Information and Media Relations Bureau said the entire copy of the Consolidated Order "cannot be released as it contains issues pertaining to other respondents."

Last May 22, the ombudsman ordered the preventive suspension of up to six months of Bohol governor Erico Aumentado and 68 other local officials in Bohol as it investigated an administrative case against them in connection with the construction of Captain's Peak Garden and Resort.

In a Consolidated Order issued on July 31, however, the ombudsman ordered the lifting of the suspension of Aumentado and 30 other local officials.

Aside from Aumentado, among those earlier ordered reinstated were mayors Antonino Jumawid of Batuan, Elizabeth Pace of Catigban, Eugeniano Ibarra of Clarin, Dionisio Neil Balite of Valencia, Michael Doria of Sierra-Bullones and Norman Palacio of Bilar.

Also earlier reinstated under the July 31 Consolidate Order were vice mayors Simplicio Maestrado Jr., James Diolan, Ian Bernadez, Emmanuel Jumawid, Maria Jala, Flaviano Pacatang, Rolando Pataca, Gerardo Salces, Eugene Cabrera and Ricardo Francisco Toribio.

Meanwhile, in the new Consolidated Order, the ombudsman ordered the reinstatement of mayors Restituto Suarez III of Sagbayan, Manuel Jayectin of Bilar and Conchita Delos Reyes of Carmen.

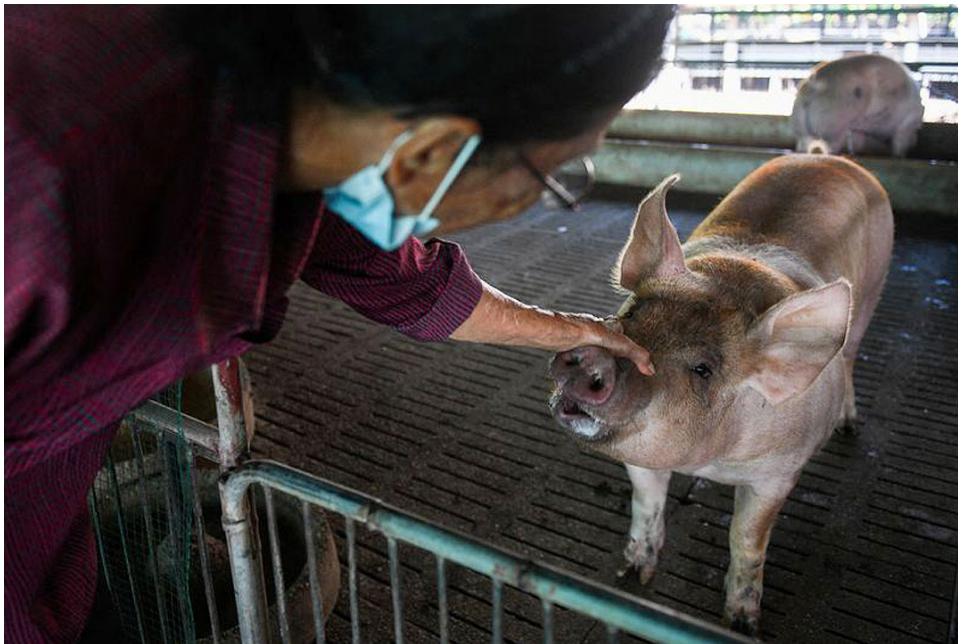
Also lifted were the preventive suspension of Department of Agriculture Region 7 regional director Joel Elumba, Philippine National Police Region 7 regional director Police Brigadier General Valeriano de Leon, Bilar Tourism officer Perfecto Bambe and more than 20 barangay officials.

<https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2024/10/02/2389515/suspension-lifted-vs-bohol-execs-chocolate-hills-case>

BUSINESS WORLD:

Nearly half-million doses of ASF vaccine due by mid-Oct.

October 1, 2024 | 9:15 pm



REUTERS

THE Department of Agriculture (DA) said on Tuesday that it is expecting to deploy 490,000 doses of the African Swine Fever (ASF) vaccine by mid-October.

“By Oct. 17-19, the (Bureau of Animal Industry) will issue a notice to proceed with the 490,000 doses that were procured,” Assistant Secretary and Spokesperson Arnel V. de Mesa told reporters.

