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INSIDE

LA UNION HOSTS REGIONAL PEACE AND ORDER COUNCIL MEETING P3

PACOY TAKES OATH AS VP OF TOKHANG COALITION P5

PACOY REASSURES A HEALTHY AND HAPPY LA UNION P7

- GOOD GOVERNANCE**
PERFORMANCE GOVERNANCE SYSTEM Compliance Stage – Silver Trailblazer Awardee
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED 16/16 PGLU Offices
- FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION**
Total budget as of June 2017: **₱1.13 Billion**
- TOURISM, CULTURE AND ARTS**
Domestic and Foreign Tourist Arrivals
2015 - 392,477
2016 - 468,430
- ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**
66 Household benefited from the Water Supply Development Rehabilitation Program
- PEACE AND ORDER**
₱10M Budget Appropriated for Peace and Order Initiatives
- BUSINESS-FRIENDLINESS AND COMPETITIVENESS**
22,608 Businesses established as of June 2017
- DISASTER PREPAREDNESS**
911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) established
- SOCIAL PROTECTION**
874 Tertiary, 1,949 Secondary Students benefits from the La Union Educational Assistance Program

PACOY DELIVERS HIS FIRST SOPA

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III delivered his first State of the Province Address (SOPA) on July 27, 2017 at Saint William the Hermit Cathedral, City of San Fernando, La Union. For the first year of his administration, The Governor reports that the Province of La Union has already won 24 awards and recognitions.

With the developments in economic dynamism, government efficiency, and infrastructure, the National Competitiveness Council (NCC) has deemed La Union as the 10th Most Competitive Province in the Philippines, and 1st in Northern Luzon. The Association of Tourism Officers of the Philippines (ATOP) and the Department of Tourism (DoT) awarded La Union Surfing Break as the Best Tourism Event in the Sports, Adventure, Wellness Category. La Union is also the champion in the search for the Cleanest, Safest, and Greenest Province, awarded by the Regional Development Council – Region 1 and a Rice

Achievers awardee as recognized by the Department of Agriculture (DA).

Transformative governance is the heart of the Governor's administration. In pursuit of improving public service and performance, the Governor reported that all departments under the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) are now certified on Quality Management System by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). This means that business processes and friendliness are streamlined to better serve the people. The PGLU has also partnered with the Institute for Solidarity in Asia (ISA) in implementing the Performance Governance System (PGS), focusing on further improving governance, service delivery, and community living standards. The Province of La Union has also been conferred with the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)

Following the vision of

establishing La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025, the Governor reports that three farm tourism sites have been accredited by the Department of Tourism (DOT) and Department of Agriculture (DA). He has also directed the rehabilitation and operation of a multipurpose building as the La Union Agri-Tourism Center, a hub for all products from the different towns of the province. Partnering with the La Union Honeybee Development Cooperative (LUBDCO), the La Union Honeybee Center has reopened and already posting revenue of 512,000 pesos in 5 months.

Inspired by the legacy of public service and achievements in peace and order of immediate past Governor, Manuel "Manoling" C. Ortega, Pacoy doubles down on the crusade against illegal drugs. He currently serves as the Vice President of the National Tokhang Advocacy Coalition (NTAC) in Northern Luzon. The Governor gave thanks ➔ to page 2

GOV. PACOY PUSHES PGLU'S BID FOR SGLG

To affirm his utmost commitment and accountability, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III presented the accomplishments of the Province of La Union during the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) National Validation on Thursday, Aug 24, 2017 at the Pasalubong Center, Mabanag Justice Hall, City of San Fernando, La Union. The assessment aims to validate if the of Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) has satisfactorily complied all the parameters as basis of Good Local Governance.

The Seal for Good Local Governance (SGLG) shall be the standard set by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) for the performance of Local Government Units along the assessment areas of Financial Administration, Tourism, Culture and Arts, Disaster Preparedness, Peace and Order, Social Protection, Business Friendliness and Competitiveness, and Environmental Management. For 2016, 5 of 20 component LGUs passed the assessment process thus received the seal.

In our efforts to further engage our

component LGUs, by right mandate, PGLU has a higher role that seeks to constantly engage the LGUs as productive contributors to community building," said Gov. Pacoy.

During the State of Province Address last July 27, 2017, Gov. Pacoy delivered the programs of Transformative Governance in line with the Province directives of the National Leadership. The past year programs, projects, and activities yielded 24 awards and recognitions.

