

# DOH-CALABARZON reminds vax recipients to take 2nd shot

CALABARZON--The Department of Health Region IV-A (DOH IV-A) reminds COVID-19 vaccine recipients to take their second dose of vaccines to get full protection amid the rising number of COVID-19 cases in the region.

In a press release, Regional Director Eduardo Janairo emphasized that although they will not be com-

pletely immune against the coronavirus, those who got vaccinated against the disease will be able to form antibodies needed in combating severe forms COVID-19.

"Tandaan natin na nagkaroon na nga maraming variant ang virus kaya napakaimportanteng makumpleto natin ang ang bakuna natin upang masiguro na ang katawan natin ay

may kumpletong panlaban sa COVID-19," Janairo explains.

In its May 4 report, the DOH said around 132,180 doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to priority groups in the Calabarzon region using vaccines made by drugmakers Sinovac and Oxford-AstraZeneca.

Around 154,347 (93.8%) have already re-

ceived their first dose, while 10,154 (5.2%) were given their second shot.

Despite getting inoculated, the region's top doctor reminded those who have been vaccinated have to continue following minimum health protocols such as wearing face masks, physical distancing, and regular hand-washing as they may still get infected by the virus.

"Only upon receiving the second dose of Covid vaccine can you get the full protection against the virus. Huwag po natin itong ipagwalang bahala dahil mahirap po ang magkasakit dahil sa covid. Mahirap ma-hospital at hindi rin madaling gumaling dahil dito," Janairo said.

According to the region's top doctor, those who received AstraZeneca vac-



**Regional Director  
Eduardo C. Janairo**

cines will have 12 weeks to get their second dose, while those who were inoculated with Sinovac shots have 28 days or 4 weeks to get their second shot. (PB/DOH 4-A)

# LGU GenTri approves financial assistance to repatriated documented OFWs

TRECE MATIRES CITY, Cavite May 10 (PIA) -- The City Government of General Trias recently approved City Ordinance No. 20-46, an ordinance granting financial assistance to repatriated documented Gentriseño Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) who lost their jobs due to the CoViD-19 pandemic.

Documented OFWs who are bonafide residents of the City of General Trias with valid passport, work visa, and contract of employment duly processed with the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) or the Philip-

pine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) can avail of the program.

Interested applicants are required to present the following: copy of passport or travel document; copy of valid ID/Documents showing proof of residency in the City of General Trias; copy of flight ticket or boarding pass as proof of return to the Philippines or arrival stamps/sticker attached to the passport; proof of overseas employment contract, Overseas Employment Compensation registration, OWWA or POEA registration, residence IDs, working visa/re-entry visa,

or work permit to stay in the receiving country; and proof of loss of employment due to CoViD-19 or proof that the host country are included in the list of those heavily affected by the CoViD-19 pandemic.

Applications including requirements must be submitted using the links provided in the City Government of General Trias Facebook page until May 14, 2021. It is also advised that applications will undergo evaluation and approval.

Meanwhile, applicants who had submitted their application including

**Turn to page 5**



## IMUS FRONTLINERS RECEIVED GIFT PACKS FROM MAYOR MALIKSI

*Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Nutrition Scholars, solo parents, and frontliners from PNP and BJMP received gift packs on Mother's Day as a thank you for their sacrifice and service in the midst of the pandemic.*



CAVITE NGAYON

VEN L. ZOLETA  
+Founder

BAYANI N. ZOLETA  
Publisher/Editor-in-Chief  
ELIZABETH S. ZOLETA  
Office Manager  
HELEN N. ZOLETA  
Comptroller

ELEONOR S. BANAD    PAULA S. ZOLETA  
Advertising

LOLITZ ESTRELLADO  
Editor



Advertising Rates  
P160.00 per col.cm  
P200.00 per col.cm  
Subscription Rates  
P180.00 6 months  
P360.00 1 year


Legal Notices  
Commercial Ads

Office Address:  
271 Virata Subd., Palico 3, Imus, Cavite  
Cellphone Nos. 0916-3008472; 0945-6344408  
and 0939-5282046  
Telephone No. (02) 7757-8963

Cavite Ngayon is published weekly with  
circulation in the cities and province of Cavite.