The DA has allocated P350 million for the initial government-run trial, sufficient to fund about 600,000 vials of the ASF vaccine from Vietnam.

“With those doses, hopefully, we can offer additional protection to our pigs,” he added.

Mr. De Mesa said that despite the ongoing outbreak, the meat supply is expected to be sufficient until the year-end holidays.

“Our requirements this holiday season were programmed during the second quarter of the year,” he added.

Pork imports during the first half increased 10.7% to 316.99 million kilograms.

“The imported meats are starting to arrive or have already arrived,” he said.

“Although we still have ASF within affected areas, this would be easily compensated for by supply coming in from other countries,” Mr. De Mesa added.

As of Sept. 20, 125 municipalities across 31 provinces had active ASF cases, the BAI reported.

The DA has set up checkpoints to monitor the movement of hogs outside active ASF areas. It is allowing healthy hogs within ASF-affected areas to travel after proper verification. — Adrian H. Halili

<https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2024/10/01/625178/nearly-half-million-doses-of-asf-vaccine-due-by-mid-oct/>

BUSINESS WORLD:

Dairy breeder herd to be expanded via imports

October 1, 2024 | 9:14 pm



REUTERS

THE National Dairy Authority (NDA) said on Tuesday that it is looking to expand the herd at its stock farms ahead of plans to boost overall dairy animal numbers.

“The NDA will be aggressively importing cattle for our stock farms for the herd to multiply under the care of NDA. The acclimatized offspring of these dairy cattle will be the ones to be distributed to our dairy farmers,” Administrator Marcus Antonius T. Andaya said in a statement.

Mr. Andaya added that five new stock farms are set to be completed by the end of the year with operations set to launch by early 2025. They will be located in Nueva Ecija, Bohol, Bukidnon, Cotabato and Agusan Del Sur.

The NDA said that the new stock farms will eventually help increase the domestic dairy herd to about 80,000 head.

He said that the NDA is also focusing on increasing milk yields and providing training for farmers.

The NDA aims to increase dairy production to 80 million liters per year by 2028, equivalent to about 5% of milk demand. The agency operates in 68 provinces, assisting almost 2,500 farmers and 1,324 dairy organizations.

The Philippines can meet less than 1% of its milk demand through domestic production, with the remainder needing to be imported.

Dairy imports are forecast to increase 7.3% in 2024 to 2.49 million metric tons of milk equivalent, according to a report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

In the first half, dairy imports rose 12.9% to 1.65 million metric tons. The Philippines typically imports skim milk powder, followed by other milk powders and ready-to-drink milk. — Adrian H. Halili

<https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2024/10/01/625172/dairy-breeder-herd-to-be-expanded-via-imports/>

BUSINESS WORLD:

Vietnam to remain top rice supplier after India eases restrictions

September 30, 2024 | 8:31 pm



REUTERS

RICE IMPORTERS are expected to continue relying on Vietnam for their supply even after India eased its export controls on white rice, analysts said.

On Saturday, the India's Directorate of Foreign Trade announced the lifting of the export ban on non-basmati white rice, citing high inventory levels. The Indian government imposed a minimum export price of \$490 per metric ton (MT).

Former Agriculture Undersecretary Fermin D. Adriano said Vietnamese traders are expected to match India's low export price, pushing prices lower overall.

Vietnam is the Philippines' top supplier of rice. Both governments signed a supply agreement in January giving the Philippines a quota of 1.5 million MT to 2 million MT of rice annually for five years.

"If that happens, our traders will import from their usual Vietnamese '*suki*' (trusted sellers) instead of buying from India as they are not familiar with the exporters there," Mr. Adriano said via Viber.

India, the world's largest exporter of white rice, suspended exports of non-basmati white rice last year amid concerns over domestic supply, putting upward pressure on international prices.

"We hope that world price of rice will go down a bit," Agriculture Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Jr. said via text message.

Mr. Laurel has said that the ban on Indian rice exports pushed world rice prices higher, elevating the cost of imports which the government is counting on to keep rice affordable.

To lower the price of rice, President Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. signed Executive Order No. (EO) 62, which reduced tariffs on imported rice to 15% from 35% until 2028.

The Department of Agriculture (DA) said that EO 62 could bring down rice prices by P6 to P7 per kilogram.

