CLIPPINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2017

A. SEC. EFP QUOTED

THE PHILIPPINE STAR
Asean Agriculture: Summit 2017

THE MANILA TIMES
Agripreneurship for inclusive growth

MANILA BULLETIN
P9.5-million crop losses from Negros Occ. Floods

THE MANILA TIMES
SRA will not be abolished – Piñol

B. DA FAMILY

MANILA STANDARD
PH to host global meet on carabao enterprises

BUSINESS MIRROR
ComVal producers get new farm machines
'PHL needs more milkfish hatcheries'

MANILA BULLETIN
Ex-SRA chief denies corruption allegations

BUSINESS WORLD
Zamboanga council urges PCA to release coco levy fund help address cocolisap problem

TEMPO
Farm owners, 10 agri entrepreneurs trained

PILIPINO MIRROR
Magsasaka ng Comval nabigyan ng bagong makinang pansaka

BALITA
Red tide sa Isla Gigantes

C. AGRI-RELATED STORY

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
An Asian visionary of agri development

THE MANILA TIMES
Asean raises need for 'agrobiodiversity'
Taiwan to introduce aquaculture tech in PH

GT dryers gaining ground in PH
Monsanto defends GM crops

BUSINESS WORLD
France to convene joint commission to boost Philippine trade, investment
Cabinet to study NFA plan to raise rice purchase price

BUSINESS MIRROR
Prices of processed meat seen rising by as much as 6% this Christmas season

MANILA BUSINESS INSIGHT
LandBank, DOST roll out funding facility for inventors

MANILA BULLETIN
UK targets upscale beef market in PH

MANILA STANDARD
Sabotage raps vs Faeldon, NFA chief et al

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Lacson sues Faeldon for rice smuggling

BANDERA
Ping kinasuhan si Faeldon sa rice smuggling

PILIPINO MIRROR
Presyo ng Pang-noche Buena sisirit

D. FOREIGN STORY

No stories

THE PHILIPPINE STAR
TRUTH SHALL PREVAIL

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
SEPT. 29, 2017
Page: 10

ASEAN AGRICULTURE SUMMIT 2017

October 4, 2017 • 8:00 AM
SMX Convention Center, Pasay City

"Agripreneurship: Uplifting Lives Towards Prosperity for All"

- JOEY CONCEPCION, ASEAN Business Advisory Council Chair

JOSE MA. CONCEPCION III
ASEAN BAC Chair / Presidential Adviser for Entrepreneurship

SEC. EMMANUEL PIÑOL
Department of Agriculture of the Philippines

SEN. CYNTHIA VILLAR
Senate of the Philippines

DR. WILLIAM DAR
Inang Lupa Foundation

DR. ROLANDO DY
University of Asia and the Pacific / Philippine Chamber of Agriculture and Food Inc.

HENRY LIM BON LIONG
SL Agritech (Philippines)

HENGKY NOVARIANTO
Indonesia Palm Crops Research Institute (Indonesia)

WINSTON UY
Universal Leaf (Philippines)

DATO' DZULFILKI ADB WAHAB
FELDA, Technoplant Sdn Bhd. (Malaysia)

SARAN SONG
Amru Rice (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.

ALEX BUENAVENTURA
Land Bank of the (Philippines)

BERNADETTE ROMULO-PUYAT
Department of Agriculture of the Philippines

PABLITO SANDOVAL
Active Batangas Integrated Multipurpose Cooperative (Philippines)

RUTH P. NOVALES
Nestle (Philippines) Inc.

DR. KAMOLRAT INTARATAT
Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University (Thailand)

DANTE R. MUYCO, JR.
Cacao Industrial Development Association of Mindanao (Philippines)

HON. ROBERTO AGCAOILI, SR.
Vice Mayor, City Government of San Mateo, Isabela (Philippines)

CLINT COO
Siam Organic Co., Ltd. (Thailand)

OUDET SOUVANNAVONG
Greater Mekong Sub-Region Business Council (Lao PDR) / ASEAN BAC Member

ENGR. ARIEL T. CAYANAN
Department of Agriculture (Philippines)

CONG. ARTHUR YAP
House of Representatives (Philippines)

GIGI GATTI
Grameen Foundation USA (Philippines)

DANTE DELIMA
Agri-Tech Integrated Services, Corp. Atisco (Philippines)

DR. KIRAN SHARMA
ICRISAT (India)

JOSEPH CALATA
BlakCell Technology Limited (Philippines)

DR. DILEEPKUMAR GUNTUKU
College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Iowa State University (US)

JOS VAN DER KNAAP
Rijk Zwaan Seeds B.V. (Indonesia/ Malaysia/Vietnam/Philippines)

ZULKARNAIN BIN MD. EUSOPE
FELCRA Berhad (Malaysia)

MODERATORS

KAREN DAVILA
ABS-CBN

QUINTIN PASTRANA
Bloomberg Philippines

AMOR MACLANG
Geiser Maclang

BETTINA QUIMSON
ASEAN BAC

REGISTER www.aseanagrisummit.com

For more information, contact: (02) 631 5001, 0921 463 0072 · 0956 899 8857

ASEAN BAC

ASEAN 50 PHILIPPINES 2017
ASEAN BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL

ASEAN BUSINESS ADVISORY COUNCIL IS SUPPORTED BY

ASEAN AGRICULTURE SUMMIT 2017 PARTNERS

SL AGRITECH CORPORATION · ATISCO · KROPS · Universal UNIVERSAL LEAF PHILIPPINES, INC. · W · ProFood International Corp.

The Manila Times

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Date: SEPT. 20, 2017 Page: B9

Agripreneurship for inclusive growth

(First of two parts)

WAYS OF THE OASIS

DR. WILLIAM DAR

THE followers of my columns can treat this as the third installment on my discussion on agripreneurship, but this time I will discuss how agripreneurship should result in inclusive growth.

I also believe this article is timely because the Asean Business Advisory Council (ABAC) in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture (DA) will hold the Asean Agriculture Summit at the SMX Convention Center on October 4, which will have the overarching theme "Agripreneurship: The Gamechanger Towards Prosperity for All." The event will be held in conjunction with the annual Agrilink: 24th International Agribusiness Exhibition and Seminars from October 5 to 7 at World Trade Center, Manila.

The speakers of the Asean Agriculture Summit include the Presidential Adviser on Entrepreneurship, Go Negosyo founder and Asean-BAC Chairman Joey Concepcion, Agriculture Secretary Manny Piñol, Executive Director of Center for Food and Agri (CFA) Business in the University of Asia and the Pacific and the Vice President of the Philippine Chamber of Agriculture and Food Dr. Rolando Dy, and yours truly.

Among the topics to be discussed in the forum are: Small farm Holdings and Land Consolidation in Agri-enterprise Development; The Agri Value Chain and Value-Added Products, and Agri Extension Services; Enabling Environment for Inclusive Business; and Leveraging on Technology and Innovation. The topic "Enabling Environment for Inclusive Business" will surely include discussions on how to integrate smallholder farmers into the value chain, so they get to earn more on a consistent basis, and expand their asset base.

Inclusiveness not rocket science

You do not need to be rocket scientist to define or even understand the concept of inclusiveness, which simply means including stakeholders in the financial and social gains made from the value chain; that should replace the current practice of agribusiness and agro-processing/industrial companies maximizing their profitability by getting the lowest prices from smallholder farmers for their raw or semi-processed inputs.

