



Leyte-Samar

# DAILY EXPRESS

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TACLOBAN  
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P15.00 IN TACLOBAN

*As the death toll rises in landslide-hit areas*

# Search and retrieval operations to continue

JOEY A. GABIETA

**TACLOBAN CITY-** After almost 10 days after Baybay City and its nearby town of Abuyog, both in Leyte, were devastated by deadly landslide incidents, authorities will still continue their search, rescue, and retrieval (SRR) operations.

Col. Noel Vestuir, the commanding officer of the 802nd Infantry Brigade whose group of soldiers are part of the SRR along with other government se-

curity forces, said that they will continue their operations until they are ordered not to do so.

"As long as there is no order for us to stop, the AFP

will continue its SRR," Vestuir said in an interview.

"People still continue to hope that their loved ones could still be accounted for," see Search /page 9 ...

## Abuyog mayor mulls declaring a 'no man's land' landslide-hit village that killed several of its residents



Search and retrieval team, which includes soldiers from the 802nd Infantry Brigade, scours Barangay Pilar for dead bodies in the aftermath of a deadly landslide that hit the village triggered by tropical depression 'Agaton' last April 12.

(802<sup>nd</sup> IB)

**ABUYOG, Leyte-** The mayor of this town where an entire village was almost entombed by a landslide due to tropical depression 'Agaton,' said that he is considering of prohibiting the affected village be declared

as no longer fit for habitation

Mayor Lemuel Gin Traya said that he will invite geologists from the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Re-

sources (DENR) to conduct an inspection in Barangay Pilar if it's still suitable for occupancy.

Traya admitted that the area has been declared as a danger zone due to possible see Abuyog /page 9 ...



**NO STOPPING OF THE OPERATIONS.** After over a week after the massive landslides that hit the city of Baybay and Abuyog, the search, rescue, and retrieval operations will continue as survivors continue to cling of a miracle. Photo shows a soldier with a K-9 dog scouring Barangay Kantagnos, the worst-hit area in Baybay City. (Photo 802nd Infantry Brigade)



As per directive of Tacloban City Mayor Alfred Romualdez, team from the City Engineering Office conducted a clearing operation at Palanog Operation Blessing at Barangay 103. To recall, a road in the village was damaged due to tropical depression 'Agaton.' (TACLOBAN CITY INFORMATION OFFICE)





*UniTeam presidential candidate Ferdinand Bongbong Marcos Jr (3rd left seated) Lakas-CMD/HNP vice presidential candidate and Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte (3rd right seated) and Cebu Governor Gwen Garcia (center seated) leads the signing of Alliance Agreement with UniTeam and One Cebu as well as Lakas-CMD President and House Majority Leader Martin Romualdez (2nd right seated) and Hugpong ng Pagbabago President and Davao Del Sur Governor Claude Bautista (right seated) held at Sky Hall SM Seaside Cebu City. photo by Ver Noveno*

# Smart joins Guiuan’s 2021 Quincentennial activities

TACLOBAN CITY- PLDT’s wireless unit Smart Communications, Inc. (Smart) recently supported the Municipality of Guiuan’s Quincentennial Trade Fair and Night Market in Guiuan town, Eastern Samar as part of the recently-concluded 2021 Quincentennial Commemorations in the Philippines.

During the event, Smart provided the municipality with tents, event banners, and buntings for the setup of the week-long trade fair, and provided load cards as prizes for their activities.

“We are proud and honored to be part of this momentous celebration see Smart /page 9 ...

# BGT Foundation extended assistance to landslide survivors in Baybay City

TACLOBAN CITY – The BGT Foundation together with the Pit Masters Foundation extended assistance to victims of tropical depression ‘Agaton’ in Baybay City.

An initial 500 food packs were given to evacuees at the Baybay City National High School and at the Kambonggan Multi-purpose building were turn-over to the evacuees last April 16.

BGT Foundation president Bernie Tacoy said that aside from Baybay City, they will also send food packs to evacuees in Abuyog town.

At the Kambonggan Multi-Purpose building, evacuees are all from Barangay Mailhi where 26 residents were victims of landslide, according to village councilor Roelita Paña.

At least 22 bodies were already recovered by search and retrieval groups from the landslide that happened at Sitio Waterfalls in Mailhi. About 306 families evacuated after the incident.

Tacoy said that they still have at least 3,000 more food packs that are to be given to evacuees from the affected areas.

“Our government is here to help you including private groups,” Tacoy said.

Aside from food packs, Tacoy also distributed cash assistance to the families of the 26 landslide victims in Mailhi.

In the data from the City Disaster Risk Reduction Office of Baybay, at least 116 bodies had already been recovered from various landslide sites in the city. Most of these are from Brgy. Kantagnos.

About 73 individuals are still missing; 67 of them are from Kantagnos, while four are from Mailhi, and one each from Bunga and Pangasugan.

(ROEL T. AMAZONA)



## DSWD extended financial, food assistance to ‘Agaton’ victims

TACLOBAN CITY- The Department of Social Welfare and Development(D- SWD) here in the region has already released 15, 567 family food packs (FFPs) to families in Mahaplag, Abuyog, and Baybay City which were all affected by tropical depression ‘Agaton.’