“The lifting of the import ban could increase overall supply in the global rice market and lead to a softening of international rice prices,” Federation of Free Farmers National Director Raul Q. Montemayor said via Viber.

He added that the minimum export price is about 10% less than the \$500 per MT export price charged by Vietnam and Thailand.

“It is only a minimum, so actual selling prices could be higher,” Mr. Montemayor said.

He added that importers have not patronized Indian rice despite the low price, citing quality and reliability concerns. “In the past, more rice from Pakistan was imported than from India,” he added.

“This is a big relief globally and particularly the Philippines. With EO 62 in place, the importers will now have a choice as where to source rice, much more affordable rice,” former Agriculture Secretary William D. Dar said in a text message.

The Philippines typically imports about 20% of its rice requirement.

“The Indian rice will be an attraction to importers because it will be cheaper as long as the quality is the same as that those coming from Vietnam and Thailand,” he added.

Rice imports totaled 3.09 million MT as of Sept. 19, according to the Bureau of Plant Industry. Rice imports from Pakistan amounted to 157,044 MT.

The US Department of Agriculture said that Philippine rice imports are expected to hit 4.6 million MT this year.
— Adrian H. Halili

<https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2024/09/30/624890/vietnam-to-remain-top-rice-supplier-after-india-eases-restrictions/>

BUSINESS WORLD:

Councils to oversee individual farm commodities

September 30, 2024 | 8:30 pm



BW FILE PHOTO

THE Department of Agriculture (DA) said it hopes to organize councils to oversee each key commodity, which will meet monthly in order to achieve more systematic industry consultation.

“We will be creating councils between the DA and the private sector and the other stakeholders who will meet on a monthly basis,” Agriculture Secretary Francisco P. Tiu Laurel, Jr. told reporters, noting the need to promote and increase farm output.

He added that the DA officials on the council will be tasked with managing specific commodities commonly grown in the Philippines.

“It really needs to be focused; there should be someone assigned to each industry,” he said.

He added that the DA will set short-term goals in addressing the concerns of various industries.

“We are the most complicated department in the country; we have fertilizer, pesticides, various commodities. We need to be creating councils and assigning a person per council,” he said. — Adrian H. Halili

<https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2024/09/30/624889/councils-to-oversee-individual-farm-commodities/>

BUSINESS WORLD:

BIR signals major push against smuggling of farm commodities

September 30, 2024 | 8:30 pm



PHILSTAR/MIGUEL DE GUZMAN

THE Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) said on Monday that it will deploy as many personnel as needed to deter the smuggling of farm commodities.

“The BIR will deploy all revenueurs needed to fully enforce the Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act,” BIR Commissioner Romeo D. Lumagui, Jr. said in a statement.

The recently signed law, which went into the books as Republic Act (RA) No. 12022, expanded the definition of agricultural products to cover livestock, aquatic products, and tobacco.

Under the law, selling tobacco products at 30% below the daily price index will be deemed an act of smuggling.

The law covers both unmanufactured and manufactured tobacco products. It will also include cigarettes, cigars, heated tobacco products, vape, or any form of tobacco product for smoking, heating, puffing, oral or nasal use.

For 2024, the government is expected to forego P33.7 billion in revenue due to the illicit tobacco trade, Mr. Lumagui told a forum last year.

RA 12022 also classifies the smuggling and hoarding of agricultural products as economic sabotage if the value of goods is over P10 million.

The possession of smuggled goods in a warehouse, vessel, vehicle, or other storage area also counts as economic sabotage under the law.

Violators could face a fine worth five times the value of the smuggled or hoarded goods, and face life imprisonment.

The law also empowers BoC to act against corporations or entities involved in acts of economic sabotage.

Finance Secretary Ralph G. Recto last week said the new law will help boost the government's revenue collections.

“Through a stronger and stricter crackdown on these offenders, we protect our people's access to affordable goods and boost our revenue collections, which will allow the government to provide more essential public services to Filipinos,” he said in a statement. — Beatriz Marie D. Cruz

<https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2024/09/30/624887/bir-signals-major-push-against-smuggling-of-farm-commodities/>

MANILA STANDARD

Solon: Agri law will stop smugglers, cartels

By Maricel Cruz

October 1, 2024, 11:20 pm

Rep. Howard Guintu of the Pinuno Party-list, the main proponent of the recently enacted Republic Act 12022 or the Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act, is optimistic that the new law will eradicate the presence of agricultural smugglers, hoarders, profiteers, and cartels.