MEMBER:



NEWS UPDATE


When hope is the only thing left

About 9 to 10 days prior to confinement, I felt symptoms that started with two days of mild body aches, two days of fever, two days of unproductive cough, two days of fever with chills until my oxygen saturation level became low. And on the 10th day, my RTPCR result indicated that I am COVID-19 positive. This is how Alvin Rae R. Samson of Angono, Rizal recalled his journey in battling the dreaded virus. At 39, he was very much proactive in his career as a corporate trainer and meta-coach specializing in facilitating leadership, change, & business strategy. It was a painful experience as he recounts how the illness affected his daily life routine. During his twenty days of confinement at the Manila East Medical Center, his physicians and nurses were so accommodating and exuded positivity celebrating every progress he made. Alvin remembered grinding his NGT tube, to aid him as he had difficulty in breathing. He never thought he would survive as he struggled against critical pneumonia. Several procedures were administered to Alvin such as x-ray, Hemoperfusion, ECG, and a series of various blood tests. "I realized that really, there are things beyond my control despite my best efforts to be in control – such as to prevent getting infected," Alvin said. He further related that... "What is even more frustrating during that crucial period was subjecting myself to that uncomfortable suctioning procedure that made me gawk and almost vomit." That deeply hurts. "It should be one of the reasons you would want to 'stay home' to reduce the risk of infection," he added. Glorified in every single day of his recovery, Alvin testified that God is the center of all these things. "I put my trust on the Lord our God whatever the outcome of my situation is. From the beginning, my faith in God stabilized my emotional and mental attitude about my confinement and isolation." He proclaimed, "I was not isolated at all because my doctors and nurses, my friends and my family, my PhilHealth family, and God Himself, were with me." Despite negative remarks against PhilHealth, Alvin remarked that he was truly grateful as he availed of the P786, 384 maximum benefits for critical pneumonia COVID-19 package. "Kahit gaano pa kalaki ang matitirang balanse, hindi tayo makapupulot ng Php786K sa labas ng bahay natin." And for Alvin, what PhilHealth offered was a huge relief for a critical COVID-19 patient. Alvin pointed out that, "dumadaan din ngayon ang PhilHealth sa matinding pagsubok" trying to convince other people that... "gaya natin exposed din sila sa mga panganib ng pandemya at maaaring marami rin sa kanilang mga empleyado ang iginugupo ng COVID-19," he further stressed. True enough, Alvin expressed his appreciation to PhilHealth telling everyone, "amidst the crisis we are currently facing, there is a state-insurer that serves the public in another frontline of this pandemic – that of providing universal health care benefits, whether rich or poor, no matter who you are." Greatly comforted from what he received from PhilHealth, Alvin has these to say, "Dear PhilHealth, maraming maraming salamat sa inyo. Know that there is a grateful nation — millions of families — who depend on you and who benefit from your great service during this pandemic." (END)

DTI Go Negosyo

1st Business Name Caravan in Candelaria


To continue providing service to the micro-entrepreneurs by providing information campaigns, Negosyo Center Candelaria holds its 1st Business Name Caravan in partnership with Brgy. Malabanban Sur, Candelaria, Quezon last May 5. The program aims to provide information to the micro-entrepreneurs of Brgy. Malabanban Sur of the importance of business registration and the essentials entrepreneurial mind-setting. Mr. Edward Macapaz, a local entrepreneur, provided insights into conducting a business, and the grit that comes with being an entrepreneur. Negosyo Center Business Consultant Zarah Quintilla-no discussed the importance of business registration as the first step of legally conducting a business. The legality of the business will boost the confidence of an entrepreneur in doing trade. She also provided a walkthrough on the available financing opportunities thru the Small Business Corporation, the P3 Cares program. After the discussion, entrepreneurs who chose to register their business during the caravan were also accommodated. A total of 23 clients were served in their business name registration. For more details, you can contact us through: Tel. No.: (042) 795 0442 / 0966 738 1053 Email: r04a.quezon@dti.gov.ph Facebook: DTI Negosyo Center Candelaria Instagram: @dtiquezon Twitter: @DTIQuezonPO



“Palay-Aralan” in Calabarzon to Launch in May

TRECE MARTIES CITY, Cavite – “Palay-Aralan: Makabagong Pagsaka sa Himpapawid,” a nationwide radio program of the Department of Agriculture will be launched in region IV-A starting May 19, 2021. This School-on-the-Air on Smart Rice Agriculture (SOA-SRA) is being implemented by the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) Regional Training Centers, in coordination with DA-Regional Field Offices (RFO). SOA-SRA aims catalyze agriculture modernization through the massive and sustained education of smallholder farmers and local intermediaries on modern and innovative technologies and approaches on smart rice production. For its implementation in Calabarzon region, the lead team, Information Services Section from ATI, in partnership with DA-RFO has finished its consultation meetings with partner agencies and briefings for the participants coming from the Local Government Units and State Universities and Colleges. 2,500 RSBSA-registered farmers, extension workers and Agriculture students are expected to participate in the program. The program is set to be launched via Zoom and through a live streaming on ATI Calabarzon and DA-RFO Facebook pages at 10:00 in the morning on these dates: May 19, 2021 - Cavite, Laguna and Rizal province May 20, 2021 - Batangas province May 25, 2021 - Quezon province May 26, 2021 - State Universities and Colleges