The agency was assisted by the Philippine Air Force in the distribution of the food aid to the typhoon survivors.

And over the weekend, an additional 5,000 FFPs arrived at the regional office of DSWD from the Visayas Disaster Resource Center (VDRC) that will be distributed to the affected families.

Last April 15, a Good Friday, DSWD Secretary Rolando Bautista visited Abuyog and distributed P10, 000 and food aids to the families of 12 residents of Barangay Pilar who died due to the massive landslide incident in the said village.

Bautista assured to the typhoon victims that their department, in coordination with the local government unit, will continue to help them.

With 15, 567 FFPs distributed all over affected areas, the DSWD has spent at least more than P9.74 million for this assistance. (LIZBETH ANN A. ABELLA)

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Daily Express

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Please email resume to: lsdnews1988@gmail.com or call (053) 888-0037/ 09177710320 look for Aileen M. Grafil

*Survivors of landslide incident in Baybay City received assistance from the BGT Foundation. (ROEL T. AMAZONA)*



# Inmates at a sub-provincial jail snake out to carry out crimes; jail guards to be investigated

CATARMAN, North-ern Samar- A rape incident took place in Laoang town, this province, victimizing a 23-year-old university student who was sleeping in their house in Barangay Sto. Niño on April 13, a Holy Wednesday at around 2 am.

Last March 14, a big robbery occurred in Barangay San Miguel Heights, also in Laoang, where the robbers carted away jewelries and one 9mm pistol firearm.

It turned out that both crimes involved inmates of the Laoang Sub-Provincial Jail and the local police reported that the rape incident resulted in the solving of the robbery case.

Major Ricardo Banjawan, chief of police in Laoang, said that in the midnight of April 13, inmate Jomari Pagao, 23, with pending case for robbery, sneaked out of the Laoang Sub-Provincial Jail and met outside with his two friends - Nonoy Paloma, a Tanod in Barangay Baybay, and Marzan Doroin alias "Pansit" of Brgy. Little Venice both in Laoang.

The three had a drinking spree then later at around 2 am, the group decided to rob a residence in Brgy. Sto. Niño. Once inside the house, the suspects saw the victim sleeping in her room and raped her at gunpoint. The victim, a college student at the University of Eastern Philippines (UEP), reported the incident to the Laoang Municipal Police station.

Banjawan ordered his men to visit and observe the inmates at the provincial jail facility located in Brgy. Onay and took photos of some of the inmates - including that of Pagao who was back in his cell - then showed them to the rape victim who positively identified Pagao as her rapist.

According to Banjawan, he has suspected that the crimes recently happened in their town could only be perpetrated by "tough" persons like the prisoners. Pagao immediately admitted to the rape inci-

dent when questioned by the police inside the jail and identified his accomplices, Paloma and Doroin.

He also confessed that it was the three of them who committed

the robbery on March 14 at the residence of Alfreda Cerujano Tingkingco and other robbery incidents in the town.

Pagao also identified his companions in the robbery as Oliver Fomar Rebadulla, Roberto Loberio Potot, and Jeffrey Potot, all inmates of the Laoang Sub-Provincial Jail facing murder cases in court.

In the subsequent search operations, the Laoang po-

lice recovered one 9mm caliber pistol with two magazines loaded with 20 live ammunitions and one necklace which were buried on the ground at the jail premises.

Pagao admitted that it was the 9mm caliber pistol that he used to threaten his rape victim. The other jewelries that they took from the robbery were already pawned and sold, he told  
*see Inmates /page 8 ...*



**MAJOR RICARDO BANJAWAN**

## Pres. Duterte visits landslide survivors in Baybay City; promise to provide immediate assistance



**ASSURANCE.** President Rodrigo Duterte visited Baybay City on Good Friday (April 15) to assure them of continued assistance from the government to include permanent relocation site. The multiple landslide incidents in the city in the aftermath of tropical depression 'Agaton' last April 10 has resulted to 116 persons with 73 missing. (DISCOVER BAYBAY CITY)

T A C L O B A N CITY-President Rodrigo Duterte assured the landslide victims in Baybay City,

Leyte of government assistance to them.

But while the government could continue to

provide food aids to the victims, he admitted that those who lost their homes may not have them considering

that he has only about two months before he will step down on June 30 of this year.

The President visited Baybay on Holy Friday to console the victims of the landslide in the aftermath of tropical depression 'Agaton' that hit the city on April 10.

"So this is what I came here for, to let you know that the government has not forgotten you. I will say this again and I repeat, food won't be a problem. You will be given food to eat until the end of time. Just approach the DSWD..." he said in his speech before the survivors held at the Baybay City Senior High School on Good Friday (April 15).

"There are housing units. I would be able to build more houses for you if only I had more time left. But if there's not enough time, we will just estimate how many we can build be-

fore I step down. We just need to find lands," the President added.

Duterte was welcomed by Leyte Governor Leopoldo Dominico Petilla and city officials led by Mayor Jose Carlos Cari.