Guintu also lauded President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. for signing RA12022.

“Marcos Jr.’s directive to include the Anti-Agricultural Economic Sabotage Act as a priority measure for the 19th Congress, and now his signing into law shows his sense of urgency and strong political will in addressing the presence of agricultural e smugglers and hoarders,” said Guintu.

“There is really a need to eradicate the presence of agricultural smugglers, hoarders, profiteers, and cartels in our country. The most disadvantageous sector here are our farmers and fishermen who continue to work hard for their livelihood. And of course, it’s also for our people because the price of agricultural and fishery products is affected when its supply is not stable,” the lawmaker said.

The new law aims to protect farmers and fisherfolks from unscrupulous traders and importers by eliminating smuggling, hoarding, profiteering, and cartel of agricultural and fishery products.

<https://www.manilastandard.net/news/314504970/solon-agri-law-will-stop-smugglers-cartels.html>

Dairy agency targets milk sufficiency

By Earl John Alfaro

October 2, 2024

THE National Dairy Authority (NDA), an attached agency of the Department of Agriculture, will "aggressively import" cattle in 2025 to help achieve 5-percent milk sufficiency for the country in 2028.

"We cannot grip the faucet and hope it will produce more water. We need more faucets," NDA administrator Marcus Antonius Andaya said at the 2nd Richmade Dairy Cattle Congress held Friday.

"The NDA will be aggressively importing cattle for our stock farms for the herd to multiply under our care," Andaya announced, adding the acclimatized offspring of these dairy cattle will be distributed to dairy farmers.

Local demand for milk reached an all-time high of 3.5 billion liters, Andaya said, adding that the country's annual milk production was 30 million liters in 2023, or just 1 percent of the total supply, with the remaining 99 percent imported.

The country's milk consumption is expected to rise from 1 million tons in 2028 to 1.8 million tons by 2029.

At the Cattle Congress, By Choi of Vietnam's Vina Milk said that there is an immense potential for the Philippines' dairy industry, since in 2022 the market reported a 10.2-percent growth and is projected to continue with a double-digit growth.

"You cannot ignore a double-digit growth figure," By Choi said, adding that milk production has surged by 30 percent over the past decade.

To achieve NDA's target of 5-percent milk sufficiency for the country, Andaya said the agency is set to finish building five new stock farms this year, which are expected to be operational by early 2025. These farms are in Tinio (Nueva Ecija), Ubay (Bohol), Malaybalay (Bukidnon), Carmen (Cotabato) and Agusan del Sur.

"This projected increase in dairy cattle is on top of the almost 80,000 dairy animals of farmers being assisted by NDA," Andaya said. "It will follow that the NDA will likewise take a proactive approach to tap our stakeholders in the field of feeds, nutrition and animal health to increase the yield."

Andaya likewise disclosed the NDA wants to strengthen the local milk market share by coordinating with the commercial sector and local milk producers regarding absorption of certain portions of locally produced milk, in accordance with Sec. 17 of RA 7884 or the National Dairy Development Act of 1995.

"Our vision for the Philippine dairy industry is clear. By 2028, we aim to reach at least 5-percent milk sufficiency, producing 80 million liters annually, with the majority of milk coming from local sources," he said.

In the first half of 2024, dairy imports rose by 13 percent, with skim milk powder on top, followed by other milk powders and ready-to-drink milk.

Local milk production, meanwhile, grew by 15 percent at 16 million liters compared to 13.94 million in the same period last year.

Local total production accounts for 21 percent of the total liquid milk supply, equivalent to one glass out of every five glasses consumed in the country.

Gross earnings in the dairy sector increased by 24 percent to P879.88 million.

"We envision a dairy industry that is thriving, productive and profitable, where investments grow and farmers prosper. Every contribution and effort in this industry is vital, [and] by combining our diverse expertise, we can create a meaningful change and drive the industry forward," Andaya said.

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2024/10/02/business/top-business/dairy-agency-targets-milk-sufficiency/1977455>

P77M in rice crops damaged in Cagayan

By Leander C. Domingo

October 2, 2024

TUGUEGARAO CITY — Damage to agriculture left by Typhoon Julian has climbed to more than P77 million, the Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (PDRRMO) said on Tuesday.

