

Pangilinan-led Luzon Tollways Steps Up Holiday Traffic Preparations, Offers Free Toll

MPTC
 METRO PACIFIC TOLLWAYS

Metro Pacific Tollways Corporation (MPTC), concessionaire of NLEX, SCTEX in cooperation with BCDA, NLEX Connector, Manila-Cavite Expressway (CAVITEX) in cooperation with PRA-PEATC, and Cavite-Laguna Expressway (CALAX), has intensified its holiday traffic and road safety preparations across its Luzon expressway network to ensure a smooth and safe journey for motorists during the Christmas and New Year peak travel period.

Through early preparations, full manpower deployment, and initiatives such as counterflow, barrier-up operations, free towing services, and toll-free passage, MPTC aims to provide safer and more convenient travel experience to its motorists.

"Our goal this holiday season is to have motorists spend less time on the road and more time with their families," said MPIC and MPTC Chairman Manuel V Pangilinan.

"We've prepared early, deployed full manpower, and have initiated barrier-up operations, counterflow measures, free towing services, and toll-free passage. The toll-free initiative is our way of giving back to motorists. We hope it helps ease their travels during this holiday season," Pangilinan added.

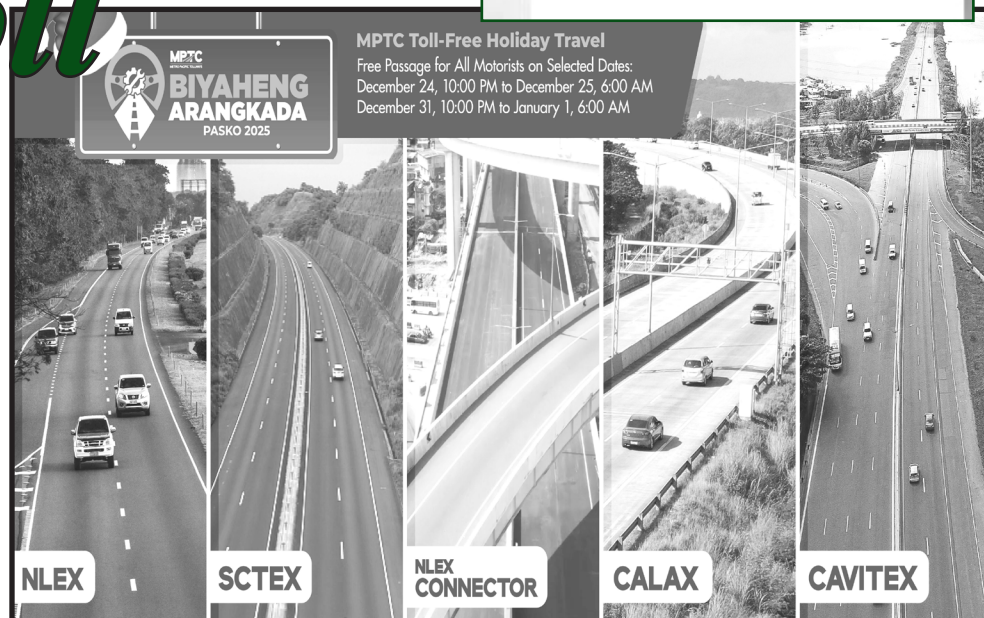
To manage increased traffic volume, all roadworks and lane closures

will be suspended from 6:00 AM on December 19, 2025, until 12 noon on January 5, 2026, except for emergency safety repairs. Additional traffic, toll, and emergency and medical response teams will be deployed, and all

lanes in major toll plazas will remain open to accommodate peak traffic.

To further ease congestion along NLEX, Express Lane (counter-flow lane) will be activated

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PGC Releases Educational Assistance for CvSU-Rosario Students

The Provincial Government of Cavite, under the leadership of Governor Abeng Remulla, distributed financial assistance to 5,475 student beneficiaries through the Provincial Scholarship Program during the Iskolar ng Lalawigan educational assistance distribution held on December 16 at the Cavite State University-Rosario Campus.