On September 23-24, 2015, a conference on inclusive growth titled "Roundtable on Inclusive Agribusiness in Southeast Asia" was held in Ho Chi Minh City, to highlight efforts by companies to make smallholder farmers benefit from their businesses. I obtained a copy of the report on the conference and let me quote a part of it:

"Many companies and enterprises are developing, testing and scaling inclusive commercial approaches in Southeast Asia. These business models aim to engage, empower and share value with stakeholders across the value chain, with a specific focus on smallholder farmers. In practical terms inclusive agri-businesses are aiming to: create new market opportunities, secure a supply base, enhance their corporate reputation, gain legitimacy in local markets, and/or create 'ethical' products through the inclusion of poor or disadvantaged people." This is a valid view.

From my experience putting into place inclusive growth as head of the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) from 2000 to 2014, inclusiveness can be achieved by creating "agripreneurs" at the farm level; and unless farmers become agripreneurs, there will be no inclusive growth from the rural areas.

To keep farmers poor, ignorant and in debt for the rest of their lives is to me a capital sin, especially if traders and processors of farm products get very, very rich at the expense of smallholder farmers. From what I have observed, only a few families and businessmen rule the agro-processing industry in the Philippines, and very little has been done to bridge the gap between the dominant companies and smallholder farmers.

The Prasad experience

One of the most viable models for agripreneurship leading to inclusiveness are the seed growing partnerships of Prasad Seeds Philippines Inc. (PSPI), where I am a strategic adviser, forged with smallholder corn farmers.

Under the agreement, PSPI has the following responsibilities: Provide the grower with farm inputs like fertilizers and labor budget as loan necessary for proper crop maintenance; provide a Package of Technology (POT) and recommendations through its field agronomists; and buy the harvested seeds in cobs at an agreed price per kilo.

Also, PSPI after the harvest period shall deduct the advances made by the farmer from the gross income, and pay the farmer the net proceeds.

The responsibilities of the seed growers contracted by PSPI are: provide land suitable for hybrid corn seed production, and possess or have access to necessary farm facilities and equipment including source of irrigation; provide labor (planting, fertilization, pesticide application and irrigation) that shall serve as his equity equivalent to about 18 percent of the total cost of production; and maintain and manage the crop in accordance to the POT and recommendations from PSPI field agronomists.

And finally, the contracted seed grower should sell the harvested seeds solely to PSPI at a jointly agreed upon competitive price per kilo.

PSPI also educates its seed growers on agripreneurship and financial literacy, and not just on becoming more efficient seed growers.

The game changer

Efficient farm practice, either initiated by the farmer themselves or with the assistance of a major agribusiness company, is just the starting point of inclusive growth in the agriculture sector. Simply put it, the formula is: Production (at the farm level)-manufacturing (processing by agro-industrial firms and cooperatives)-market (both local and export).

There should also be an ecosystem for entrepreneurship in agriculture, where all government institutions and private sector participants should converge and synergize their programs and projects, with the aim of making agripreneurship as the game changer for prosperity and inclusive growth. The "*kanya-kanya*" system of government agencies crafting their programs for the agriculture sector should be replaced with cooperation and sharing of knowledge and objectives, and seeking partnerships with the private sector and non-government organizations. More importantly, the smallholder farmer must be made an active participant and beneficiary in the value chain.

It is also absolutely necessary for all of us to accelerate and enhance the modernization and industrialization of Philippine agriculture, with inclusive growth in mind. This would entail projects like agribusiness incubation, getting research and development outputs to farmers, mentoring, farm mechanization, linking to markets, and investing in agriculture infrastructure and even low-cost credit.

So after the Asean Agriculture Summit, the end-result should be the conceptualisation of a "way forward" framework and strategy to make inclusive growth and agripreneurship the game changer to achieve a more prosperous Philippines and Asean. This Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in Agriculture should have as its major goal of ultimately making the Philippines globally competitive, especially now that the country climbed one notch higher to No. 56 out of 137 nations in this year's World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Index.

See you at the summit!

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: 14

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

₱9.5-million crop losses from Negros Occ. floods

By **MARK L. GARCIA**

BACOLOD CITY—Rice and vegetable damage from the floods last weekend in Negros Occidental has gone up to ₱9.5 million, Provincial Agriculturist Japhet Masculino said Thursday.

Masculino said that based on reports submitted to the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPA), the damage was reported in towns of Valladolid and Ilog where rice and vegetable crops worth ₱1,021,650 and covering 41.8 hectares and 72 farmers were lost.

So far 813.25 ha of rice and vegetable farmlands suffered ₱9,549,328.6 worth of damage and affected 651 farmers in four towns in south Negros.

Masculino said the records are not final, since reports from many city and municipal agriculturists have not come in.

The damage in Ilog was placed ₱648,000, affecting 36 rice farmers and covering 36 hectares, he said.

He also reported that in Valladolid, 36 vegetable farmers were affected, covering 5.8 hectares with total damage at ₱373,650.

Valladolid also had the second biggest losses at P1,599,928, involving 254.85 hectares in 10 barangays affecting 153 rice farmers.

He urged agriculturists in towns and cities affected by the flooding to submit damage reports immediately so the stricken farmers can receive help.

Total losses in rice production for the province is estimated at 136.45 metric tons, Masculino said.

He said they might ask the help of Agriculture Secretary Emmanuel Piñol who is in Negros Occidental today to check on the affected farmers.

Masculino assured that the Department of Agriculture's regional office has a buffer stock of rice seeds that can be readily distributed to affected farmers.

After the OPA determines the number of farmers affected, it will identify who are enrolled in the crop insurance program of the provincial government or in Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation, he said.

The Manila Times

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: A7

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

SRA will not be abolished — Piñol

BACOLOD CITY: The appointment of Herminigildo Serafica as the new head of the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) is an assurance that the agency will not be abolished, Agriculture Secretary Emmanuel Piñol said on Thursday.

Pinol, who was in Negros Occidental for a two-day visit, said that President Rodrigo Duterte "only floated the idea," for possible abolition of the controversy-hounded SRA.

The agriculture secretary was set to meet with sugar workers this Friday morning at the Provincial Capitol and the sugar industry stakeholders in neighboring Talisay City in the afternoon.

"This is not just a one-man job. We are going to work on this together," he said, adding that "we would like tackle the very serious problems of the industry."

He cited the concern of "very slow fund utilization of the SRA. For 2016, it used less than 50 percent of the fund under the Sugarcane Industry Development Act (SIDA). That is why the Department of Budget and Management reduced its budget. For 2017, it has not yet utilized its budget and it is nearing October already."

EUGENE Y. ADIONG

Manila Standard

Date: SEPTEMBER 29, 2017 Page: B4

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

PH to host global meet on carabao enterprises

By Ben Moses Ebreo

SCIENCE CITY OF MUÑOZ, Nueva Ecija—The Philippine Carabao Center here will be hosting this year's International Conference on Carabao-Based Enterprise Development.

Ma. Cecilia Irang, PCC Information Officer, said about 200 participants from the Philippines and other Asian countries are expected to attend the event, which will be held at the Philippine Carabao Center National Headquarters in this city from Oct. 26 to 27.

The event, organized by the PCC and the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Studies and Research in Agriculture, is meant to boost efforts in developing the carabao industry toward food and nutrition security and livelihood development in the country and some member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Irang said.