The city disaster risk reduction management office has yet to come up with a list of those who have totally lost their homes in the aftermath of the multiple landslide incidents.

However, it said that 1,425 families consisting of 17,532 individuals were affected by the calamity.

The incidents have also resulted in the deaths of 116 people with 73 still missing, most of them were from Barangay Kantagnos with 67. The other missing persons were from Brgy. Mailhi with 4 and one each from Bunga and Pangasugan.

(JOEY A. GABIETA)

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## Disunited further

**R**esults of the joint press conference that some presidential candidates held just recently were expected to gather support for the candidacy of VP Leni Robredo, but they turned out to be an affirmation of stark realities.

It can be recalled that, in their desperate moves to do anything under the sun just to prevent the leading candidate from winning, the Robredo camp came up with an “offer” for other presidential bets to withdraw from the race so that VP Leni could earn the votes of their combined supporters. In short, this was an attempt to unify the opposition against the candidacy of Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr.

But far from withdrawing their candidacy, the other candidates became more resolved to finish the race, instead. And in this joint press conference, they underscored some glaring facts and possibilities: VP Leni is running largely for personal reason, and that’s to block a BBM likely victory; a BBM regime would be greeted with endless protests, destabilization plots,

and a series of violence for it to make no headway; Should BBM lose, the more that protests would ensue, given his unreachable lead in surveys.

This is the chaotic society that people should try to avoid by choosing another candidate other than Marcos and Robredo, these candidates concluded. And again, instead of withdrawing their candidacy, it’s now VP Leni whom they are urging to withdraw in order to make a supreme sacrifice for the good of the country. Basically, this was the call of Mayor Isko Moreno, but the rest seemed to share his prudent appeal.

There again, another card by the pinks and yellows that didn’t work. Issues after issues had been produced but to no avail. But as we all know, political issues are inexhaustible. In fact, another big issue to fabricate should BBM win is the “cheating” claim, as though the latter is desperate for votes and does not enjoy overwhelming support. Indeed, whoever wins between these two leading candidates, massive protests just await. But since we are in a democracy, the majority wins, and must be respected.



**Didactic  
Tales**

DOMS PAGLIAWAN

### *An evolving conflict*

Finland and Sweden, being close to Russia, are now in a panic mood that they will be next in line relative to Russia’s aggression. As such, they are now preparing in all areas of their lives, resulting in anxiety, disruptions of normal activ-

ities, economic turmoil, and many more.

It’s not overacting on their part—they’re just being practical and realistic, knowing that they are dealing with a ruthless dictator nearby whose unpredictable mind coupled with

arrogance could tear them down to pieces. In fact, they should hasten their preparations, militarily in particular. Any moment from now, their airports, military infrastructures, and center of governance could be rained with rockets and missiles.

Why should Russia target them? Well, like Ukraine, they had been attempting to join NATO, Russia’s perceived enemy. In fact, as of now, they are resolved more than ever to do it—a decision that Russia hates the most as NATO will get closer to its border. This decision is now a fuel added to the fire. And it gives Russia the very same

reason why it attacked Ukraine.

On the part of Finland and Sweden, their resolve to join NATO is just for security reasons. By themselves, they are nothing against Russia’s superior power. But with NATO beside them, they can somehow fight back in the event of war.

But their resolve to join NATO is provocative to a Russian attack. It increases the likelihood of the Russian air force carrying out aerial bombardments on their soil, tanks rushing on the ground, with ground

see *An evolving* /  
page 7 ...





## High-Powered Objective

(S & T Enhanced Nations Have Edge)

DR. PACIENTE CORDERO, JR.

### Phil Ethanol Producers: No To Suspension of Biofuel Act

The EPAP or Ethanol Producers Association of the Philippines has expressed opposition to the proposed suspension of the Biofuel Act, instead pushes to raise the blend from 10 to 15 or 20 percent to reduce the gasoline prices and generate more savings from avoided greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.”

The subject law so-called Biofuel Act was signed into law by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in 2006. The Act mandates that all liquid fuels for motors and engines sold in the Philippines shall be blended with

biofuels – ethanol for gasoline and coco methyl ester (CME) for diesel vehicles, respectively.

The EPAP through is president Gerald Tee said that “What is affecting the prices of gasoline is not bioethanol, it is the tax . . . we are in fact lowering the price of gasoline. While Tee acknowledges that domestic ethanol is expensive, ethanol producers import cheaper ethanol to meet the local requirement for blending under the law, which then averages down the retail pump price of gasoline.”

Further, Tee continued by saying “this is achieved

as only 50 percent of the E10 blend is being served by the domestic ethanol (priced at P64.33 per liter based on the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA), while the other 50 percent is fulfilled by imported ethanol (priced at P43.29 per liter).”

The possible suspension of the Biofuels Act was discussed during the cabinet meeting held last month after DOE Secretary Alfonso Cusi floated the matter.