"Maragsakanak a mangipakaamo, nga iti laeng makatawen, ado dagiti nagapuanan tayo ngem makitak nga ado pay ti mapulap a sangwen. Iti daytoy laeng napalabas a tawen, nangiyawid tayo iti 24 a pamigbig ken pammadayaw ket namnamaen tayo nga ado pay ti agsangpet," said Gov. Pacoy.

Furthermore, 16 of the component LGUs in La Union are nominated in this year's SGLG. The result of the national validation from DILG will be made known next year.

-Hana Josua C. Martinez



Gov. Pacoy welcomes guests and participants to the Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) National Validation on Aug 24, 2017 at the Pasalubong Center, Mabanag Justice Hall, City of San Fernando, La Union. The said event led by the SGLG National Assessment Team of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) aims to validate the Provincial Government of La Union's completion of all the areas of Good Local Governance.



Message from the Governor

Iti La Union ken ASEAN

Ay-ayatek iti La Union! That is why I always connect La Union to the bigger picture. We have to think big to achieve big. Kas mayasa a probinsia, kasapulan a saan tayo laeng a makilumba kadagiti daduma a probinsia ti pagilian no rang-ay iti pagsasaritaan, masapul pay a kabaelantayo met iti makigiddan iti rang-ay dagiti probinsia iti sabali a pagilian aglalo iti Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). But we must put in mind that in the spirit of unity, we should be complimentary competitive as well.

Maysa kadagiti ipapaay a pagsayaatan iti ASEAN iti kabaelan dagiti mangmanged nga agobra kadagiti pagilian a mangbukbokel iti ASEAN. Datoy iti puon ken gapo no apay nga iti Probinsial a Gobierno ti La Union ket aggangannat tapno agutululoy a pumintas iti kalidad iti edukasion dagiti agtutubo. Babaen iti world class a gobierno-probinsial, makanannamatayo iti de-kalidad nga edukasion nga agturong iti world-class workforce.

Nabukel iti ASEAN idi panawen ni Presidente Ferdinand E. Marcos ti tawen 1967, iti Pilipinas iti maysa kadagiti lima a nangbuangay iti ASEAN. Nagkaysa dagiti pagilian iti Pilipinas, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore ken Thailand tapno agtinnulong para iti ekonomia, politika, military, edukasion ken kultura. Idi 1850, Agarup 117 a tawen sakbay a mabukel iti ASEAN, dagiti apotayo iti Pangasinan, Benguet ken Ilocos Sur ket nagkaysa a mangbuangay iti bukodda a probinsia tapno magun-odda a padapada dagiti arapaapda da a sangkamaysa a rumang-ay.

Naibasar iti panagkaykaysa dagiti apotayo iti pannakabuangay iti La Union. Panagkaykaysa met laeng iti nagibasaran dagiti nangbukel iti ASEAN. Uray agduduma iti pagsasao, pammati ken kultura dagiti apotayo, nagkaykaysa babaen iti ayat. Kasta met laeng ti ASEAN, nagkaysa babaen iti ayat nga agturong iti padapada a panagrang-ay.

Tatta, dagiti a pagilian iti abagatan a dumaya iti Asia ti maysan a kapasasan nga agdurdur-as iti ekonomia. Napadayawan pay iti ASEAN kas permanent observer iti United Nations babaen iti napaneknekan a kinapateg maipapan iti urnos ken talna iti rehion. Iti met La Union tatta ket ladawanen iti rang-ay ken ayat kas maysa a 1st Class Province a napadayawanen iti saanen a mabilang a pamunbig. No makitada iti nagbalinan ita iti La Union dagiti apotayo a nangbuangay iti La Union agraman iti apong ko iti tumeng a ni Joaquin J. Ortega a nagserbi kas kaunaan a nabotosan a Gobernador-Sibil ti La Union, ammok a maragsakanda. Iti inunobonda nga ayat, agtululoy a bumilbileg ken maibunobonon iti entiro a probinsia.

I love La Union! I love ASEAN!