For more information, visit ATI Calabarzon Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ATICalabarzon-1535361476708410/>



Imus to launch 'Community Plant-Tree'

“Kumuha kung may Pagtataniman, at Magtanim para sa Kalikasan”


The local government of Imus will launch the “Community Plant-Tree” project for “plantitos” and “plantitas” in the city. The program is led by the City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) and the city’s City Agricultural Services Office with the slogan “Get if there is planting and plant for nature”. It will be held on May 24 at Imus Plaza. Those who want to participate are required to bring their own eco-bag, box, or crate.



KAWIT CAVITE

Tuloy ang ayuda sa mga barangay ng Panamitan at Congbalay-Legaspi

Ipinagpatuloy ngayong lingg, Mayo 11 ang pamamahagi ng ayuda sa mga barangay ng Panamitan at Congbalay-Legaspi. Bawat barangay sa ating Kawit ay napuntahan na po natin ang para maipamahagi ang ayuda sa National Government. Gayunpaman, magpapatuloy po tayo sa pag-iikot sa mga susunod na araw para mabalikan ang mga hindi pa nakakatanggap o yung mga nauna nating batch na kalahati lang ang natanggap. Pinasalamatan natin ang ating mga araw-araw na kasama sa pamamahagi, ang ating mga kawani sa MSWD, mga volunteer mula sa UTB at LGBTQIA+ community, at ang masisigagis na barangay officials. /MAYOR Angelo G. Aguinaldo FACEBOOK



MAY is National Heritage Month





## Happy Mothers Day

### Gifts and exciting Ideas... Celebration in Cavite

**MOTHER'S IN POEM, FREE HAIRCUT, MANICURE AND PEDICURE, GIFTED BY MAYOR Angelo G. Aguinaldo** □

**Today, the "Pamper Day" started in Kawit Cavite for all mothers where Mayor Aguinaldo has free haircut, manicure and pedicure offered by Mayor Aguinaldo this Mother's Day.**

**Apart from this, the program can also help for hairstylists, Manicurists and pedicurists who have lost their jobs during the pandemic.**

**Photo Courtesy: Mayor Angelo Aguinaldo FB Page**



## Pangilinan backs...from p2

pa natin nareresolba iyan nang lumabas ang isyu. Bakit nag-overprice ang testing kit at testing laboratory equipment?" he said.

The senator said the distribution of financial assistance should also be scrutinized amid reports of various anomalies, including the incorrect amount given to the public.

Pangilinan said the government should also religiously update the Senate and Congress regarding the spending of the Bayanihan 1 and 2 funds through weekly financial reports as required by law from Malacanang under Bayanihan 1.

"Ang intensiyon ng Senado at ng Kongreso roon ay talagang magkaroon ng transparency kaya dapat talagang may reporting requirements," said Pangilinan.

"They have to continue reporting and if they don't, we would exercise the oversight function of the Senate and Congress to force them to report and give us the latest update on the spending," he added.

## Palace announces...from p6

tayo sa ating mga medical frontliners at syempre nagpapasalamat tayo sa ko-operasyon ng lahat sa pag-ma-mask, hugas, at iwas," Roque remarked.

The Cabinet official who also sits as Inter-Agency Task Force

(IATF) spokesperson, also reminded Filipinos to follow prescribed guidelines with regard to mass gatherings in view of the reported incident in Caloocan where many people were seen gathered in a swimming pool.

"Bawal pa po ang

mass gathering sa NCR, plus nasa ilalim pa po kase tayo ng MECQ," reminded Roque. He added: "Naintindihan po natin natin na mainit ang panahon, at marami ang sabik maligo, lumangoy, at magpalamig. Ngunit hindi naman dapat itong magiging dahilan para hindi natin sundin ang guideline," said Roque.