I buy the idea of EPAP to import 300 million liters of ethanol that expects to pull down the prices of gasoline – aggravated by the on going Russian – Ukraine war that had caused the surge of oil prices in the international market. Russia is world’s number 3 oil-producing country.

ooo000ooo

**NEXT TOPIC:** “Biodiversity Park Established by QC government in a Deal with DENR”

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the soldiers, telling them, “You are to say, ‘His disciples came by night and stole him while we were asleep.”

Because of this deception, many of these people who did it and their descendants could not accept the full truth about Christ. Deception always has a boomerang effect. It’s about time we review the crucial relationship between God and our capacity to stick to the truth or to distort it.

Nowadays, with the plethora of data and information, we have to remind ourselves constantly that truthfulness is not a matter of simply conforming these data and pieces of information to our own designs. We need to process these raw data by leavening them with the love of God and submitting them to God’s will and designs.

To put it bluntly, we can only be in the truth when we are with God. Outside of him, let’s wish ourselves sheer luck, because the most likely thing to happen is to slip from the truth. It’s like chasing the wind. For all the ex-



## Automatic for the People

CLEMELLE MONTALLANA

### Never Enough

*As that old lesson came back I see more and more manifestation of that daily, in showbiz, in the denudation of our forest cover that resulted to landslides and flooding and deaths, in the political careers of the dynastic family and the people in general.*

I was in the sixth grade when I learned a very important lesson from one of my teacher. She had this dignified air in her and the strong voice that is amped with the aura of confidence. She has the name of my grandmother that makes her doubly familiar and she never minced words when she said those lines in Waray-waray, Man is insatiable for power; he is infantile in his desires and, always discontented with what he has, loves only what he has not.

citement and advantages a Godless pursuit of truth gives, everything will just turn out to be vanity.

With this new phenomenon about the so-called fake news, which is actually a rehash of the old evil tactics of disinformation and misinformation, of giving partisan spins to issues, we should feel the urgent need to be united to God to be really truthful and fair in resolving our problems.

Truthfulness therefore starts with our relationship with God, and with how well we maintain that relationship. This is something we have to realize more deeply, since very often we get contented with mere human criteria for truthfulness, that are often subjective, incomplete, imperfect, and vulnerable to be maneuvered and manipulated.

When we are not with God, then we can very easily play around with the facts and data, and pass them around as truth, but serving some self-interest instead of the common good, for example.

Her words were a bit deep on that time and as a young boy who is innately inquisitive I asked my late Grandfathers, and both of them agreed. There is a ton of truth in those words and a twinge of sadness envelopes me for a week after hearing that confirmation. That knowledge as culled and verified by people whom I trust the most, where a bit perplexing and yet nailed with finality, we are insatiable and all these will never be enough.

Watching the revelation and knowing the voice in that Master Showman song, that lesson came back. Justtrandomthings.com revealed that ‘The Greatest Showman’ soundtrack became one of the most reputable album works of 2018 along with the musical movie release in December 2017. The soundtrack pro-

We justify such behaviour as a privilege of our freedom. But would that be freedom when one is plunging himself to the bondage of untruth and deception? Would that be freedom when it is exercised to violate the will of God who is the giver, the pattern and end of freedom?

duced two singles “This Is Me” by Keala Settle and “Rewrite The Stars” by Zac Effron and Zendaya. However, another notable track from the album is “Never Enough” performed by Loren Allred.

Loren Allred was a contestant on The Voice season 3 and was eliminated at the 13th place. However, her musical career spun off being part of the ensemble for the production of ‘The Greatest Showman’ musical. Loren Allred was cast as the musical voice of Rebecca Ferguson playing the role of Jenny Lind in the movie. The song heavily focuses on the need for more. More of fame, more money, and more of love. When one gets into this mindset, there is really no stopping them. Whatever achieved, ‘towers of gold’ even doesn’t satisfy. But the lyrics also entail that no amount of fame and fortune could satisfy him without that one special person beside him. Hence, the song acts as the perfect middle ground for the grandeur of the booming show business and love.

As that old lesson came back I see more and more manifestation of that daily, in showbiz, in the denudation of our forest cover that resulted to landslides and flooding, in the political careers of the dynastic family and the people in general.

*All the shine of a thousand spotlights  
All the stars we steal  
from the night sky  
Will never be enough,  
never be enough*

For all the mountains conquered there will be more peaks to climb. As long as there is desire for more however, we will never be happy. That is man’s real curse.



## Commentary

FR. ROY CIMAGALA

### Deception always boomerangs

WE have to be duly warned about this fact of life. When we deceive others, we may succeed to a certain extent to attain the purpose of such deception. But never forget that deception will always come back will inflict a greater damage on the deceiver.

A quote from St. Augustine’s Confession expresses this well: “They love truth when she shines on them; and hate her when she rebukes them. And since they are not willing to be deceived, but do wish to deceive, they love truth when she reveals herself and hate her when she reveals them.”

“On this account, she will so repay them that

those who are unwilling to be exposed by her she will indeed expose against their will, and yet will not disclose herself to them.”