Agay-ayat kadakayo amin,

FRANCISCO EMMANUEL "PACOY" R. ORTEGA III
Gobernador

PGLU STRENGTHENS COMMITMENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION

The Provincial Government of La Union represented by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Commission on Human Rights- Region I (CHR-ROI) for the purpose of strengthening the Human rights Action Team (HRACT) and the Human Rights Action Center (HRAC) on Thursday, July 31, 2017 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

CHR-ROI Regional Director Atty. Harold D. Kub-arón signed the MOA in behalf of the Commission on Human Rights, Region I.

The signed MOA defines the roles and responsibilities of both PGLU and CHR-ROI in building a culture of human rights within the Province of La Union through the establishment of mechanisms for human rights promotion and protection.

Both parties shall work hand in hand in the implementation of continuing programs of education and training, research and information on human rights protection.

The CHO-ROI shall also develop information, education and communication (IEC) materials and standard training modules on human rights, access to justice and rule of law that can be reproduced and disseminated by La Union Human Rights Action Team (LUHRACT). Granting the request of the Honorable Governor to be meritorious, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan reckons to support the conduct of programs and activities of both PGLU and CHO-ROI.

The HRACT and HRAC were duly created under Sangguniang Panlalawigan Ordinance No. 085-2016.
-Hana Josua C. Martinez

SOPA...and congratulated the La Union Police Provincial Office (LUPPO) led by PSSupt Leo Francisco for placing 1st in the region during the 2016 Performance Evaluation Rating screened by the Police Regional Office I. Governor Pacoy also reaffirmed that La Union is insurgency free.

In terms of emergency response and disaster preparedness, the province made great leaps by capacitating thousands of volunteers and establishing a 911 Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) system. For social protection, all hospitals in the province under the PGLU are all Phil-

Health accredited and compliant to the Mother-Baby Friendly hospital initiative. The Governor stated that as of May 2017, 100% of Senior Citizens in the Province are PhilHealth registered.

Governor Pacoy concluded his SOPA by expressing gratitude towards God, his wife, ABONO Party-List Representative Vini Nola A. Ortega and family, his PGLU family, and the collective effort of the local officials and the people of La Union.

In attendance were the Sangguniang Panlalawigan led by Vice Governor Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce,

heads of key line agencies, department heads and employees of the PGLU, local chief executives and people from the different municipalities and city of La Union. Sen. Joseph Victor "JV" G. Ejercito also graced the event as a guest and witness to the Governor's commitment to aligning programs in the province towards supporting the national government and leadership. For convenience, the SOPA may be viewed as it was livestreamed through the official Facebook page of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU).
-Marcel A. Florentino



THE ENTRANCE FOR THE SOPA. Gov. Pacoy enters the Saint William the Hermit Cathedral and greeted by officials of Local Government Units (LGU) of La Union including Mayors, Vice Mayors, Councilors and Regional Directors of National Line Agencies and officers and members of Civic Groups and Non-government Organizations on July 27, 2017 in San Fernando, City La Union.

MANNIX REPORTS A STRONGER AND MORE RESPONSIVE LIGA

Sangguniang Panlalawigan Ex-Officio Member Manuel Victor "Mannix" R. Ortega, Jr. reported a stronger and more responsive Liga ng mga Barangay-La Union Chapter during their annual General Assembly held on August 21, 2017 at the Hotel Supreme in Baguio City.

"The past year of the Liga was filled with dramatic events. First, change has dawned on the Liga with the positive influence of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte's popularity. His war on drugs became the war not only of the presidency but of all peace-loving people," opened the namesake of former Governor Manuel "Manoling" C. Ortega. He reported that barangay officials supported the President's war against illegal drugs without fear. He recognized the barangay officials of Burgos and Bagulin for their efforts in making their barangays drug-free which eventually led to the declaration of their respective towns by

the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) as Drug-Free Municipalities.

He proudly shared that because of the active participation of the Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Councils, 195 of the 439 drug-affected barangays of La Union were already cleared. With the continued strengthening of the Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Council, more barangays were cleared. He enjoined the village executives to continue to be vigilant to sustain the momentum on the war against illegal drugs.

He also reported Basketball Clinics in 104 barangays which catered to around 1,100 kids; a Youth Empowerment and Leadership Training Workshop to further capacitate budding public servants; one Liga Congress; one General Assembly; donations to indigents; and scholarship grants. He also made it clear that his recognition from the Liga ng mga Barangay national chapter as

one of the Most Outstanding Liga ng mga Barangay Provincial Chapter Presidents as well as his recognition from President Duterte for his felt and change-oriented sports program are both accomplishments of the whole Liga.