The activity aimed

to help alleviate students' educational expenses while fostering academic excellence. Governor Remulla was joined by First District Board Members Romel Enriquez and Jygs Gandia, who conveyed their support and encouragement to the scholarship recipients.

The Iskolar ng Lalawigan ng Cavite program continues to highlight the provincial government's



Governor Abeng Remulla

strong commitment to investing in education and empowering the future of Caviteño youth.

Erwin Tulfo clarifies no politicians allowed in ayuda payouts in 2026

Senator Erwin Tulfo

MANILA, Philippines — Senator Erwin Tulfo has clarified on Wednesday that the proposed 2026 General Appropriations Bill (GAB) prohibits the presence of any politician in the payouts of cash assistance provided by the government.

Tulfo set the record

straight during the bicameral conference on the bill containing the P6.793-trillion national budget for next year as some lawmakers raised objection against the use of government aid, particularly the Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS).

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

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ATIng Parangal 2025: ATI CALABARZON Recognizes Partners and their Role in Delivering Quality Agri-Extension Services

The DA - Agricultural Training Institute (ATI) CALABARZON once again recognized the remarkable role of various partners across the sector in delivering excellent and quality agricultural extension services to farmers and fishers in the region during the triennial ATIng Parangal 2025, held at SEARCA Auditorium, University of the Philippines Los Baños, on December 12.

As the catalyst, knowledge bank, and capacity builder of the Philippine agriculture and fisheries extension system, ATI in CALABARZON continuously forges partnerships with what are known as the pillars of responsive and competitive extension—national government agencies, local government units, state universities and colleges, and the private sector. Through this, knowledge sharing, technology transfer, and skills development along the agricultural value chain are delivered more efficiently and effectively to farmers and fishers toward achieving “Masaganang Agrikultura, Maunlad na Ekonomiya.”

In his message, Center Director Dr. Rolando V. Maningas underscored that the milestones of ATI CALABARZON would not be possible without the partners who have been committed to helping implement ATI CALABARZON’s programs, expressing his sincere appreciation and tribute to their passion for achieving a prosperous sector.

“Kaya’t sa inyong dedikasyon at malasakit, kami ay buong-pusong nagbibigay-pugay at sumasaludo sa inyo,” said Dr. Maningas.

Anchored on the theme “Pagkilala sa Kahusayan, Pagsaludo sa Serbisyo,” ATI CALABARZON awarded the following agencies, organizations, and individuals who have become part of its success from 2023 to present:

Partner Provincial Agriculture and Veterinary Offices

Province of Batangas

Province of Cavite

Province of Laguna

Province of Quezon

Province of Rizal

Partner State Universities and Colleges (SUCs)

Cavite State University (CvSU)



Laguna State Polytechnic University (LSPU)

Batangas State University, The National Engineering University (BatStateU, The NEU)

University of Rizal System (URS) Southern Luzon State University (SLSU)

University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB)

Polytechnic University of the Philippines (PUP) Mulanay

Philippine Normal University (PNU) South Luzon

Partner National Government Agencies (NGAs)

DA-Regional Field Office (RFO) CALABARZON

DA-Regional Crop Protection Center (RCPC) IV-A

DA-National Meat Inspection Service (NMIS) IV-A

DA-Philippine Carabao Center (PCC) UPLB

DA-National Dairy Authority (NDA) South Luzon Department

DA-Philippine Coconut Authority (PCA) Region IV-A

DA-Philippine Rice Research Institute (PhilRice) Los Baños

Partner Organizations

Philippine Agriculturist Association, Inc. (PAA) Sierra Madre Chapter

CvSU Bee Research, Innovation, Trade, and Extension (BRITE) Center

Southern Tagalog Agriculture, Aquatic, and Resources Research, Development and Extension Consortium (STAARRDEC)

Villar Foundation Farm School and Tourist Farm

Special Citation

INSPIRE Program

Silang Livestock Agriculture Cooperative

Youth Internship Program on Organic Agriculture (YIPOA) Interns

Matthew B. Profeta

Rey Anthony S. Lamac

Christian T. Fernandez

Francis B. Cuento

Organic Agriculture Program

Brian A. Belen

Rice Program

Masaganang Bukid Agricultural Learning Center

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GSIS brings services closer to members, pensioners thru newly-opened service desk

CALAMBA CITY, Laguna (PIA) – In line with its continuing mission to provide convenience and better accessibility on government insurance services, the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) Laguna has opened a new service desk in Calamba City to better serve government employees, retirees, and pensioners in the city and nearby areas.