St. Paul already made reference to the grave consequences of deception. “Evil men and impostors,” he said, “will proceed from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.” (2 Tim 3,13)

The Book of Proverbs more or less say the same point: “His own iniquities will capture the wicked, and he will be held with the cords of his sin.” (5,22)

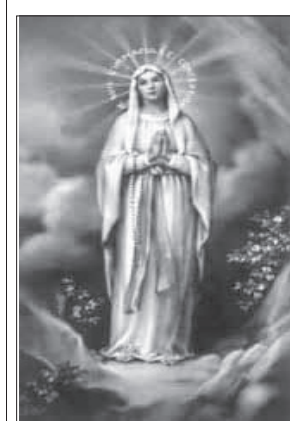
In the gospel reading for Monday within the octave of Easter, a sample of deception is made. (cfr. Jn 28,8-15) “They gave a large sum of money to

### Prayer for the Nation and for Those who Serve in Public Office

God, our Father, you guide everything in wisdom and love. Accept the prayers we offer for our nation, by the wisdom of our leaders and integrity of our citizens, may harmony and justice be secured and may there be lasting prosperity and peace.

Almighty and eternal God, You know the longings of our hearts and You protect our rights in your goodness, watch over those in authority, so that people everywhere may enjoy freedom, security and peace.

We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever, Amen. (Courtesy of Daughters of St. Paul)

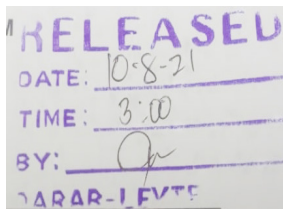


Pray the Holy Rosary daily  
for world peace and conversion of sinners  
(The family that prays together stays together)





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## NOTICE OF DECISION

**ROMANITO CABALONA,** **DARAB CASE NO. LV-0801-0029-2016**  
 Landowner, **FOR: FIXING OF JUST COMPENSATION**  
 X-----X

Notice is hereby given that a decision in DARAB Case No. LV-0801-0029-2016, For: Fixing of Just Compensation was rendered by this office, the dispositive portion states:

**“WHEREFORE,** decision is rendered ordering the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) to compensate herein landowner the amount stated above as just compensation.

**SO ORDERED.**

DAR Provincial Office, Sto. Niño Extension, Tacloban City, 17 September 2019.

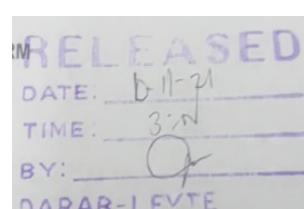
**SGD. VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 Regional Adjudicator/  
 Provincial Adjudicator - Leyte”

*Mesalina M. Pamat*  
**MESALINA M. PAMAT**  
 Clerk of the Adjudicator

LSDE: April 19, 26 & May 3, 2022



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## NOTICE OF DECISION

**FREDA C. CATARATA married** **DARAB CASE NO. LV-0801-0002-2019**  
**to ERLINDO CATARATA**  
 Landowners, **FOR: FIXING OF JUST COMPENSATION**  
 X-----X

Notice is hereby given that a decision in DARAB Case No. LV-0801-0002-2019, For: Fixing of Just Compensation was rendered by this office, the dispositive portion states:

**“WHEREFORE,** decision is rendered ordering the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) to pay the landowner or his legal heirs or representatives the amount stated above in accordance with the existing laws and polices.

**SO ORDERED.**

DAR Provincial Office, Sto. Niño Extension, Tacloban City, 03 October 2019.

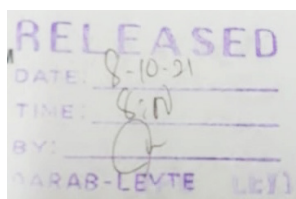
**SGD. VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
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 Provincial Adjudicator - Leyte”

*Mesalina M. Pamat*  
**MESALINA M. PAMAT**  
 Clerk of the Adjudicator

LSDE: April 19, 26 & May 3, 2022



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 Tel No. 888-5585  
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## NOTICE OF DECISION

**JORGE A. ARUTA,** **DARAB CASE NO. LV-0801-0028-2018**  
 Landowner, **FOR: FIXING OF JUST COMPENSATION**  
 X-----X

Notice is hereby given that a decision in DARAB Case No. LV-0801-0028-2018, For: Fixing of Just Compensation was rendered by this office, the dispositive portion states:

**“WHEREFORE,** finding that the computation is based on the existing laws and policies, the aforesaid amount is the valuation of the land.

The Land Bank of the Philippines is directed to pay the said amount to **JORGE ARUTA** in accordance with existing laws and policies.

**SO ORDERED.**

16 September 2019.

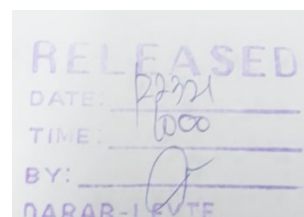
**SGD. VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 Regional Adjudicator/  
 Provincial Adjudicator - (Leyte-Biliran)”

*Mesalina M. Pamat*  
**MESALINA M. PAMAT**  
 Clerk of the Adjudicator

LSDE: April 19, 26 & May 3, 2022



Republic of the Philippines  
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## NOTICE OF DECISION

**TEJIDO MORALES,** **DARAB CASE NO. LV-0801-0003-2019**  
 Landowner, **FOR: FIXING OF JUST COMPENSATION**  
 X-----X

Notice is hereby given that a decision in DARAB Case No. LV-0801-0003-2019, For: Fixing of Just Compensation was rendered by this office, the dispositive portion states:

**“WHEREFORE,** finding that the computation is based on the existing laws and polices, the aforesaid amount is the valuation of the land.