During the General Assembly, Mr. Donato A. Rimando, Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, discussed selected Provincial Ordinances which affect the barangays. Also, Mr. Israel O. Rudio, Chief of the Management Information Systems Division (MISD) of the Office of the Provincial Governor (OPG) discussed Knowledge Management and showed its importance to the vision of the province to become the heart of Agri-tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025 as well as the Korean Rural Development Technology of Saemul Undong. On the other hand, Ms. Lolita Gongora discussed the Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act of 2015.



Liga ng mga Barangay-La Union Chapter President Manuel Victor "Mannix" R. Ortega, Jr., joins a friendly tug of war game during the Mini Olympics of the Liga's General Assembly held on August 21-25, 2017 at the Hotel Supreme, Baguio City.

PGLU STRENGTHENS COMMITMENT ON WASTES MANAGEMENT



Vice Governor Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce representing the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) and Chief Operating Officer Gerard R. Hernandez representing Cleanway Environmental Management Solutions, Inc. shake hands after the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on Hazardous Hospital Wastes Management in compliance to the requisite of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources to obtain an accredited company which will collect, transport and treat hazardous hospital wastes from all waste generators. This signing agreement took place on August 8, 2017 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. Also in the photo are Provincial Health Officer Dr. Hector Beñas and representatives from Cleanway.

To further strengthen the joint campaign of Provincial Government of La Union and the Department of Health (DOH) in sustaining effective Hazardous Hospital Waste Management, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III represented by Vice Governor Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce and Provincial Health Officer Dr. Hector Beñas on behalf of the PGLU signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) on Hazardous Hospital Waste Management with Cleanway Environmental Management Solutions, Inc. on Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Chief Operating Officer Gerard R. Hernandez represented Cleanway. The said MOA entails proper handling, collection, transport, treatment, storage and disposal of health care waste.

The MOA is in compliance to the requisite of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) to obtain an accredited company which will collect, transport and treat hazardous hospital wastes from all waste generators.

Healthcare wastes include general waste, infectious, pathological, sharps, pharmaceutical, genotoxic and chemical wastes with high content of heavy metals, pressurized containers and radioactive

waste which are all generated from hospitals and other health care facilities.

Under the agreement, Cleanway will provide 15-20 bins situated to La Union Medical Center and the other district hospitals of La Union including Balaan, Bacnotan, Naguilian, Caba and Rosario. All these bins will be collected per month; waste materials will undergo treatment process called Hydroclave Steam Sterilization and the residue will be stored in a sanitary landfill facility.

The MOA on Hazardous Hospital Waste Management were duly created under Sangguniang Panlalawigan Resolution No. 274-2017.

-Hana Josua C. Martinez



Gov. Pacoy receives a frame of signatures from Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Eugenio Julio C. Osias IV of the Philippine Army reaffirming their commitment and continued support to the programs to the Governor on July 31, 2017 at the Office of the Provincial Governor, Capitol Bldg., City of San Fernando, La Union. Photo by: Wendell Tangalin

GOV. PACOY CHALLENGED PNP ROI GRADUATES OF CLASS 2017-01

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III recognized the efforts of the Philippine National Police (PNP) being the defenders of the law and keepers of peace by reinforcing the fight against drug menace in the country during the Commencement Exercises of the PNP Public Safety Junior Leadership Course (PSJLC) Class of 2017-01 on Friday, August 11, 2017 at the National Police Training Institute RTC1- Multi-Purpose Hall, Aringay, La Union.

He mentioned that PNP, with their authority to enforce the law, is vital to La Union's thrust in keeping the province safe and secure.

As Guest of Honor and Speaker, Gov. Pacoy commended the graduates for their commitment in expanding their knowledge and expertise through completing

the said course. Moreover, he also motivated them to strengthen their hearts and minds to strive harder in enforcing the law to achieve the dream of peace, progress and prosperity across the region.

Gov. Pacoy together with Regional Training Director PSUPT Russel C. Maca and TS2 Marinova C. Gurtiza led the distribution of certificates and awards to the graduates of PSJLC Class 2017-01 Alpha to Charlie. The PSJLC Class 2017-01 Charlie Top Gun/Arm for the Male Category is PO3 Erwin M. Alcantara with a grade of 99% and Ricardyn D. Antonio with a grade of 93% for the Female Category.