"The CBED stakeholders will exchange during the conference scientific and technological knowledge and best practices on buffalo-based enterprise development, discuss government policies, regulations, support facilities and logistics that are vital in the development of carabao-based dairy enterprises; and, explore mutually beneficial partnerships, collaboration and cooperation in relevant research and development and initiatives," she said.

BusinessMirror
A broader look at today's business

Date: SEPTEMBER 29, 2017 Page: A9

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

ComVal producers get new farm machines

By Manuel T. Cayon | @awimailbox
Mindanao Bureau Chief

DAVAO CITY—Farmers in Compostela Valley could avail themselves of more farm machines, after the Department of Agriculture and the provincial government turned over a batch of new equipment to the Provincial Agriculturist Office (Pagro) on Monday.

The provincial information office said 58 machines were given to the Pagro during a simple ceremony at the Capitol compound in Barangay Cabidianan, municipality of Nabunturan.

Among these were 10 hand tractors with a trailer each, 15 open-surface pumps, 18 power sprayers, six rice threshers and nine units of corn sheller-huskers.

Agriculture Regional Director Ricardo Oñate said the office wanted to provide one 10-wheeler hauling truck to the newly completed rice-processing centers in the municipalities of the province that have large rice-production areas.

The turnover of the farm equipment was held right after the province received an award from the Civil Service Commission (CSC) for its iron-fortified rice (I-Rice) project.

The CSC bestowed on the province the Pag-asa Awards held in Malacañang on September 20, where President Duterte handed the award to Gov. Jayvee Tyron L. Uy.

Uy was joined by DOST-11 Regional Director Anthony Sales and Provincial Director Kenneth Barroga, and Dr. Imelda Agdeppa of the Department of Science and Technology Food and Nutrition Research Institute.

The iron fortification of rice for the consumption of provincial residents was started in 2013 "to address the problem of iron-deficiency anemia among the schoolchildren", the information office said.

Uy sponsored the ordinance back when he was still a member of the Provincial Board.

"Currently, the iron-fortified rice is the official rice used for the Kusina ng Kalinga, a 120-day feeding program among wasted and severely wasted elementary schoolchildren of Compostela Valley," the information office said.

The Compostela Valley I-Rice Team said it would sustain its promotion of the consumption of the fortified rice "through strong promotions system, consistent information dissemination and giving of incentives through loan and credit assistance to cooperatives".

The governor also said the success of the project only proves that there is a need to become innovative in approaching problems in the community.

"There is a need for us to leave the traditional and start being creative in how we deal with problems in the community. Compostela Valley I-Rice addresses both the hunger and the anemia problem among schoolchildren. Its new, innovative and multitiered," Uy said.

BusinessMirror

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Date: SEPTEMBER 29, 2017 Page: A9

'PHL needs more milkfish hatcheries'

By Jasper Emmanuel Y. Arcalas @jearcalas

THE construction of more fishing hatcheries would boost milkfish production and reduce the country's purchase of imported fry, according to an official of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR).

BFAR focal person for milkfish Westly R. Rosario said the government should set aside P30 million to construct more fishing hatcheries if it wants to significantly cut the importation of milkfish fry.

Citing a UP study, Rosario said the country requires 1.5 billion fry annually, which are mostly sourced from Indonesia and Taiwan.

"The Philippines has only two to three fish hatcheries which produce some 30 million fry a year. This means that most of what we have in the domestic market are imported," he told reporters in an interview on the sidelines of the European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines's agriculture forum on September 27.

"The problem with imported fry is that only about 20 percent matures. Meanwhile, those bred locally or produced in local hatcheries have an 80-percent survival rate," Rosario added.

Rosario, who is also the chief of BFAR-National Integrated Fisheries Technology Development Center in Dapugan City, said some P30 million would be needed to construct at least 33 hatcheries to boost local milkfish fry production.

"[The BFAR] plans to put up satellite hatcheries, which cost less than P1 million. These would be distributed to select families. The hatchery would allow each family to earn P50,000 a month," he said.

If his proposal is implemented, local milkfish production would increase significantly in three years. However, BFAR's program, which seeks to boost milkfish output, was given a budget of only P3 million for next year.

Rosario also noted that milkfish produced by other Southeast Asian countries have begun to dominate the US market. "If you go around markets in the US, you will not anymore see milkfish from the Philippines. What they sell usually come from Malaysia, Vietnam, or Thailand".

He said the government must support the aquaculture sector, given the decline in capture fisheries production.

Data from the Philippine Statistics Authority showed that the country's milkfish production last year reached 402,660 metric tons (MT), slightly higher than the 392,740 MT recorded in 2015.

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: 14

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Ex-SRA chief denies corruption allegations

BACOLOD CITY—The former head of Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) has spoken out to deny allegations of corruption leveled against her by President Duterte.

Anna Rosario Paner, who resigned as SRA administrator, said at a press conference Wednesday that the sugar industry has been "victimized by politicking, and I was just collateral damage."

It was the first time Paner had voiced her sentiments after Duterte had accused her of paying out excessive consultancy fees.

"I have not abused the SRA with any expense," she said.

She added that she served the agency with full transparency.

Paner claimed the President was misinformed by "whistleblowers."

"Let me categorically say.....I did not gain anything from any contracts that SRA entered into," she said.

The President on September 25 appointed SRA Board Member Hermenegildo Serafica as Paner's replacement.

Paner said she will always be thankful to Duterte for the confidence and trust he once held for her.

She said that when she took over at SRA, she was confronted with the Commission on Audit (COA) findings for the year 2015 that the agency did not have a Disaster Risk Reduction Management Program and was not able to help farmers, producers, millers during disasters.

A Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Committee was convened and chaired by Rolando Beltan of the Sugar Board to come up with a disaster risk reduction medium-term plan on for 2017-2022. (Mark L. Garcia)

BusinessWorld
INCREASE YOUR BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: 51/11

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

#NATION AT A GLANCE :

ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA: ZAMBOANGA CITY

Zamboanga council urges PCA to release coco levy fund to help address cocolisap problem

THE ZAMBOANGA Peninsula Regional Development Council (RDC-9) has passed a resolution urging the Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) to expedite the opening of access to the coco levy fund to provide assistance to coconut farmers who have been affected by the escalating problem on coconut scale insect (CSI), or commonly known as cocolisap. "Given that coconut is a champion product of Zamboanga Peninsula, the EDCom (Economic Development Committee) during its 3rd quarter regular meeting in the city passed Resolution No. 039, series of 2017, recommending PCA to access the coco levy fund to assist coconut farmers affected by the CSI infestation," reads the resolution, which was sent to the office of Cabinet Secretary Leoncio B. Evasco, chair of the PCA governing board. — **Albert F. Arcilla**

>> See full story on *https://goo.gl/JoMdhT*

Tempo

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: 12

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Farm owners, 10 agri entrepreneurs trained

Twenty-five future agri-entrepreneurs and farm business owners graduated from the 10-day facilitators training at the Farm Business Schools of Villar Social Institute for Poverty Alleviation and Governance in partnership with the Agricultural Training Institute of the Department of Agriculture Region 4-A.

Sen. Cynthia A. Villar, chairperson of the Senate Agriculture and Food Committee, assured her continuing support to the agricultural sector, farmer beneficiaries, and stakeholders due to her dream for them to become successful agri-entrepreneurs and farm business owners.

"Ang inyong tagumpay at sama-sama nating efforts ang magpapalago sa agrikultura sa ating bansa. Sa mga kamay din ninyo nakasalalay ang isang food-secure future para sa ating lahat," Villar told the graduates.