In its monitoring, the PDRRMO said agriculture damage in the province reached P77,017,293, most of which are rice crops that were still in the "maturity" stage that were submerged in floodwaters.

According to the Cagayan Provincial Information Office, the PDRRMO is still collecting data on which towns in the province have been greatly affected.

Meanwhile, PDRRMO Officer in Charge Rueli Rapsing said that residents who were evacuated due to the typhoon have not yet been sent back to their homes to ensure their safety.

Rapsing said there are 757 families or 1,963 individuals from different towns in the province who have been evacuated due to the typhoon.

He said the operation of the PDRRMO remains on high red alert status because the said typhoon has not completely exited the Philippine area of responsibility.

Some towns in this province are still placed under Signal Nos. 1 and 2, Rapsing added.

Meanwhile, the provincial government's Rapid Damage Assessment and Needs Analysis team is roving around the areas affected by the

typhoon to provide relief goods and other necessities to affected residents.

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2024/10/02/regions/p77m-in-rice-crops-damaged-in-cagayan/1977474>

BUSINESS MIRROR

2.0-2.8% September inflation seen on cheaper food, oil

Cai U. Ordinario
October 2, 2024



Morning market scene in Barangay San Roque, Parola, Cainta, Rizal, where residents navigate fluctuating prices. Despite inflationary pressures, recent declines in oil and rice prices offer some relief, though higher electricity rates and the cost of meat still weigh heavily on household budgets.

CHEAPER food and oil as well as the appreciation of the peso may have contributed to cooler inflation in September, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP).

BSP said inflation may have averaged 2 to 2.8 percent in September due to lower food and oil prices as well as the appreciation of the peso.

If this will be the case, this would be the first time the country's inflation rate went below 3 percent since October 2020 when inflation averaged 2.3 percent. In that year, inflation averaged 2.4 percent.

“Negative base effects along with lower prices of food commodities including rice, meat, and vegetables as well as lower domestic oil prices, and the appreciation of the peso are the primary sources of downward price pressures for the month,” the BSP explained. “These are expected to offset the higher prices of fish and fruits and electricity rates.”

Given this expectation by the BSP and analysts here and abroad that inflation will continue to slow, Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) Head of Asia Macro Strategy Jeff Ng said the central bank can be expected to continue cutting key policy rates.

Ng said SMBC expects the BSP to cut rates by 50 to 75 basis points this year. Larger rate cuts in the order of 100 to 200 basis points are expected next year.

For the Monetary Board's meeting this month, Ng said the BSP could reduce rates by 25 basis points. The next meeting of the Monetary Board was moved earlier to October 16 instead of October 17.

“BSP started its rate cut cycle on 15 August, cutting by 25 bps to 6.25 percent. BSP chief sees 2 more rate cuts in 2024,” Ng said in a macroeconomic brief.

“BSP's inflation forecasts for 2024-2026 are all below 4 percent, paving the way for more rate cuts in the upcoming meetings,” he added.

SMBC's own inflation forecast indicates that the increase in commodity prices could average 3.6 percent in 2024 and 3 percent in 2025.

This, the market analyst said, will also boost the country's GDP growth to 6.2 percent this year and next year.

Earlier, the last two meetings of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) could see 25-basis-point reductions in key policy rates following expectations that inflation could be lower than the August inflation print.

If this falls through, the key policy rate will be pegged at 5.75 percent by yearend. This will be the first time interest rates are below 6 percent since December 15, 2022 when key policy rates were raised to 5.5 percent from 5 percent.

On the sidelines of a seminar on deepening financial markets at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Wednesday, BSP Governor Eli M. Remolona Jr. also told reporters that a single rate cut of 50 basis points (bps) may be reserved for expectations of a “hard landing.” (See: <https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/09/26/rate-cut-in-q4-likelier-to-be-dealt-as-25-25-bps/>)

Image credits: [Bernard Testa](#)

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/10/02/2-0-2-8-september-inflation-seen-on-cheaper-food-oil/>

BUSINESS MIRROR

DA rushes preparation of rice industry roadmap

Ada Pelonia
October 1, 2024

VARIOUS government agencies, the academe, and the private sector have been tapped for the reconstructed technical writing team that would finalize the Philippine Rice Industry Roadmap (PRIR).