Secretary Roque said that the local government unit (LGU) will be investigating the matter and commended the LGU of Caloocan for its swift action on the issue. "Siyempre po MECQ, bawal po turismo, at bawal yung pagtitipon-tipon. Iwan na lang po natin doon dahil talaga naman ang pagpapataw ng parusa ay nasa kamay naman po yan ng lokal na pamahalaan," said Roque. ### OPS-PCOO

### COUNCIL RAFFY DUALAN, THERE IS A LITTLE GIFT THIS MOTHER'S DAY

In honor of our great house lights, Councilor Raffy Dualan distributed Cake to some of our hardworking mothers who are still in their service during this Pandemic. Councilor Raffy started this on Friday where 20 Department Heads of the Office of the Mayor and 4 Captains were given to our Town. Followed this distribution yesterday, day Saturday. Received 12 Pwd President, 14 Senior President and 46 Brgy. Sec / treasurer.

Until this week, Councilor Raffy continues to distribute Cake for the 268 Barangay Health Workers conducted at Seaside Beach Resort.

This Mother's Day, there's probably nothing better than a mother who continues to serve her countrymen and for the Nation.

Thank you very much Councilor Raffy Dualan!

Happy Mother's Day to all the hardworking mothers in our Nation!

### IMUS CITY: Mga nanalo sa Raffle Gift Live para sa mga Maliksing Nanay

#### CRUEL MOTHER

#### Mother's Day Gift Raffle!

Here are the WINNERS of our Big Mother gift raffle yesterday at Maliksi LIVE! Thank you for watching and patronizing our program, and I hope our gift packs will help you a lot.

Congratulations, and Happy Mother's Day to you!



Along with our Mother's Day celebration yesterday, we also distributed gift packs for Barangay Health Workers, Barangay Nutrition Scholars, solo parents, and frontliners in PNP and BJMP.

This help is part of our gratitude and appreciation for their sacrifice and service.



## PH starts okra export to Korea

QUEZON CITY (PIA) -- The Philippines starts exporting okra or ladies' fingers to Korea for the 2021-2022 season after complying with the agreed requirements set by both countries.

"After the resumption of okra exports to Japan last year, we are opening yet another market access for our okra, this time with the huge Korean food market. The Philippine government has been requesting market access of okra to Korea since 2014 and finally, it was granted. This is a milestone for us considering we are still in the midst of the global pandemic," said Agriculture Secretary William Dar who proudly announced that locally produced okra will be made available to the Korean market.

The Korean Government, for its part, announced the completion of the ruling process for the Philippine okra market access to Korea through an official notification from the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (MAFRA) on May 6, 2021, said DA Agriculture Attaché Aleli Maghirang in a report to Secretary Dar.

"I commend the efforts of concerned DA offices, particularly the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) and the Philippine Agriculture Office in Seoul, for this breakthrough and significant development that will also pave the way to more farm and fishery exports to Korea," he added.

The DA chief said exports of fresh, green okra pods will be sourced initially from Tarlac province, where DA-BPI accredited farms and packing houses are located. Currently, there are four Philippine okra exporters, namely: Jelfarm Fresh Produce Enterprise; Greenstar Produce, Philippines Inc.; AAMC Foods Corp.; and Hi-Las Marketing Corp.

All are members of the Philippine Okra Producers and Exporters Association (POPEA).

Maghirang said that due to the current pandemic-related travel restrictions, Korea's MAFRA Animal and Plant Quarantine Agency (APQA) has requested the DA-BPI to conduct on their behalf appropriate investigations and provide inspection report in lieu of the required Korean on-site survey of the okra farms in Tarlac. Once the requirements are complied with, Philippine okra exports to Korea may commence, she added.

In Korea, Maghirang said okra is not as mainstream as radish, cabbage, cucumber, potato, and sprouts, which are parts of many Korean dishes. Some Koreans eat okra as "ban-ghan" (side dish), including "okra muchim" (seasoned) or "okra kimchi" (pickled/fermented).

Okra is available only at the online market, as frozen or dried form. Processed okra products mostly imported from China, while the fresh, green pods are available in small volume, during summer season. These are mostly consumed by Filipinos and other Asian

nationalities in Korea.

"This is therefore a good opportunity for us to enter the Korean food market and promote Philippine okra for mainstream consumers," Secretary Dar said.

Okra has long been favored as a food for the health-conscious, as it contains potassium, Vitamins B and C, folic acid, calcium, and rich in amino acids. It prevents anemia, promotes healthy skin and pregnancy, prevents stomach ulcer, and improves the respiratory system.