The graduates who came from Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, Quezon, and Metro Manila were awarded their certificates of training completion at the Villar SIPAG Farm School in Bacoor City, Cavite last Friday.

Villar, also managing director of Villar SIPAG, remains confident that with the new batch of FBS graduates, the momentum of growth and popularity of farm tourism in the country will be sustained.

The Farm Business School, coming from the Food and Agriculture Organization module, is one of the most comprehensive training programs being offered by the Villar SIPAG. The training covered farm management strategies to generate increased revenue, management strategies, business planning techniques and action plans, and farm tourism enterprise.

Climate change was also a critical issue discussed in the 10-day training program as this concern primarily affects the agriculture sector. It also discussed ways on how FBS could help smallholder farmers amid the ASEAN integration.

PILIPINO MIRROR
FILIPINO MIRROR MEDIA GROUP CORPORATION
• SALAMIN NG KATOTOHANAN •

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: 2

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

MAGSASAKA NG COMVAL NABIGYAN NG BAGONG MAKINANG PANSAKA

DAVAO CITY – Magkakaroon na ng mga bagong makina ang mga magsasaka sa Compostela Valley matapos na magbigay ng mga bagong kagamitan ang Department of Agriculture at ang provincial government sa Provincial Agriculturist Office (Pagro) kamakailan.

Sinabi ng provincial information office na binigyan ng 58 makinang pansaka ang Pagro sa isang simpleng seremonya na ginanap sa Capitol compound sa Barangay Cabidianan sa bayan ng Nabunturan.

Ilan dito sa naibigay ay ang 10 hand tractors na may trailer bawat isa, 15 open surface pumps, 18 power sprayers, six rice threshers, at siyam na unit ng corn sheller-huskers.

Sinabi ni Agriculture Regional Director Engr. Ricardo Oñate, na gustong magbigay ng kanilang opisina ng isang ten-wheeler hauling truck sa bagong kumpletong rice processing centers sa mga bayan ng probinsiya na may mga malalaking rice production areas.

Ang pagbibigay ng mga makina ay dumating sa pagkakataong nagkaroon din ng award ang probinsiya galing sa Civil Service Commission dahil sa kanyang proyekto sa I-Rice, o ang tinatawag na iron-fortified rice.

Nagbigay ang CSC sa probinsiya ng Pag-asa Awards na ginanap sa Malacañan noong September 20, kung saan si President Rodrigo Duterte ang nag-abot ng award kay Gov. Jayvee Tyron L. Uy.

Kasama ni Uy sina DOST-XI Regional Director Dr. Anthony Sales at Provincial Director Kenneth Barroga, at si Dr. Imelda Agdeppa ng DOST Food and Nutrition Research Institute.

"Ang iron fortification ng bigas para sa pagkain ng mga mamamayan ng probinsiya ay isang magkasanib na pamamahala ng dalawang ahensiya noong ito ay magsimula noong 2013 "para matugunan ang problema ng iron deficiency anemia sa mga batang mag-aaral," sabi ng information office.

Inisponsoran ni Uy ang ordinansa noong siya ay isa pa lamang miyembro ng Provincial Board.

"Currently, the iron-fortified rice is the official rice used for the Kusina ng Kalinga, a 120-day feeding program among wasted and severely wasted elementary school-children of Compostela Valley," dagdag pa ng information office.

Nabanggit na ang paggamit ng programa ay nagpakita ng 93 porsiyentong pagbabago sa Maco South District in Maco, Compostela Valley.

Sinabi ng Comval I-Rice Team na pananatilihin nila ang promosyon ng mga konsumo ng fortified rice sa pamamagitan ng malakas na promotions system, patuloy na information dissemination at pagbibigay ng insentibo sa pamamagitan ng loan at credit assistance sa mga kooperatiba.

MANUEL T. CAYON

Balita

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: 5

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Red tide sa Isla Gigantes

Nagdeklara kahapon ng state of calamity ang bayan ng Carles sa Iloilo dahil sa red tide.

Kasabay ng deklarasyon ng state of calamity na nakarating sa Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), nabatid na kaagad pinagtibay kahapon ang resolusyon hinggil dito.

Iniulat na apektado na ang kabuhayan at seguridad sa pagkain sa Carles dahil sa red tide na tumama sa apat na barangay sa Isla Gigantes.

Nabatid na apektado ng red tide ang mga barangay ng Granada, Asluman, Gabi, at Lantangan sa isla.

Pangingisda at pangunguha ng shellfish ang pangunahing ikinabubuhay ng mga taga-Carles, kaya naman tinulungan na ng pamahalaang panglalawigan ng Iloilo ang nasa 360 pamilyang apektado.

Jun Fabon

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Date: SEPTEMBER 29, 2017 Page: A17

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

An Asian visionary of agri development

COMMENTARY

MOHAMMED PARVEZ IMDAD

While attending the Gusi Peace Prize awarding ceremony in Manila, Shykh Seraj, the icon of agricultural development in Bangladesh, shared his views on the need to reinforce focus on agriculture as the key to promoting inclusive growth. The strategic importance of agriculture rests on the strong potential it offers in transforming the rural economy, especially in developing countries.

For the past four decades Shykh Seraj has been guiding and implementing innovative and community-based programs to enhance efficiency of agriculture in Bangladesh. He interacts with farmers in remote areas of his country and conducts in-depth assessments to identify key issues and challenges of farm productivity, which include inadequate policy focus, lack of institutional response, insufficient access to credit, role of middlemen, insufficient credit and weak marketing.

According to development observers, Shykh Seraj has achieved more than what would have been accomplished by farmers' cooperatives. Through long years of professional commitment, he was able to demonstrate a strong and structured media-driven approach to highlight and promote agricultural development.

He has added value to the process of achieving efficiency in agriculture by collating the views of all engaged in farming and documenting and researching available outputs for use and reference by the government while it prepares the national budget. This is a highly significant and innovative aspect in development journalism that blends well with dissemination of knowledge and information relating to skills and competencies to promote quality and sustainable farming.

The Shykh Seraj Model, as popularly known, has enabled incorporating grassroots farmers' views and aspirations in the formulation of national policy and the budget through substantive and output-oriented dialogue. This allows policymakers to acquire direct and credible information with supportive analysis on how to improve farming and enable the agriculture sector to contribute effectively to GDP growth.

Shykh Seraj conducts prebudget discussions in remote areas with farmers, local representatives and key policymakers. Academics as well as members of the government, NGOs, and think-tanks join the stakeholders every year to add value to the discussions on priorities for the agricultural sector. Farmers highlight core issues based on their individual and collective experiences, and recommend solutions to critical constraints that impede the progress of the sector. This exercise stimulates research and propels a results-based approach that enables authorities to address deficiencies and prescribe tools and mechanisms for efficient farming in Bangladesh.

Based on these discussions, Shykh Seraj puts out an annual publication, "Agriculture Development—Budget for the Farmers," which has become a landmark document that incorporates farmers' views in mitigating the risks and challenges involving their sector. The discussions also cover farmers' welfare and wellbeing, allowing for understanding of and mobilization of support for their role in and contribution to economic growth, to supplement the national perspective of lifting them from poverty and improving the quality of their lives.

Shykh Seraj has also undertaken programs directed at members of civil society and students, to provide opportunities for direct exposure to and hands-on experience in developing agriculture. These programs have generated extensive interest nationwide. He has also taken into account credible means to support the environment and resilience to climate change with regard to agriculture.