The newly-opened GSIS service desk aims to bring essential frontline services closer to more than 25,000 active members and 9,000 pensioners in Metro Laguna, minimizing travel time going to their provincial office located in Pagsanjan, Laguna and easing the process of transacting with the agency.

GSIS Executive Vice President lawyer Jason Teng said that the facility is part of the agency’s ongoing efforts to enhance service delivery and improve customer experience by expanding its presence at the local level, particularly in Calamba City known as the regional hub of government agencies.

“This is also beneficial to the government agencies we work hand-in-hand with to ensure maximum benefits for our members, as Calamba as a designated regional hub for Calabarzon is indeed the best sport to put

up GSIS Office,” said Teng.

Teng also emphasized that the service desk will be beneficial for pensioners who may find it difficult to travel. He added: “Imagine if people from Metro Laguna need maybe 1 or 2 hours to go to the GSIS Laguna Branch in Pagsanjan (Laguna), now they are here, if people from San Pedro need maybe three to four hours to go to Pagsanjan, there is less travel time.”

Clients may inquire and receive assistance on membership records, life and non-life insurance offers, loan applications and status, claims, retirement application, and pension-re-



PAO REGIONAL OFFICE CALABARZON PAYS COURTESY CALL TO BACOR CITY LGU

Revilla Hall, December 19, 2025 – Officials from the Public Attorney’s Office (PAO) Regional Office CALABARZON paid a courtesy call to the Bacoor City Government today, fostering stronger ties and collaboration in providing legal assistance to the city’s residents.

The visit was received by Mayor Strike B. Revilla and Atty. Lester Del Castillo, Executive Assistant from the Office of the Mayor. Regional Public Attorney Marlon Buan led the delegation from PAO CALABARZON.

The purpose of the meeting was to establish a strong working relationship between the PAO and the City Government, ensuring that Bacoreños have access to quality legal services, particularly those who cannot afford private counsel. This collaboration reinforces the commitment of both the PAO and the City Government to upholding justice and ensuring equal access to legal representation for all citizens.

Dasmariñas residents benefit from Medical and Dental mission

Residents of Brgy. San Agustin 1, Dasmariñas City benefited from a comprehensive medical and dental mission organized by the provincial government of Cavite on December 17.

A total of 321 patients were served during the activity. Of this number, 291 residents received free medical check-ups, while diagnostic services included 7 X-ray examinations and 30 electrocardiogram (ECG) procedures. Dental services were also provided, with 30 patients availing of free tooth extractions.

The activity was spearheaded by the Office of the Provincial Governor medical mission team in collaboration with the Office of the Provincial Health Officer. Medical services were rendered by the GEAMH Medical Team, while dental services were provided in partnership with the City Health Office of Dasmariñas. Volunteer members of the Philippine Army further complemented the initiative by offering free haircut and massage services to residents.

The success of the mission was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the local govern-



MULA SA BAYAN, PARA SA BAYAN

ment unit, medical and dental professionals, and the barangay leadership under the guidance of Punong Barangay Darwin Torres, with the invaluable assistance of Barangay Health Workers. The initiative underscores a shared commitment to bringing accessible and people-centered healthcare services closer to communities.