Filipino farmers plant okra as it is a high-yielding crop and provides good source of income. Its green pods can be harvested as early as 55 to 65 days upon seeding. Surveys show that farmers can harvest 500 kilograms up to one ton of okra pods per hectare, providing them a net income, ranging from P80,000 to P120,000.

"The entry of Philippine okra to the Korean market is indeed a welcome development to boost not only the livelihood and incomes of our farmers, but also pave way to other potential export crops, thus invigorating the country's agriculture sector," the DA chief added. (PIA NCR)

## LGU GEN TRI...FROM PAGE 1

requirements to the Public Employment Services Office (PESO) need not apply online.

Approved applications will be advised regarding the schedule and manner of payout.

The financial assistance to documented OFWs is the city government's initiative under the leadership of Mayor Antonio 'Ony' Ferrer to somehow help alleviate the effect of the loss of their livelihood caused by the ongoing pandemic. (Ruel Francisco with reports from the City Government of General Trias FB page)

*"A mother's arms are more comforting than anyone else's."  
—Princess Diana*

## New River Drive opened in Las Pinas to further ease traffic

TO shorten travel time and further ease traffic gridlock in major thoroughfares in Las Pinas City, a new River Drive was opened here yesterday (May 5).

Sen. Cynthia A. Villar and Las Pinas Rep. Camille Villar led the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the new road which will provide convenience and comfort to Las Pinas residents and travellers passing the city's major roads.

DPWH-LPMDEO Asst. District Engr. Isabelo Valeros, Brgy. Pamplona 3 Captain Mori Riguera, Brgy. Pulang Lupa Dos Captain Teddy Quilatan, Verdant Achers President Dolly Ochoa and Casimiro Village President Minerva Gregana also witnessed the event.

Sen. Villar said this new road and the other road developments in Las Pinas

will entice investors to come and invest in the city. She said business movements to and from Las Piñas and adjacent areas would also be much easier.

"We would like to thank the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) for immediately addressing our concerns on traffic in Las Pinas through this River Drive project," said Sen. Villar.

The new 850-meter River Drive traverses Verdant Subdivision to Naga Road via Verdant Acres in Bgy. Pamplona 3 to Vergonville Subdivision, St. Joseph Subdivision and Villa Isabelita in Brgy. Pulang Lupa Dos.

The 640-meter River Drive in Casimiro will also be partially opened via Casimiro Village, Dela Cruz Compound and Batibot in

Brgy.. Pamplona 3.

The completion of this project, which is still ongoing, will connect Casimiro Village to Zapote Road.

Both road projects are part of the Las Pinas River Drive being implemented by the DPWH under Sec. Mark Villar through the initiative of the senator.

The senator guaranteed she will continue to work closely with the city government and the DPWH to ensure that any traffic problem in Las Pinas, her home city, will be swiftly resolved.

She noted that the earlier completion of the 25-kilometer Las Piñas-Zapote River Drive reduces the volume of vehicles plying Alabang-Zapote Road, a major thoroughfare in the southern part of Metro Manila.

## Dasmariñas News photo:



Last May 9 in the evening, SPM Kiko Barzaga did Food Distribution for those affected by yesterday's fire Barangay H-2 Fire Evacuees.



Curfew Violators at Promenade des Dasmariñas Brgy Buro! Main on May 8.- Dasma pnp

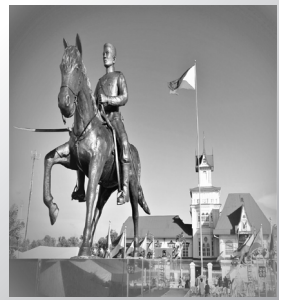
#### AFFIDAVIT OF SELF-ADJUDICATION

Notice is hereby given that the estate left by the deceased **PILAR MELO**, consisting of a parcel of land situated at Anabu, Imus City, Cavite covered by TCT No. T-89821, has been the subject of an Affidavit of Self-Adjudication executed by the sole heir **ALFREDO S. JIMENEZ**, as per Doc. No. 10, Page No. 03, Book No. LXXXVII, Series of 2021 of Notary Public Atty. Marvyn L. Maristela.

Sgd. By the sole heir

CN: May 3, 10 & 17, 2021





## Proposed local ordinance to protect public, dogs' welfare



Rep. Pidi Barzaga

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite (PIA) --Cavite 4th District Rep. Pidi Barzaga proposed the drafting of a city ordinance in Dasmariñas that will address the perennial problem on stray dogs biting residents, not only to protect the public but the dogs' welfare as well.