The Land Bank of the Philippines is directed to pay the said amount to **TEJIDO MORALES** or to any authorized representative, in accordance with existing laws and policies.

**SO ORDERED.**

03 October 2019.

**SGD. VIRGILIO L. ROSACAY**  
 Regional Adjudicator/  
 Provincial Adjudicator - Leyte-Biliran”

*Mesalina M. Pamat*  
**MESALINA M. PAMAT**  
 Clerk of the Adjudicator

LSDE: April 19, 26 & May 3, 2022











## An evolving... ...from Page 4

troops doing heavy artillery shelling on their key installations. If only Russia could guarantee these countries’ safety in exchange for their neutrality, perhaps they won’t reach that bloody confrontation.

The problem lies in the issue of trust. These two countries cannot just trust Russia, given its atrocities against Ukraine. Neither can Russia trust them with their close friendship with NATO member countries. That’s what it is with communism and democracy—

you cannot merge them without having to deal with trust issues.

With their NATO membership being considered now, Finland and Sweden are stepping into an inevitable armed conflict with Russia, whose weapons arsenal is barely utilized. With Russia attacking them next, NATO member countries will soon be dragged into the war zone. If NATO feels compelled to help the non-member Ukraine with needed weapons, then all the more that it will oblige itself to aid its members under attack.

As more and more countries are dragged into

the conflict, we can only figure out what will happen next—a world war. World War III to be exact. We hope it will not occur in our lifetime, but it’s been something expected, inevitable. It’s just a matter of when. Now that war has gotten started in Europe, the region where world wars historically originate, all we can do is pray for divine intervention so that it will not escalate.

Moreover, let’s pray earnestly that they will not resort to using nuclear weapons, or else we would be annihilated off the face of the earth.

## Search... ...from Page 1

he added.

It was learned that the SRR group has employed K9 dogs to help them find bodies entombed by the avalanche.

Aside from the soldiers, also helping the SRR are police and members of the Bureau of Fire Protection aside from the personnel of the areas’ disaster risk reduction management offices.

On Monday morning, Vestuir said that they have found three dead bodies in Barangay Kantagnos, which appeared to be the worst-hit village in Baybay. This raised to 58 of its fatalities.

The city, in all, has now 118 fatalities with 70 missing individuals.

Vestuir said that his men are still in the villages which suffered landslide incidents due to the heavy rains dumped by tropical depression ‘Ag-

aton’ that hit the city on April 10.

The Army officer, however, said that while they are carrying out their works, they also consider the safety of his men as the landslide-hit villages like Kantagnos remain to be hazardous.

He disclosed that a team from the Department of Health and the Mines and Geosciences Bureau went to Kantagnos to assess its condition as its safety and health.

## Smart... ...from Page 2

for Guiuan, Eastern Samar. We at Smart are happy to support this event that does not only celebrate the municipality’s culture and history but also benefits the residents of Guiuan,” Roy Nebrija, senior manager of Smart Regional Customer Development for Eastern Visayas, said in a statement.

Joined by over 40 micro,

## Abuyog... ...from Page 1

landslide back in 2018.

But what happened on April 12 at around 4 pm was a first time occurrence, the town mayor added.

“We were advised that it was a hazardous area but the people there find it difficult to relocate due mainly of their livelihood,” Traya said. The villagers most-

Meantime, Abuyog Mayor Lemuel Gin Traya said that he will ask for the opinions of medical experts as to when the retrieval operations in Pilar will be called off.

“I will wait for the advice from our medical experts as to when we can stop our retrieval operations. But right now, we are focusing in our efforts in combing the coasts of Abuyog and (even) along Southern Leyte,” he said.


He stressed that considering of the current condition of Pilar, which was practically entombed by mud, boulders, and fallen trees, the rescuers are finding some difficulties in their operations.

So far, 48 residents of the village have been confirmed to have died with still 55 remain missing.

EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH PARTITION

NOTICE is hereby given that RICHIE OCOP SAYSON heir of the late WENCESLAO OCOP, SR., extrajudicially settled and partitioned over a parcel of agricultural land situated at Brgy. Sawa, Basey, Samar designated as Lot No. 4305, Pls-08-000007 with an area of 1,700sq.m., more or less. Per Doc. No. 30, Page No. 7, Book No. I, Series of 2020. Notary Public Atty. Julio A. Sebandal.

LSDE: April 19, 26 & May 3, 2022



small, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in Guiuan, the annual trade fair aimed to boost Guiuan’s tourism industry by empowering local businesses and providing an avenue to promote the best local products of the town.