Gov. Pacoy challenged the PNP Graduates to solidify further their crusade on security and law enforcement after all, according to him, all of them are champions of public service and good governance.



Gov. Pacoy congratulates the graduates of Public Safety Junior Leadership Course Class 2017-01 for their dedication and commitment in completing the Public Safety Junior Leadership Course on August 11, 2017 at the National Police Training Institute RTC1- Multi-Purpose Hall, Philippine Public Safety College Aringay, La Union. Gov. Pacoy is the guest of honor and speaker during the said graduation ceremony.

LA UNION HOSTS REGIONAL PEACE AND ORDER COUNCIL MEETING

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III hosted the 2nd quarter meeting of the Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC) on July 20, 2017 at Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. The RPOC meeting centered on the intensive efforts and commitment of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and various governing bodies to decisively alleviate drug menace in the region.

"We must continue to be alert. We must always be ready to act. We must all come together to form a tough and united front against all enemies of peace and order, of our way of life, and of freedom and democracy. This will only be possible with our concerted efforts in the RPOC," said Gov. Pacoy.

With the concerns on security and dangers from foreign and domestic threats, Gov. Pacoy reaffirmed his dedication to guard the borders, airspace, coastlines and the welfare of the citizens of the region through signing the agreement reaffirming his continued support in sustaining Insurgency-Free Province of La Union. In attendance are the RPOC members in-

cluding DILG Regional Director and RPOC Head James F. Fadrian, Vice-Chairman of RPOC and PNP Region I PCSupt. Charlo C. Collado, 48IB Commanding Officer Lt. Col. Eugenio Julio C. Osias, representatives from the Armed Forces of the Philippines, National Government Agencies, Chief Executives and Provincial Governors in Region I.

The topics discussed during the meeting include the Executive Order No. 773 on Representation to RPOC; RPOC Representation to NAPOLCOM Regional Appellate Board (RAB); Background on Inter-Agency Committee on Anti-illegal Drugs (ICAD); Updates on DDB Regulation No. 3 s. 2017- Barangay Drug Clearing Operation; Creation of RPOC Sub-Committee on Revalidation; Updates on Community-Based Rehabilitation Program (CBRP); Presentation on Violent Extremism; Updates on the Registration of Firearms, Presentation of Provincial Peace and Order and Public Safety Plan.

The host province for the 3rd RPOC Meeting will be Pangasinan scheduled on September this year.
-Hana Josua C. Martinez



ESTEEMING SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY. Gov. Pacoy and PNP Region I Director and Vice-Chairman of Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC) PSUPT Charlo Collado sign an agreement reaffirming their commitment and continued support in sustaining insurgency free, disciplined and peaceful Region I during the Regional Peace and Order Council (RPOC) 2nd Quarter Meeting on July 20, 2017 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.



ILLUMINATING THE LOVE AMONG CHILDREN. Gov. Pacoy gives the children of Guinabang Elementary School, Bacnotan, La Union a high five during his visit in the newly blessed and turned-over school building on July, 11, 2017. Photo by: Wendell B. Tangalin



SHARING THE LOVE AMONG TYPHOON VICTIMS. Gov. Pacoy shakes hand with one of the elderly persons affected by the 2018 super typhoon Lando during the distribution of their Emergency Shelter Assistance (ESA) on July 11, 2017 at Luna, La Union Covered Court. The said assistance empowers and gives inspiration to the victims amidst the harm and damages caused by the storm. Photo: Wendell B. Tangalin



Gov. Pacoy emphasizes his plans for Transformative Governance aligning with the directives of the National Leadership battle cry for Solidarity and Good Governance during the Federalism Forum and Consultation on August 24, 2017 at the Ortega Gym, City of San Fernando, La Union. Photo by: Sonny Buenaventura