The impact of his work has transcended national boundaries and drawn extensive interest in other countries and regions. He is firming up plans to work closely with his friends in the Philippines.

Mohammed Parvez Imdad, PhD, is a senior policy analyst and economist based in Manila.

The Manila Times

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: B8

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Asean raises need for 'agrobiodiversity'

BY LEANDER C. DOMINGO

RAISING awareness on the importance of agricultural biodiversity or agrobiodiversity for sustainable development and food security was the basic concern at the recently held Regional Workshop on Agrobiodiversity at Maejo University (MJU) in Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Gil Saguiguit Jr., head of the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), said there is a lack of clear and adequate articulation of agrobiodiversity in existing regional and national policy frameworks and programs for agriculture or biodiversity, despite its essential links to food systems and nutrition, and its importance to local livelihoods.

The workshop was held on September 12-14 and was participated in by 70 individuals from environment and agriculture ministries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) member-states, selected universities across the region, research organizations, non-government organizations and development partners.

It was a partnership among the Philippine government-hosted SEARCA, Asean Center for Biodiversity (ACB) and MJU, of which agriculture and rural development are the focus of SEARCA and MJU, and biodiversity for ACB.

Saguiguit said that while others assert the crucial link between gender, capacity-building and the local knowledge systems and their relevance to sustainable development, there are initiatives on the ground from which significant lessons can be learned.

He said these initiatives are traditional ecological knowledge and sustainable use of agrobiodiversity, the integration of agrobiodiversity into local development programs and related initiatives for building capacities of communities and governments, and the integration of conservation of plant genetic diversity with landscape-level planning and decentralized government programming.

"These are challenges and opportunities that provide impetus for the development of a regional action plan on agrobiodiversity mainstreaming, conservation and sustainable use," Saguiguit said.

The participants have also identified and discussed strategic action points along the four elements of the Convention on Biological Diversity program of work, namely assessments, adaptive management tweaked to innovations and best practices for purposes of the workshop, capacity-building and mainstreaming.

"Their output, with fine-tuning, fleshing out, and further general processing, would serve as inputs to the regional action plan. There is yet much work to be done. However, this workshop is the important first step towards a strategic plan of action," Saguiguit said.

In his keynote paper, SEARCA Senior Fellow Percy Sajise stressed the importance of agrobiodiversity as a basic element of sustainable development, emphasizing its multifunctionality, serving as link to productivity and resilience of ecosystems; buffer for climate change; and basic foundation for food security, human health and ecosystems services.

His recommendations to mainstream biodiversity in agriculture were as follows: documentation of good practices in deploying and managing agrobiodiversity in Asean; research on the "hidden values" of agrobiodiversity, and sustained and properly valued agrobiodiversity services; developing a regional agrobiodiversity database; and networking of seed banks at the community, national and regional levels to better respond to disasters and climate change for food and nutrition security.

The Manila Times

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: B8

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Taiwan to introduce aquaculture tech in PH

TAIWANESE companies specializing in aquaculture technology using fish cages will prospect for partners in the Philippines who can market their technology or partner with them in fish production.

Philip Huang, deputy executive director of the Master Development Department of the Taiwan External Trade Development Council, told *The Manila Times* that companies from his country will be looking for local partners who can market their cage farming aquaculture technology or produce fish in local shores.

"A delegation from Taiwan will come to the Philippines to introduce cage farming in the seas. They will be looking for partners and sell equipment," he said.

Taiwan's own cage farming aquaculture technology will also be exhibited during the Taiwan Expo 2017 that will be held at the SMX Convention Center Manila, Mall of Asia Complex from today to Sunday. The Taiwan External Trade Development Council and the Taiwan Association Inc. Philippines will be bringing in top manufacturers and suppliers to the country through the expo, but not limited to aquaculture and farming.

Huang said the companies that develops and markets the cage farming aquaculture technology can offer integrated solutions that are sustainable, like installing solar panels so the aeration of the fish cages will not require electricity from the grid.

Also, Taiwan's cage farming aquaculture technology is modular, or the production system can have several modules instead of one large system. The cages or modules can have widths and lengths measuring from 80 to 100 meters.

"Our technology is already at the same level as Japan's," Huang said.

Because Taiwan uses modern aquaculture technology like fish cages manned by people who are trained to feed fishes the right way with just the right amount of feeds, Taiwan is able to export various marine products. Huang said the besides providing equipment, the companies offering cage farming aquaculture technology train people on how to manage the system and feed the fish stock the right and sustainable way.

He said the close proximity of Taiwan to the Philippines will allow companies offering cage farming aquaculture technology to assist their prospective partners adequately in the future.

CONRAD CARIÑO

The Manila Times

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: B8

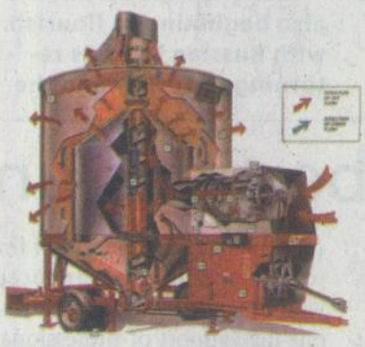
LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

GT dryers gaining ground in PH

GT Mobile Fast Dryers are finding its way into different farming regions in the Philippines, proving that Filipino cooperatives and individuals engaged in agribusiness also favor equipment with a high level of technology.

Most corn and rice farmers still dry their grains along the roads or concreted areas, which expose the grains to possible contamination.

"We currently market three models of GT Mobile Fast Dryers with capacities ranging from 6.6 to 12.7 tons, capable of drying grains in two to four hours depending on the model," said an official of All Certified Equipment Trading Corp. (ACETC), the exclusive distributor of GT Mobile Fast Dryers from the US.



A cutout of a GT Mobile Fast Dryers. GT WEBSITE PHOTO

Three models marketed by ACETC are the 345XL with 8.9-ton capacity, 545XL with 12.7-ton capacity, and 245XL with 6.6-ton capacity. All employ recirculating batch dryer technology capable reducing the moisture content of grains, particularly corn, to about 15 percent.

GT Mobile Fast Dryers are already in use in Cagayan province, Isabela, Quezon province and Tarlac.

The company GT Manufacturing Inc. in the United States has been manufacturing grains dryers since 1953 and has a presence in 80 countries including the Philippines through ACETC. It boasts that there are GT Mobile Fast Dryers that have been operating for more than 40 years because of proper maintenance. ACETC also provides after-sales service for GT Mobile Fast Dryers.

Besides GT Mobile Fast Dryers, ACETC is the exclusive distributor of Massey-Ferguson farm tractors in the Philippines.

The Manila Times

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: B8

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Monsanto defends GM crops

AN international agricultural company urged Filipino farmers on Wednesday to further employ biotechnology in food production, citing that the Philippines as the pioneer Southeast Asian country to initiate a biotechnology regulatory system.

Monsanto Company, a publicly traded US multinational agrochemical and agricultural biotechnology firm, said the Philippines ranked 12th worldwide in biotechnology crop commercialization in 2016.

"We believe that there's no silver bullet for food technology," said Charina Garrido Ocampo, corporate affairs head of Monsanto Philippines, in a joint media forum on Wednesday.

Genetically modified (GM) or engineered organisms are created when a gene from one species is transferred to another to resist pests and herbicides, and enhance the plant's nutritional value.