Michael John Acosta, local youth development officer of the municipal government, said that they are ‘grateful’ for the support extended by Smart during the celebration.

ly rely on fishing as their source of livelihood.

And due to the massive landslide incident,” we will request geologists to conduct an inspection to see if the area is still safe to live.’

For one, the town mayor said that they will be constructing bunkhouses as temporary shelter for the affected families in Pilar immediately considering that these evacuees could stay at the evacuation centers at least for three months.

The temporary shelters of these families will be located at the three-hectare lot owned by the family of the mayor in Barangay Tinale.

Pilar has 478 residents of which 48 have been confirmed to have died, which include village chairwoman Adelaida Rosquites whose dead body was only found last Thursday.

At least 55 Pilar residents are still being considered as missing with retrieval operation ongoing which include of searching along shoreline up to

portion of Southern Leyte province.

“At least 95% of Pilar has been destroyed,” he said.

Aside from Pilar, the villages of Tib-o, Bahay and Combis have reported of death. Tib-o has two fatalities with the two villages have confirmed one each.

Meantime, in Baybay City, the worst hit area in Leyte due to the multiple landslides brought by Agaton has now risen to 116 as of Sunday afternoon.

Based on the records of the City Disaster Risk Reduction Management Office, the 116 deaths were from Mailhi,22; Kantagnos,55; Bunga,18; Maypatag,2; Pangasugan,2; Candadam,1; San Agustin,1; Zone 21,1; Hicgop,1; Canipa,5; Igang,1; Palhi,2; Sto. Rosario,1; Gacat,1; and Inopacan,1.

At least 75 individuals are considered missing with 67 from Kantagnos; seven from Mailhi; and one from Pangasugan.



CARPER LAD Form NO. 51  
(Revised Carp-LAD Form NO. 51)

Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM  
Provincial Agrarian Reform Office  
214 Real Street, Tacloban City

NOTICE OF LAND VALUATION AND ACQUISITION

March 2, 2022

SPOUSES ANTONIO TAN & MARIA PALOU  
Brgy. Bantigue, Ormoc City

Sir/Madam

This refers to your agricultural land covered by the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) pursuant to Republic Act (R.A.) No. 6657, as amended by R.A. No. 9700, particularly described as follows:

OCT/TCT No.	:	OCT-O-175
TD No.	:	21011-00311
Lot No.	:	9503-A,B,C,E,F & G
Approved Survey No.	:	Psd-08-044387(AR)
Area per OCT/TCT/TD No. (has)	:	6.3430 Has.
Area acquired per ASP	:	6.1117 Has.
Location	:	Brgy. Masarayao, Kananga, Leyte

Please be informed that out of the total area indicated in the aforesaid title of Tax Declaration an area of **6.1117** hectares is subject to immediate acquisition and distribution to qualified agrarian reform beneficiaries (ARBs) under ( ) Voluntary Offer to Sell ( x ) Compulsory Acquisition.

On the basis of the value determined by the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) per attached Memorandum of Valuation (MOV) and Land Valuation Worksheet (LVW), the compensation for your landholding amounts to **ONE MILLION THREE HUNDRED THIRTEEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED THIRTEEN PESOS & 02/100 (Php 1,313,313.02)** covering **6.1117** hectares, including improvements thereon, if any.

We have already requested the LBP, with address at: Sagkahan Street, Tacloban City to deposit in your name the said amount, in cash and bonds. The release of payments shall be effected or may be withdrawn upon your submission of all documents required by LBP on the release of claims.

Please accomplish the attached CARPER LAD Form 53 (Landowner’s Reply to NLVA) within thirty (30) days upon receipt of this Notice and return it to the DAR Provincial Office.

In case you reject the compensation offered for your property or fail to reply to this notice within thirty (30) days from receipt thereof, we shall advise the Department of Agrarian Reform Adjudication Board (DARAB), with address at DAR Regional Office Compound, Sto. Niño Extension Tacloban City to conduct summary administrative proceedings on the matter. In the event that you subsequently accept the value as computed by the LBP based on existing valuation guidelines, you should manifest in writing with respect to such acceptance of the original value, or jointly with LBP manifest in writing with respect to the recomputed value by the LBP, with the DARAB or the regular court.

The DAR shall take immediate possession of the property upon issuance of a Certification of Deposit (COD) by LBP and the concomitant transfer of the title to the landholding in the name of the Republic of the Philippines.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) JOSEFINA CORAZON N. TURLA, MRDA  
PARPO II

ATTACHMENTS:  
CARPER LAD Form No. 50 (Memorandum of Valuation) with Land Valuation Worksheet  
CARPER LAD Form No. 53 (LO’s Reply to NLVA)

Copy Distribution:  
Original - LO  
Duplicate - LBP  
Triplicate - DARPO  
Quadruplicate - DARMO

Republic of the Philippines  
OFFICE OF THE CIVIL REGISTRAR  
Tacloban City

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

In compliance to Section 5 of R.A. 9048, a notice is hereby served to the public that **JUDITHA DUERO CAÑETE** has filed with this (Complete name of petitioner)

Office a petition for change of first name from **BENITA DIONITA** to **JUDITHA** in the Birth (First name to be changed) (New first name to be adopted)

Certificate of **BENITA DIONITA LANOZA DUERO** who was born on **AUGUST 11, 1967** at **Tacloban City** and whose parents are **ELISEO DUERO** and **ROMANA LANOZA**.