--- R. Dones

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FarmEx Corporation
Private Agriculture and Fisheries Extension System (PAFES)

Quezon Provincial Agriculture Office

Partners in Empowering Women in Agriculture

SUC: Dr. Almira G. Magcawas

NGA: Marietta C. Perez, RAgr

PLGU: Dr. Ana Clarissa S. Mariano

LGU: Nerissa P. Marquez, RAgr

Private Sector: Gloria Pontejes-Morris

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Albert Anthony “Ben” Z. Francia

Jeremy Mindanao, CPA (The Off Duty Accountant)

EAsY Agri Scholarship Batch 1 Graduates with Latin Honors

Adrian M. Averion (Magna Cum Laude, LSPU)

Don Wesley M. Manalo (Magna Cum Laude, SLSU)

Clarice Bleza (Cum Laude, SLSU)

Winners at ATI EnGAgE 2.0: Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Innovation Symposium 2025

Best Project Poster: Scaling Sustainability: Promotion of Wood Vinegar (Mokusaku) for Resilient Rice Production through Technology Demonstration - OPA Cavite

Best Ongoing Project Paper: PINYA: Product Innovations for Nurturing Yields and Agro-Enterprises (Dried Pineapple) - OPA Quezon

Best Completed Project Paper: Ko Extension: Bridging the GAP towards a Biosecure Farm (Disease Surveillance System: Bridging the Gap in Animal Health Response) - OPV Rizal

ATIng Kaagapay na Agricultural Extension Worker (AEW)

Organic Agriculture Program

Winner: Engr. Reyman L. Garcia (Antipolo City, Rizal)

Nominees: Maria Pilar C. Pablo, RAgr (OPA Rizal); Arvin A. Broncano, RAgr (OPA Rizal); Melanie B. Cortez, RAgr (Sto. Tomas City, Batangas); Dario M. Maunahan (Tanauan City, Batangas); Marites S. Malijan, RAgr (San Pablo City, Laguna); and Sheryl T. Peña, RAgr (OPA Quezon)

Rice/RCEP Program

Winner: Engr. Jenno B. Ambrocio (Sta. Maria, Laguna)

Nominees: Rafael Romulus A. Catada, RAgr (Lobo, Batangas); Jovencio S.

Reyes, RAgr (Tanay, Rizal)

National Urban and Peri-urban Agriculture Program (NUPAP)

Winner: Delaiza S. Rabanes, RAgr (Bacoor City, Cavite)

Nominees: Mia Lyn A. Ogana, RAgr (Lucena City, Quezon); Juliana M. Lanip, RAgr (Calamba City, Laguna)

Coconut Farmers and Industry Development Plan (CFIDIP)

Winner: Faye D. Abadilla, RAgr (OPA Quezon)

Nominees: Roderick R. Rosales, RAgr (Catanduan, Quezon); Carmina M. Alto-var, RAgr (Atimonan, Quezon)

High-Value Crops Development Program (HVCDP)

Winner: Julie Ann E. Ceraos, RAgr (Cabuyao City, Laguna)

Nominees: Mico B. Comia, RAgr (Guinayangan, Quezon); Lavenia N. Pakin-gan, RAgr (Pagbilao, Quezon); Cynthia C. Perez, RAgr (OPA Cavite)

Corn and Cassava Program

Winner: Christian A. Castillo (Candelaria, Quezon)

Nominees: Jennifer M. Bascoguin, RAgr (OPA Quezon); Vilner L. Ilagan, RAgr (Batangas City); Jayson H. Reytilan (Guinayangan, Quezon)

Livestock Program

Winner: Lilibeth A. Macalagay, RAgr (OPV Laguna)

Nominees: Marjo P. Mojica, RAgr (OPV Cavite); Mark Angelo C. Buhat, RAgr (OPV Batangas); Leoncio V. Orca, Jr. (OPV Rizal); Carlo M. Palima, RAgr (Guinayangan, Quezon)

ATIng Kaagapay na Learning Site for Agriculture (LSA)

Winner: Bounty Harvest Farm OPC (Cavite)

Nominees: Love of Lilia Nature Farm (Cavite); Auspere Nature Farm (Cavite); Yumi’s Farm (Quezon); Gintong Bukid Farm & Leisure (Laguna); Sweet Nature Farms (Laguna); Masaganang Bukid Agricultural Learning Center (Laguna); Javier Integrated Farm (Laguna); Calungod Integrated Farm (Quezon); Anpi-lo Agri Farm (Batangas); Vin Vie Integrated Farm (Batangas); Myrtle’s Agricultural Farm (Quezon); Oyayi Farming School (Quezon); Bukid Amara Agri Farm (Quezon); Ole Farm Well (Batangas)