GM corn commonly known as Bt (Bacillus thuringiensis) Corn is one of the agricultural company's direct-to-consumer products that are highly promoted among farmers across the country.

Ocampo added Bt corn has "zero or less pesticide use" and "better and more uniform quality" compared to ordinary corn. However, despite its growing appeal to farmers, there are still existing challenges that hinder the adoption of what she calls the "best-performing technology in the industry."

Monsanto agrees to the idea that not all biotechnology firms guarantee genetically engineered products that are safe and free from toxic contamination.

Also, according to Ocampo, there are existing local bans on GM crops because of the government's support for organic farming and anti-biotechnology campaigns.

Despite the ongoing concerns on using high-yielding GM varieties, the Philippines is currently part of the 18 "mega countries" with land area of at least 50,000 hectares devoted to biotech crop cultivation.

"Besides, there is no record that someone got sick because of GM crops," she said.

Monsanto also addresses the Philippines' need for continuous education, information, and institutional strengthening at national and local levels, apart from multi-stakeholder partnerships to strengthen the future of biotechnology in the country.

"We all want sustainable crops that are safe. We will continue to coordinate with local government and leading scientists who believe in food security in the country," Ocampo said.

GLEE JALEA

BusinessWorld
INCREASE YOUR BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: 2/S1

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

France to convene joint commission to boost Philippine trade, investment

FRANCE and the Philippines will convene a joint economic committee to boost trade and investment, the French embassy said.

The embassy's economic counsellor, Laurent Estrade, said during the French Chamber of Commerce and Industry's (CCI) first business awards night at Dusit Thani Manila that the economic committee will look into attracting French companies to participate in the Philippines' infrastructure projects.

Mr. Estrade added that the committee will conduct "high level bilateral economic dialogue" to tackle previously-identified areas for "closer cooperation where we can have more (French) companies participating in development of a specific economic sector in the Philippines."

"We want this joint economic committee to be accompanied by high-level business delegations, so it will make it more concrete to have the same time a dialogue between both our administration and French companies coming to the Philippines to concretely promote their expertise and concretely present their activeness to be part of Philippine economy and for some of them to explore areas of investments," he added.

CCI France Managing Director Vanessa Laura Hans said that a delegation of representatives from various industries in France will be arriving in the Philippines in March to take part in the discussions.

Aside from seeing potential in the country's agriculture sector, the French delegation sees possible foreign investor growth as well due to recent policy changes.

AFP

THE FRENCH MINISTRY for Agriculture and Food and the Philippine Department of Agriculture have signed a bilateral cooperation agreement, which provides for knowledge and technology transfer — to identify different areas where France can bring its expertise in strengthening and developing the Philippines' agriculture sector.

"We're very happy to note the discussions to open up the market especially in the talks in regard to the Foreign Negative List because [...] one of the first questions we get from potential investors when they arrive, why so many restrictions, why is foreign capital so limited? So those are positive signs to us," she added.

The embassy also announced during the ceremony that the French Ministry for Agriculture and Food and the Philippine Department of Agriculture have signed a bilateral cooperation agreement, which provides for knowledge and technology transfer.

"This cooperation agreement may identify different areas where France can bring its expertise, also propose innovation and technologies to participate in strengthening and developing the agriculture sector and also to participate in supporting Filipino agriculture products being more present in international markets," Mr. Estrade added.

"We see a lot of companies coming in linked to food processing in the Philippines [...] and we also have technologies coming from Europe that can be applied to the local markets. It's not necessarily direct transactions but it's more like machinery and kind of technical expertise that can be shared." Ms. Hans said.

CCI France also launched the Trusted Partner Program to speed up the process of financial and legal services and due diligence services for French businesses who want to enter the Philippine market.

CCI France director Julien Agosta said that the project was launched to "minimize extensive accreditation processes in meeting government legal requirements."

"This program will be beneficial for not only our members who are looking for outsourcing solutions but also for any company who wants to connect to this new market under the umbrella of the trusted partner program," he added. — **Anna Gabriela A. Mogato**

BusinessWorld
INCREASE YOUR BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE
LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
Date: SEP 29, 2017 Page: 2/C1

Cabinet to study NFA plan to raise rice purchase price

THE National Food Authority (NFA) will ask the government's economic managers to greenlight its plan to raise the purchase price of unmilled rice, or *palay*, by P5, after the NFA Council deferred action on the proposal last week.

"We presented the proposal during the NFA Council meeting last Friday (Sept. 26) but, initially, the council did not authorize it," Grains Marketing Operations Division Rocky L. Valdez told reporters this week in Quezon City.

"Since there might be a major impact on inflation, it is necessary to defer to the judgment of the government's economic managers," he added.

Mr. Valdez said the Cabinet Secretary, Leoncio B. Evasco, Jr., who chairs the Council, asked the NFA to formally submit the proposal to his office for the matter to be raised before the Cabinet.

"So the NFA buying price for rice stays at P17 per kilogram plus incentives for both individual farmers and cooperatives," Mr. Valdez said.

The NFA has said it faces challenges competing with private rice traders in procuring rice from farmers.

During a budget hearing in Congress last month, the NFA unveiled its 2018 plan to procure 1.2 million metric tons (MT) of *palay*, well above the 2017 target of 230,367 MT.

As of Sept. 14, the agency has only bought 14,158.3 MT but procurement is expected to pick up significantly as the fourth-quarter harvest accounts for about 70% of procurement activity.

For now, private-sector-led rice shipments under the minimum access volume scheme and the 250,000 MT import order approved in July and expected to arrive by the end of the month will be sufficient, he said.

The arrival of rice shipments under the 2016 minimum access volume scheme is scheduled to run until Feb. 28.

— **Janina C. Lim**

AFP

THE National Food Authority will ask the government's economic managers to greenlight its plan to raise the purchase price of unmilled rice.

BusinessMirror
A broader look at news & issues
LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
Date: SEPTEMBER 29, 2017 Page: A1 & A2

PRICES OF PROCESSED MEAT SEEN RISING BY AS MUCH AS 6% THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON

By Jasper Emmanuel Y. Arcalas
@jearcalas

THE Philippine Association of Meat Processors Inc. (Pampi) said prices of some processed-meat products this Christmas season may increase by as much as 6 percent, as raw materials sourced abroad are still expensive due to tight global supply, compounded by the peso depreciation.

"The meat supply is stable and, at this time of the year, the [raw] materials for the Christmas season are here already and are in the production line already. But our cost has gone up because of the exchange rate, which has deteriorated by almost 10 percent year on year," said Pampi Vice President Jerome D. Ong, who is also the president of CDO Foodsphere Inc.

"For canned goods and hot dogs [there might be] very minimal [increase of about] zero to 3 percent, perhaps. But for hams, it could be a 5-percent to 6-percent increase. This is because the global prices of pork has gone up, plus the [weaker] foreign exchange," Ong added.

ONG: "There's always a natural momentum for prices to go up, and it's really hard to force it down. Hopefully, by early next year, it goes down some more, but we do not see it going back to old level [of $400]."

Despite the resumption of imports from some European countries, Ong said the global price of mechanically deboned meat (MDM) is still higher than usual, as world supply continue to be thin. MDM is another raw material used by meat processors in making hot dogs and canned goods.

"[MDM price] doubled [this year] but has since stabilized, but it has not come back to original levels. It's back to about $650 per metric ton, which is still expensive. There are new countries or markets that would open, then we have to compete with them," he said.

See "Processed meat," A2

Processed meat. . .