The Department of Agriculture (DA) issued Special Order 1463, taking cues from SO 599, Series of 2023 which indicated the need to provide clear, concise, and effective plans, ideas, and data, particularly on the crafting of a comprehensive industry roadmap of the commodity.

Under SO 1463, the team would have to settle on the overarching goals and objectives to guide the drafting of the PRIR enhancements and improvements and assess the existing draft document to identify any gaps and areas requiring refinement.

They would also collaborate with the National Rice Program (NRP) to arrange activities and establish timelines for finalizing the PRIR.

The team would have to present the draft report at a stakeholders' summit or conference for review and feedback, consider and integrate the additional recommendations provided during the summit; and submit the final revised roadmap to Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. for approval.

Rice interventions

The University of Asia and the Pacific's Center for Food and Agribusiness (CFA) earlier said that rice interventions that aim to improve productivity and farm efficiency did not make a "significant dent" in the industry.

Former CFA executive director Senen Reyes attributed this to “frequent changes in leadership, lack of continuity of programs, slow adoption of high-yielding varieties, and modern agronomic technologies, costly farm labor with still low usage of mechanization and post-harvest facilities, and low milling efficiency.”

According to Reyes, the utilization of the Rice Competitiveness Enhancement Fund (Rcef) and the budget for the NRP, together with the formulation and implementation of the Philippine Rice Industry Roadmap, was expected to improve and sustain the yields and incomes of farmers.

“One principle governing the implementation of the roadmap is the improvement of productivity, efficiency and profitability of small rice farmers,” he said in a statement.

However, Reyes noted that the final copy of the updated Philippine Rice Industry Roadmap 2021-2035, as mentioned in the National Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization and Industrialization Plan 2021-2030, “does not seem to be available among the commodity industry roadmaps in the DA’s website.”

“It is hoped that these legislative steps together with a yet to be finalized Philippine Rice Industry Roadmap will provide the directions towards increased rice productivity and farmers’ incomes, affordable and stable prices and supply to ensure food security,” Reyes said.

<https://businessmirror.com.ph/2024/10/01/da-rushes-preparation-of-rice-industry-roadmap/>

REMATE:

Higit 9M kilo ng bigas nakatengga sa Manila ports

October 1, 2024 18:36



MANILA, Philippines- Malaki ang paniniwala ng Bureau of Customs (BOC) at ng Department of Agriculture (DA) na posibleng naghihintay ang mga importer ng bigas na tumaas ang presyo ng bigas bago nila ilabas ang stocks kung saan nasa siyam na milyong kilo ng bigas na nakaimbak sa 356 container vans ang naka-stock sa mga daungan ng Maynila.

Ayon sa ulat, binibigyan ng 30 araw ang mga importer para ilabas ang kanilang stocks pagkatanggap ng clearance mula sa BOC bago ito maideklarang abandonado. Ayon kay Customs Assistant Commissioner Jet Maronilla, maaaring sinasamantala ng mga importer ng bigas ang nasabing panuntunan.

Hindi pa matukoy ng Agriculture Department kung ano ang gagawin laban sa mga nag-aangkat ng bigas, ngunit sinabi ni DA Assistant Secretary Arnel de Mesa na ipinaliwanag sa kanila ng Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) na maaaring naghihintay ng magandang presyo ang mga nag-aangkat ng bigas bago nila ilabas ang kanilang mga stocks.

“Posibleng naghihintay sila ng mas magandang presyo bago ilabas dahil mas mura ang binabayaran ng consignee kung nandoon sa pantalan kaysa nasa private warehouses,” ani De Mesa.

Ayon sa datos ng DA, noong Setyembre 24 ay bumaba na ang 356 container van mula sa 888 container van.

Ilalabas ng PPA ang data sa bilang ng mga container van na nakahanda nang kumpiskahin dahil lumampas na ito sa 30-araw, ngunit ang inisyal na datos mula sa DA ay nagpakita na ang dalawang container van o humigit-kumulang 54,000 kilo ng bigas ay maaari nang ikonsidera bilang “abandoned.”