According to Rep. Barzaga, the city government allocates almost a million pesos of the LGU's funds on a monthly basis for the purchase of rabies vaccine.

He also cited that 50% of the victims were children or members of the household of dog owners.

As part of the initiative, the city government will undertake the construction

of a big impounding center to house stray dogs captured with the support of a centralized dog catching system.

The proposed ordinance will affirm that all stray dogs will be caught and brought to the center. Dog owners will redeem their dogs within 10 days with corresponding fine. Dogs that will not be redeemed within said period will be placed for adoption, while those that will not be adopted will be "euthanized" as provided by Republic Act 8485 or The Animal Welfare Act of the Philippines.

Moreover, all residents who want to breed dogs will be required to obtain a dog breeder's permit

from the city government. Puppies also need to have a cage with corresponding space.

A public hearing will be held for the drafting of said ordinance with concerned stakeholders present to solicit their views on the proposed ordinance.

According to the FB Page of Rep. Barzaga, the ordinance will not only address the safety of the public but also prevent the proliferation of stray dogs, resolve related sanitation problems and significantly reduce LGU expenses every month on anti-rabies vaccine with the savings allotted for other health projects. (Ruel Francisco with reports from Congressman Pidi Barzaga's FB page)



On May 7, 2021 at about 10:00AM personnel of Tagaytay CCPS conducted visitation of Fora Mall and distribution of IEC materials, Brgy. Silang Crossing East, Tagaytay City in relation to PNP campaign against criminality and implementing the IATF Guidelines.

## MUNICIPALITY OF CARMONA:ANNOUNCEMENT



**Ikaw ba ay isa sa CARMONA OLD SCHOLARS? Ito na ang pinakahihintay mo!**  
**Simula May 10, 2021 (Lunes) hanggang May 13, 2021 (Huwebes) ay bubuksan na ang application para sa Educational Assistance for College Students for Second Sem A.Y. 2020-2021. Pumunta lamang sa inyong barangay upang mag-fill out ng APPLICATION FORM at magpasa ng REQUIREMENTS. Maglalabas sa May 9, 2021 (Linggo) ng OFFICIAL MASTERLIST na makikita sa Facebook page ng Municipality of Carmona, Cavite at ipapaskil sa mga barangay hall.**  
**Kung hindi kayo napabilang sa nasabing masterlist, MAGHINTAY lamang ng anunsyo tungkol sa aplikasyon para sa NEW SCHOLARS.**

## Palace announces arrival of more vaccines; Priority given to NCR Plus, Cebu and Davao

Some 3.5 million vaccine doses have arrived in the country in the past few days, plus another vaccine delivery is expected today, said Presidential Spokesperson Secretary Harry Roque Jr in his press briefing today, May 10, 2021, held in Davao.

The Palace official mentioned the arrival of 1.5 million doses of the Sino-vac vaccine from China last

Friday, May 7, 2021, and the arrival of more than two million doses of AstraZeneca vaccine from the COVAX Facility on May 8, 2021.

"Inaasahan din natin na darating naman ngayon araw, May 10, ang nasa 193,000 doses ng unang batch ng bakuna mula po sa Pfizer," said Secretary Roque.

The Palace spokesperson added that because

the Pfizer vaccine requires negative 20 degrees temperature, the initial vaccine doses will be distributed to areas with the capability to handle the said temperature requirement, like in Metro Manila, Cebu, and Davao.

"Pero gaya ng sinabi ko kanina, napakadami na po nating iba pang mga bakuna, so wag po kayong mag-alala magkakaroon po tayo ng bakuna para sa la-

hat," assured Sec. Roque.

Roque also cited Vaccine Czar Secretary Carlito Galvez Jr, in a previous guesting in the press briefing, who said that with regard to the vaccine rollout, there has been an agreement already that those areas with high incidence of COVID-19 will be prioritized for the vaccination program, which include the National Capital Region (NCR) Plus areas

and neighboring provinces, including Cebu and Davao.

With the successive arrival of COVID vaccines, the Palace spokesperson expressed confidence that more people will be inoculated. As of May 8, 2021 data from the Department of Health, there are now 2,395,494 COVID vaccine doses that have been administered, of which 1,508,146 were medical frontliners or those from the

A1 Priority Group.

Meanwhile, in terms of COVID-19 recovery rate, the Philippines currently ranks third among ASEAN nations with a recovery rate of 92.76 percent, following Singapore and Brunei, said Sec. Roque, citing data from the Global COVID-19 Statistics of Worldometer.

"Nagpapasalamat  
**Turn to page 4**