Continued from A1

"There's always a natural momentum for prices to go up, and it's really hard to force it down. Hopefully, by early next year, it goes down some more, but we do not see it going back to old level [of $400]," he added.

Industry players said the price of MDM doubled to as much as $800 per MT in the first quarter. This is due to the closure of Philippine borders to poultry products, including MDM, from most European countries where there are avian-influenza (AI) outbreaks.

Meat processors source most of their raw materials, such as MDM, from Europe.

In July Pampi told the BusinessMirror that the government's decision to ban meat imports from Brazil could result inasmuch as a 15-percent increase in the retail price of some processed-meat products sold locally. Brazil is another top source of raw materials by meat processors, especially MDM.

Pampi noted that time that the retail price of hot dogs could go up by 10 percent to 15 percent, while canned goods that are MDM-based, such as meat loaf, beef loaf and luncheon meat, could increase by as much as 10 percent.

Meat Importers and Traders Association (Mita) President Jesus C. Cham said local meat processors are currently having a hard time importing their raw materials from cheaper sources to mitigate possible price increase in their products.

"[The] peso is weak while Euro is strong. So [it becomes more expensive] to source materials from Europe right now. [Furthermore,] Brazil is still banned, so there's no source of MDM. [The global price of MDM] is still very dicey," Cham said in a recent interview with reporters. "The market is interrelated. Like the North America sees that the euro is strong, so they know European prices are high, then they will bring their prices up also; it is market driven."

Meanwhile, the high price of raw meat, such as pork *liempo* (belly), may continue, as supply remain thin even as the Christmas season draws nearer, according to Cham.

"The sales seem weak and, if you are going to look at the price of pork belly, it is still expensive. And even in the restaurants there is little supply of belly," he said.

"These are more expensive than previous years. Global prices are up and peso is weak," he added.

Industry sources told the BusinessMirror that the local hog production is still suffering from the effects of porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED), resulting in thinner domestic pork supply. The PED reportedly killed thousands of piglets earlier this year.

The Mita chief said they have received reports that the price of meat in Europe has started to soften, but he noted that it might be too late to decrease the price of local pork.

"We are hearing that there is softening of prices in Europe. But it's pretty late when they get here, they will get here by December," Cham said.

"Prices have been high this year. At this time there is a little softening of prices, but it is also because the exporters know the importers have stopped buying because it is not going to arrive in time for Christmas," Cham added.

Cham is doubtful that the demand for meat, particularly for pork belly, may increase as Christmas draws nearer, citing the unusual "weaker" sales early into the "ber months".

"September sales seem weak. So, the experience previously had been that Christmas sales were no longer [increasing] during ber months. Christmas sales only start after the 15th of December," he said. "And if products remain expensive then [consumers] are going to hold back. They might just do a one-time big-time shopping or reduce their consumption or switch to some other stuff that are cheaper."

The government has earlier encouraged importers to bring in more imported pork to stabilize local prices by cutting the tariff.

In April the Department of Agriculture approved the special importation of 7 million kilograms of pork slapped with a 30-percent tariff instead of the usual 40 percent. This covers only prime cuts of pork and not other parts, such as offal.

Malaya
Business Insight

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: A4

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

LandBank, DOST roll out funding facility for inventors

FILIPINOS who want to commercialize their inventions can now avail of funding under the I-TECH or the Innovation and Technology Lending Program of the Land Bank of the Philippines and the Technology Application and Promotion Institute (TAPI), Department of Science and Technology (DOST).

Both institutions formalized the arrangement in a memorandum of agreement signed yesterday.

I-TECH will be part of Landbank's P1-billion facility designed to serve the financing needs of small farmers, fishers, micro and small entrepreneurs as well as inventors. It will serve Filipino inventors with patents to commercialize their products with a special financing window.

Small borrowers can each avail of a minimum loan of P25,000 and a maximum of 80 percent of their total project costs, up to a limit of P500,000.

State colleges and universities with patented inventions as well as enterprises authorized by inventors to use their patents through a Deed of Assignment can also avail of the financing package.

TAPI promotes inventions through technology fairs and exhibits, regional contests, technology training, pilot plant assistance and consultancy. It has expanded into venture financing to develop technology-based enterprises for academe, agriculture and assistance for prototype development. Its clientele includes micro, small and medium enterprises, the academe and even farms and cooperatives.

"TAPI has grown into the foremost government agency for technology transfer and commercialization, technology marketing and promotion of inventions and innovations," said Garcia.

"The interventions have increased purchase orders, revenues, income and new opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship," he added.

In 2015, Garcia initiated grants from P50,000 to P100,000 for entrepreneurs to develop their inventions and innovations into prototypes.

DOST guidelines are in place for researchers to commercialize and TAPI is in the center of technology commercialization and deployment.

TAPI's Investment and Business Operations Division (IBOD) averaged a refund rate of 96 percent from 2010 to 2015.

IBOD provides funds for start-up companies and finances technology-based expansion of small businesses. To encourage small businesses to adopt technologies developed by the national R&D system, up to 70 percent of project costs are covered by IBOD seed money for working capital and the acquisition, purchase and fabrication of equipment.

Its Consultancy for Agricultural and Manufacturing Productivity Improvement does the same for agriculture. It identifies the technology needs of small agri businesses, particularly in aquaculture, horticulture, food, furniture and metals. Productivity audits determine the technology acquisition and equipment upgrade needed.

MANILA BULLETIN
THE NATION'S LEADING NEWSPAPER
Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: B-4

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

UK targets upscale beef market in PH

By **BERNIE CAHILES-MAGKILAT**

After being banned in the Philippines for 20 years due to the mad cow disease, UK beef is staging a comeback with potential $45 million (£34 million) in annual exports to the Philippines largely catering the local upscale market.

Richard Graham, UK Prime Minister's trade envoy to the Philippines and other ASEAN countries, said the UK beef exports will largely cater to the high-end market which demands high quality products.

Graham, however, said "it will take awhile for distributors to establish network because it's a new business after 20 years."

The Philippines has been cited as a good export market because of the improving purchasing power of Filipinos.

Graham also said that beef is part of Filipinos psyche as do other nationalities.

"British exports coming to the Philippines is a semblance of the fiesta and part of our psyche," said Graham.

Mike Moon, director of trade and investment of the British Embassy in Manila, told reporters at the launch of the resumption of the UK beef exports to the Philippines followed after the lifting of the ban on August 19, 2017 and the granting of a system-wide accreditation to UK by the Philippines' Department of Agriculture.

Intense negotiations were conducted by both countries in 2008-2009 for the resumption of beef exports.

The embassy is also looking into sending a beef delegation to the Philippines this year.

Moon said that UK beef exports to Malaysia and Indonesia are a lot bigger because of the "halal" export component. Exports to the Philippines are not "halal" because it is not a Muslim country, but Moon said that UK meat exporters have the capability to export halal-certified beef to the Philippines, which has a minority Muslim population.

Manila Standard

Date: September 29, 2017 Page: A1 and A2

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Sabotage raps vs Faeldon, NFA chief et al

By Rio N. Araja

SENATOR Panfilo Lacson on Thursday filed charges of graft, smuggling or economic sabotage and grave misconduct against former Bureau of Customs commissioner Nicanor Faeldon before the Office of the Ombudsman.

Administrator Jason Aquino of the National Food Authority, former Customs

Next page

Sabotage...