Kaugnay nito, nanawagan ang consumer group na Bantay Bigas ng imbestigasyon sa posibleng manipulasyon ng presyo at pag-iimbak ng bigas. JAY Reyes

<https://remate.ph/higit-9m-kilo-ng-bigas-nakatengga-sa-manila-ports/>

REMATE:

Mas kaunting huli ng isda sa WPS naitala sa gitna ng sigalot sa karagatan, El Nino – PSA

October 1, 2024 18:24



MANILA, Philippines- Nabawasan ang fishery production sa West Philippine Sea (WPS) sa unang bahagi ng taon.

Ito ang makikita sa opisyal data ng gobyerno.

Makikita sa datos mula sa Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) na ang unang huli sa West Philippine Sea ay bumaba mula sa mahigit na 108,000 metric tons noong unang bahagi ng 2023 sa 101,000 metric tons ngayong taon.

Tanggap naman ng Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) ang mas maliit na bilang ng nahuli ng isda, sabay sabing maraming dahilan ng pagkabawas.

“There is data showing na nag decline sa first quarter ‘yung production natin sa West Philippine Sea, pero ‘yung reasons naman nito ay hindi lang nakatuon sa geopolitical situation,” ang sinabi ni Nazer Briguera, tagapagsalita ng BFAR.

“Meron ding ibang rason tulad ng pagtaas ng fuel, pati na itong El Nino na dumaaan, na nakaapekto sa mga isda,” ayon pa kay Briguera.

Gayunman, tinukoy ng BFAR na ang suplay ng isda ay sapat para matagununan ang consumption demands ng bansa.

“Hindi lang naman marine ang source, we don’t intend to ignore this,” ani Briguera.

Sa mga nakalipas na taon, ang produksyon mula sa aquaculture ay pumantay sa mga isdang nahuli mula sa open seas.

Nauna rito, sinabi ni Agriculture Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. na ang suplay ng isda sa bansa ay halos maubos at kinumpirma naman ng mga mangingisda sa paligid ng bansa ang bagay na ito.

May ilang mangingisda mula sa Navotas ang nagsabi na naobserbahan nila ang mahalagang pagbabago ng kanilang nahuhuli sa mga nakalipas na taon.

Gayundin ang mga mangingisda mula sa Pag-asa Island ay nahirapan sa pangangisda mula nang itaboy sila ng Chinese vessels mula sa fishing grounds.

Samantala, inihayag ng BFAR na naglunsad ang ahensya ng ilang pagsisikap para resolbahin ang galit ng mga mangingisda.

“Itong pagdagragdag ng floating asset bahagi ng direkyon ng BFAR at far as improving monitoring, control, and surveillance,” ayon kay Briguera. Kris Jose

<https://remate.ph/mas-kaunting-huli-ng-isda-sa-wps-naitala-sa-gitna-ng-sigalot-sa-karagatan-el-nino-psa/>

REMATE:

Poultry products mula France ban sa Pinas

October 1, 2024 08:15



MANILA, Philippines – Inanunsyo ng Department of Agriculture (DA) nitong Lunes ang pansamantalang pagbabawal sa pag-import ng mga poultry products mula France matapos mag-ulat ang European country ng Avian Influenza (AI) outbreak noong Agosto 7.

“Kami ay nagpapataw ng pagbabawal bilang isang preemptive measure upang matigil ang pagpasok ng mga infected na ibon at ang kanilang mga by-products sa bansa. Ang hakbang na ito ay maiiwasan ang pagkalat ng virus na maaaring magkaroon ng mapangwasak na epekto sa lokal na industriya ng manok,” sabi ni DA Secretary Francisco Tiu Laurel Jr. sa isang pahayag.

Sa ilalim ng DA Memorandum Order 40, saklaw ng pagbabawal ang pag-aangkat ng mga domestic at wild birds o shipment ng live poultry, poultry products, at by-products kabilang ang day-old chicks at semen.

Suspendido rin ang pagpapalabas ng Sanitary and Phytosanitary Import Clearances (SPSIC) mula sa Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI) para sa mga kargamento mula sa nasabing bansa.

“Tanging mga ibon na kinatay o mga produktong naproseso bago ang Hulyo 25, 2024, ang papayagang makapasok sa Pilipinas,” sabi ng DA.

Ang Pilipinas ay umangkat ng 150,752 kilo ng poultry products mula sa France mula Enero hanggang Agosto ngayong taon. *RNT*

<https://remate.ph/poultry-products-mula-france-ban-sa-pinas/>