ATIng Kaagapay na Private Agriculture and Fisheries Extension Service Providers (PAF-ESPs)

Winners: Moca Family Farm RLearning Center, Inc. (Batangas); Gourmet Farms, Inc. (Cavite)

The gathering was not merely about recognition, but a celebration of the shared contributions of every sector to the success of agricultural extension in the region—a tribute to excellence, dedication, and collective service in building a stronger and more prosperous future./ Archie C. Linsasagin (Information Officer II / ISS)



More socialized homes to rise through Pag-IBIG Fund, Megawide partnership



MEGAWIDE

More socialized housing units are expected to rise in two to three years through Pag-IBIG Fund's new partnership with Megawide Construction Corp., a testament to its commitment to closing the gap of homeownership for every Filipino family.

Under the Expanded Pambansang Pabahay para sa Pilipino Program (4PH), the partnership will deliver 7,143 homes in medium-rise residential developments.

It is expected to be priced below the typical market value of comparable units, with amenities often found in higher-priced developments.

Two locations in

Dasmariñas, Cavite, will be the initial sites, with up to 4,185 housing units in the Dasmariñas-Salitrán site and 2,958 housing units in the Dasmariñas-Paliparan site, backing the national government's drive to expand socialized housing by strengthening private sector involvement and accelerating project completion.

"This approach supports the directive of President Ferdinand R.

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70,000 pulis, ikakalat sa para sa ligtas na Pasko

TRECE MARTIRES CITY, Cavite-Aabot sa bilang na 70,000 kapulisan ang ikakalat sa buong bansa upang matiyak ang isang ligtas na pagdiriwang ng kapaskuhan para sa mga Pinoy.

Ayon kay Philippine National Police (PNP) Chief Lieutenant General Jose Melencio Nartatez Jr. nais niyang masiguro na ang bawat Pilipino ay payapa at maramdamang sila ay

ligtas sa loob at labas ng kanilang tahanan, hindi lamang ngayong panahon ng kapaskuhan kundi sa lahat ng oras.

Ang mga kapulisan sa buong bansa ay sumusunod sa direktiba ng Pangulo Bongbong Marcos na sila ay maging "visible" o palaging nakikita ang presensya sa mga pampublikong lugar ngayong Christmas season upang ang mga tao ay

makaramdam na sila ay ligtas sa pagdiriwang.

Sa iba pang kaganapan, iniulat ng PNP Cavite Provincial Office na 5 drug pusher ang kanilang naaresto sa isang buy bust operation na isinagawa sa Imus City noong nakalipas na Miyerkules. Umabot sa 455,000 halaga ang shabu na nakumpiska sa 5 suspek, gayon din ang buy bust money na ginamit sa naturang operasyon.

Mayor Alex "AA" Advincula Nakilahok sa Mayors for Good Governance Dialogue para sa Pinalakas na Edukasyon

Nakiisa si Mayor Alex "AA" Advincula sa isinagawang Mayors for Good Governance Dialogue kasama si Department of Education (DepEd) Secretary Sonny Angara bilang bahagi ng patuloy na pag-sisikap na pagtibayin ang sama-samang adbokasiya para sa de-kalidad at inklusibong edukasyon sa bansa.

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WALANG PASOK

SUSPENSION OF WORK IN GOVERNMENT OFFICES

29 DECEMBER 2025 (MONDAY)
2 JANUARY 2026 (FRIDAY)

WORK IN ALL GOVERNMENT OFFICES IS SUSPENDED TO GIVE GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES THE FULL OPPORTUNITY TO CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S DAY ACTIVITIES AND TO ALLOW SAFE TRAVEL TO AND FROM DIFFERENT REGIONS OF THE COUNTRY.

*THE SUSPENSION OF WORK IN PRIVATE COMPANIES AND OFFICES IS LEFT TO THE DISCRETION OF THEIR RESPECTIVE HEADS.