Any person adversely affected by said petition may file his written opposition with this Office not later than **May 02, 2022**.

(Sgd.) IMELDA A. ROA  
City Civil Registrar

LSDE: April 19 & 26, 2022



# Landslide-hit village in Abuyog narrates harrowing fate; says no plans to return to the barangay

ABUYOG, Leyte- After multiple landslide incidents that hit Baybay City that resulted in the death of 116 people, a similar incident also hit this town burying an entire coastal village located at a foot of a mountain.

Prior to the landslide, more than 30 villages of the town were submerged in floodwater on April 11 but as the water receded, three landslide incidents happened in the municipality, resulting in the death of several residents.

Of the villages hit, Barangay Pilar was the worst hit, just close to four months after it also suffered the wrath of typhoon 'Odette' last December that affected almost all of its more than 400 residents.

Daisy Mae Villaroel and his common-law-husband, Junrel Palima, described what happened to their family when the landslide hit Pilar in the afternoon of April 12.

They were staying in a house of a relative as their house was totally damaged when typhoon 'Odette' hit Abuyog last December.

Among those who died due to the landslide was the couple's son, Zaryl Dae, 2.

"Bahala ngani ug nay iba nga nangasamad basta ang ilang anak safe. Bahalag ako masamdan basta safe ang akong anak, pero wala kuy mahimu," Villaroel said.

Villaroel said that people went into panic to run to safety but no matter how fast they could run, it was unmatched by the speed of the ranging waves rushing toward their community.

After the water receded, a relative saw their son, with a rope tangled at his neck, already dead, she said.

The news about his son's death was so devastating, Junrel, who was on his way home from Baybay City when the tragedy struck their village.

The dejected father said that if he was only present that time, maybe his son could have been saved.

"Di ko nagdahum nga, murag na kuwan ko ba, akung gi kuwan ang akung kaugalingon, wa ko



**HARROWING TALE.** *The village of Pilar, Abuyog town, Leyte, was practically erased after tons of debris consisting of mud, boulders, and uprooted trees cascaded from a mountain. Survivors of the tragedy shared their harrowing experiences as they vowed never to return to the village. (ROEL T. AMAZONA)*

sa akung pamilya...wala ko makatabang... murag ma safety pa man siguro tu kung diha pa ko atu," he said.

Losing their home and now their son, the couple said that they have no plan of ever returning to Pilar.

Santiago Dahunog was at the house of his elder brother when the landslide happened along with his younger brother and two nephews.

Before the big wave hits their community, they heard a large sound similar to an explosion. Then they saw big waves rushing to their community.

"Wala na, hindi ko na nga kuwan kung makaligtas pa ako, hindi ko na alam kay nabaun na sa lupa, lampas tuhod na lupa, tapos na nagapos ang aking kamot pagkuwan sa tubig kay ninhumok na ang lupa nangu-

sog ko para makuwan ko ang pisi mau nga nakalutaw ko, pagkalutaw ko gitangtang ko ang pisi sa akong kamot mao na nga nidagsa na ko sa daplin," Dahunog narrated.

After the water receded, Dahunog said that he can no longer find his two brothers and nephews, no matter how he searched for them.

But later it was learned that his brothers and nephews were found but already dead.

"Masakit," this was his only reply when asked how he feels learning that his relatives are already dead.

His sister-in-law Emilita Dahunog cannot stop crying at the sad news that her husband and two children died in the landslide.

Emilita said that prior to the landslide, her family evacuated to a higher

ground identified as an evacuation site for the village.

But her husband, Reynaldo and children Jerson, 26, and Jomar, 27, went back to the village to check their motorboat.

"Didtu na sila sa igbaw, pero ning lugsong pa man ang akung asawa ug anak kay panginanuon kuno ang sakayan namun," Emilita shares.

"Kasakit, wan a mi lami ig kaun, wan a tu'og. Kailana sa lawas. Bahala nag wala na sakayan basta buhi lang mga anak ko ug bana,"

Emilita said while crying.

With this sad experience and their community washed out by the disaster, Emilita and her brother-in-law Santiago said that their family will no longer return to Pilar.

At least 48 residents of the village have been confirmed to have died due to the landslide.

Search, retrieval, and recovery operation is still on-going to find the remaining 55 missing residents.

Mayor Lemuel Gin Traya said that operations are mainly focused on water

and shoreline because of the unstable soil condition at the landslide site.

Traya added that residents of Pilar are no longer allowed to return to their old community and will have to stay at the evacuation site for three months while waiting for the temporary shelters where they will stay until such time the government could finish constructing the permanent housing facility promised by President Rodrigo Duterte when he visited Baybay City in April 16. (ROEL T. AMAZONA)

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**Catbalogan - (055) 543-9127**  
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