From A1

lawyer-director Tomas Alcid, Custom liaison officer to NFA of the Office of the Commissioner Geniefelle Lagmay and Cebu Lite Trading Inc.'s officers Filomena Lim, Roger Lim Jr., Rowena Lim, Joselito Lopez, Josephine Rizalde and Ambrosio Ursal Jr. were included in the charge sheet for "conspiring to smuggle" 40,000 bags of rice, in two waves, to Cebu Lite Trading Inc. without payment of Customs taxes and duties and without the required import permit, as they supposedly used fake permits.

The senator said Aquino, Alcid and Lagmay must be held culpable for grave misconduct for their "flagrant disregard of the established rules of procedure of the BoC in allowing the smuggling of rice shipments."

He called on Ombudsman Conchita Carpio-Morales to place Aquino, Alcid and Lagmay under preventive suspension.

The charges stemmed from the two shipments of rice that entered the country through the Port of Cagayan de Oro without necessary permits.

According to Lacson, the first shipment of 21,800 bags of Vietnamese long grain white rice worth $370,600 was on March 9.

A day after, another shipment of 18, 200 bags of the same rice worth $309,400 came in, he said.

"The complaint involved the smuggling of a significant volume of rice shipments consigned to CLTI, a domestic corporation duly registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission on 31 March 1997, with postal address at 14 G. Lavilles Street, Tinago, Cebu City," the charge sheet read.

The shipments were declared "abandoned and forfeited" on April 26 in favor of the government and the NFA was ordered to dispose of the shipments.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Date: SEPTEMBER 29, 2017 Page: A3

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Lacson sues Faeldon for rice smuggling

By Vince F. Nonato
@VinceNonatoINQ

Sen. Panfilo Lacson has sued former Customs Commissioner Nicanor Faeldon for allegedly allowing the release of $680,000 (P34.04 million) worth of rice in the Cagayan de Oro port in May despite lack of permits and payment of duties.

Lacson on Thursday filed a complaint for economic sabotage, graft and grave misconduct with the Office of the Ombudsman.

Economic sabotage is a serious offense that is nonbailable and punishable by life imprisonment.

"This is the answer to his dares. I will not take it sitting down," Lacson said of Faeldon's challenge for him to press charges instead of just linking him to various anomalies in the Bureau of Customs.

"Yes, I'm obsessed to prove my point because I raised this issue and he keeps on challenging it," he added.

Besides Faeldon, the other respondents include National Food Authority (NFA) Administrator Jason Laureano Aquino, former Cagayan de Oro district collector Tomas Alcid and customs liaison officer to the NFA Geniefelle Lagmay.

Also named respondents were directors or officers of importer Cebu Lite Trading Inc., (CLTI), namely: Filomena Lim, Luico, Roger Lim Jr., Rowena Lim, Joselito Lopez, Josephine Rizalde and Ambrosio Ursal Jr.

According to Lacson's complaint, the 40,000 bags of Vietnamese long grain rice consigned to CLTI were already declared "abandoned and forfeited" in favor of the government in two rulings issued by Alcid on April 26.

This was due to the lack of an import permit at the time. Although the shipments came in on March 9 and 16, CLTI allegedly lodged an import entry only on March 31.

On May 17, however, Aquino issued a "retroactive" certification for the shipments, stating that they were covered by import permits issued on March 28 and valid until April 4.

Alcid on June 7 sought Faeldon's clearance for the release of the rice despite the expiration of the import permits.

Faeldon on June 13 "unlawfully allowed" the release of the two shipments. INQ

INQUIRER Bandera
BALITA • BUENAS • CHIKA

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: 2

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

Ping kinasuhan si Faeldon sa rice smuggling

Ni Leifbilly Begas

INIREKLAMO sa Ombudsman ni Sen. Panfilo Lacson si dating Customs Commissioner Nicanor Faeldon at kanyang mga kasabwat kaugnay sa smuggling ng bigas.

Sa 39-pahinang reklamo, sinabi ni Lacson na dapat sampahan ng kasong Anti-Agricultural Smuggling Act (RA 10845), graft at grave misconduct sina Faeldon, National Food Authority Administrator Jason Aquino, dating District Collector ng BoC sa Cagayan de Oro na si Atty. Tomas Alcid, ang BoC Liaison Officer sa NFA na si Atty. Geniefelle Lagmay, at mga opisyal ng Cebu Lite Trading Inc., na sina Filomena Lim-Lucio, Roger Lim Jr., Rowena Lim, Joselito Lopez, Josephine Rizalde at Ambrosio Ursal Jr.

Ani Lacson, ginamitan umano ng pekeng import permit upang makapasok sa bansa ang smuggled na bigas.

Noong nakaraang Marso 9 ay pumasok umano sa Port of Cagayan de Oro ang 21,800 sako ng Vietnamese Long Grain White Rice na nagkakahalaga ng $370,600 kahit wala itong import permit.

Sa kaparehong araw ay dumating din umano sa port ang 18,200 sako ng bigas mula sa Vietnam na nagkakahalaga ng $309,400. Wala rin umano itong import permit.

Sa kabila ng paggamit ng kuwestyunableng mga papeles ay pinalabas umano ni Faeldon ang dalawang shipment.

Kuwestyunable rin umano ang pagbabayad ng buwis na P7.7 milyon para sa unang shipment at P6.5 milyon para sa ikalawa dahil ginawa ito noong lamang Hunyo 23 o ilang buwan matapos dumating sa bansa ang mga bigas.

PILIPINO MIRROR
FILIPINO MIRROR MEDIA GROUP CORPORATION
• SALAMIN NG KATOTOHANAN •

Date: SEPT. 29, 2017 Page: 8

LIBRARY
DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

PRESYO NG PANG-NOCHE BUENA SISIRIT

NAKAAMBA ang pagtataas ng presyo ng mga pagkaing pang-noche buena, partikular ang processed meat products, dahil nananatiling mahal ang raw materials para sa nasabing mga produkto.

Ayon kay Philippine Association of Meat Processors Inc. (Pampi) Vice President Jerome D. Ong, ang presyo ng ilang processed-meat products ngayong Christmas season ay maaaring sumirit ng hanggang anim na porsiyento dahil ang raw materials na nagmumula sa ibang bansa ay may kamahalan pa rin dahil sa kakaunting global supply.

"The meat supply is stable and at this time of the year the [raw] materials for the Christmas season are here already and are in the production line already. But our cost has gone up because of the exchange rate which has deteriorated by almost 10 percent year on year," wika ni Ong.

"For canned goods and hot dogs [there might be] very minimal [increase of about] zero to three percent perhaps. But for hams, it could be a five to six-percent increase. This is because the global prices of pork has gone up plus the [weaker] foreign exchange," dagdag niya.

Sa kabila ng pagbabalik ng imports mula sa ilang European countries, sinabi ni Ong na ang global price ng mechanically de-boned meat (MDM) ay mas mataas pa rin kaysa dati dahil ang world supply ay patuloy na numinipis. Ang MDM ay isa pang raw material na ginagamit ng meat processors sa paggawa ng hot dogs at canned goods.

"[MDM price] doubled [this year] but has since stabilized but it has not come back to original levels. It's back to about $650 per metric ton, which is still expensive. It's there are new countries or markets that would open then we have to compete with them," aniya.

"There's always a natural momentum for prices to go up, and it's really hard to force it down. Hopefully, by early next year, it goes down some more but we do not see it going back to old level [of $400]."

JASPER ARCALAS