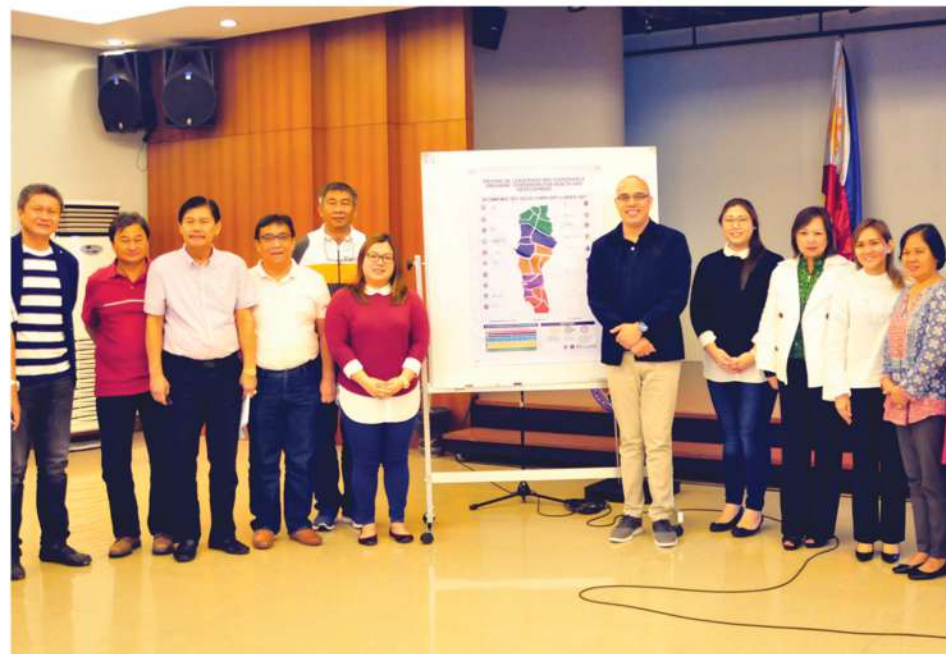
Liga ng mga Barangay-La Union Chapter President Manuel Victor "Mannix" R. Ortega, Jr., thanking the people of San Juan, La Union for their continued support to the Provincial Government of La Union during the "I Love My Barangay, I Love La Union" outreach program held on August 18, 2017 at the San Juan Gym. Photo by: Wendell B. Tangalin



Gov. Pacoy bows his head in prayer as he leads the graduates of Public Safety Junior Leadership Course Class 2017-01 on August 11, 2017 during their Graduation Ceremony at the Philippine Public Safety College, National Police Training Institute RTC1- Multi-Purpose Hall. Photo by: Wendell Tangalin



Gov. Pacoy together and Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency Regional Office 1 (PDEA RO1) Regional Director Jeffrey C. Tacio together with PSSUP Ferdinand O. Divina sign the certificates of Drug Cleared Barangays during the Regional Oversight Committee Barangay Drug Clearing Meeting on August 15, 2017 at the D'HUNTER'S DEN, Camp Diego Silang Carlatan, City of San Fernando La Union. Photo by: Wendell Tangalin



Gov. Pacoy together with the Municipal and City Mayors of La Union pose for a photo ops during the Provincial Leadership and Governance Program - Governors For Health and Development Consultation on August 3, 2017 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.



Gov. Pacoy hands over a cheque to Balaon Mayor Aleli U. Concepcion representing the incentive of the Municipality of Balaon for being the Cleanest and Greenest Municipality among all the LGUs in La Union on August 1, 2017 at the Office of the Mayor, Balaon, La Union. Photo by: Wendell Tangalin



Gov. Pacoy imparts the initiatives of the Provincial Government of La Union related to upgrading business industry in La Union aiming to generate more income and employment for the people during the 2017 Investment Forum for the Province of La Union on July 28, 2017 at the Oasis Country Resort. The Department of Trade and Industry La Union (DTI-LU) Investment Specialists foresee La Union as springboard of Business and Commerce in the North since it has a strategic location open for trade and investment. Photo by: Wendell Tangalin



La Union's First Couple Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega and Cong. Vini Nola A. Ortega pose for a photo ops during the 2nd State of the Nation Address (SONA) of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte on July 24, 2017 at the Batasang Pambansa, Quezon City. President Duterte will deliver his speech before the joint session of the 17th Congress of the Republic of the Philippines at the House of Representatives today.



Police Senior Superintendent Regional Chief CIDG 1 Edgar DM Cacayan administers the oath of Gov. Pacoy as a member of the Regional Advisory Council of Criminal Investigation and Detention Group, Region 1 (CIDG-RO1) on August 1, 2017 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union

PACOY TAKES OATH AS VP OF TOKHANG COALITION

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III took oath as Interim Vice President of the National Tokhang Advocacy Coalition (NTAC) for Luzon during the Philippine National Police (PNP) celebration of its 22nd Police Community Relations Month (PCR) with the theme, "Police and Community: Sharing Responsibility, Taking Action in Unity" on July 9, 2017 at the PNP Transformation Oval, Camp Crame, Quezon City.

The celebration saw the launch of five organizations as part of the National Coalition of PNP advocacy groups to further strengthen the campaign against illegal drugs. Guests of Honor and Speaker, Police Director General (PDG) Ronald "Bato" M. Dela Rosa together with Undersecretary Catalino S. Cuy, officially launched the National Tokhang Advocacy Coalition (NTAC), Anti-Crime and Community Emergency Response Team (ACCERT), National Coalition of Informa-

tion Technology Advocates for Change (NCITAC), Association of Chiefs of Police of the Philippines Inc. Affiliated Non-Government Organizations (ACPPIAN), and the Foreign Nationals Keeper Network (FNKN). Governor Pacoy signed a pledge to show his unwavering support for the war on drugs. His administration firmly prioritizes the eradication of illegal drugs in the province, seeing it as a vital component to sustaining peace and order, and maintaining consistency as La Union recently won as the Cleanest, Greenest, and Safest Province in Region I. The PNP Leadership expressed their gratitude for the overwhelming support of the partner agencies, NGOs, other law enforcement agencies, local officials, and other attendees in upholding law and order throughout the country. -Marcel A. Florentino

GOV. PACOY REINFORCES MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES IN LA UNION

With the support of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) headed by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" Ortega III, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) together with the La Union Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Development (MSMED) Council formally launched the 2017 MSMED Week Celebration with the theme "7Ms Towards a Shared Prosperity for ASEAN MSMEs" at the La Union Agri-Tourism Center, City of San Fernando, La Union on Tuesday, July 11, 2017. The event centers on the utmost commitment of Gov. Pacoy as the Co-Chairperson of the MSMED Council in realizing its goal to boost the potential of local enterprises to ensure economic gains of the Agri-Tourism industry for the betterment of the lives of every entrepreneur in the province. The exhibit, which will run from July 11-14, aims to recognize the contribution of every MSMED, One Town One Province (OTOP) and other Income Generating Projects (IGPs) highlighting the importance of the 7Ms - Mindset, Mastery, Mentoring, Money, Market, Machines and Models in revitalizing the Agri-Tourism industry of the province of La Union to become competitive and dynamic as it revamp towards the ASEAN global market. DTI-La Union Provincial Director Daria R. Mingarcal said that MSMED reaches out to PGLU to give support and assistance to the local businesses as it adapts towards the fast paced market and bring along other micro business entrepreneurs and agriculturists of the province. The display is a one-stop-shop showcasing local products such as dragon fruit, ube wine, lemon grass tea, bottled fish corn oils. On the same day, pampering services were also offered like free manicure, pedicure, foot spa and massage by vocational scholars of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). A financing forum and assistance was also conducted for potential MSMEDs and small business corporations sponsored by the Development Bank of the Philippines, Rang-ay Bank, Land Bank of the Philippines and other financial institutions. -Hana Josua C. Martinez

transform La Union to become the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon," said Gov. Pacoy envisioning the entrepreneurs and home grown business at the very center of growth and development of the province and municipalities. He further stressed out that his vision will be essential in developing and establishing enterprises owned by the people of the province and its success will only be possible through the spirit of entrepreneurship and the diligence and determination of the people. The exhibit, which will run from July 11-14, aims to recognize the contribution of every MSMED, One Town One Province (OTOP) and other Income Generating Projects (IGPs) highlighting the importance of the 7Ms - Mindset, Mastery, Mentoring, Money, Market, Machines and Models in revitalizing the Agri-Tourism industry of the province of La Union to become competitive and dynamic as it revamp towards the ASEAN global market. DTI-La Union Provincial Director Daria R. Mingarcal said that MSMED reaches out to PGLU to give support and assistance to the local businesses as it adapts towards the fast paced market and bring along other micro business entrepreneurs and agriculturists of the province. The display is a one-stop-shop showcasing local products such as dragon fruit, ube wine, lemon grass tea, bottled fish corn oils. On the same day, pampering services were also offered like free manicure, pedicure, foot spa and massage by vocational scholars of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA). A financing forum and assistance was also conducted for potential MSMEDs and small business corporations sponsored by the Development Bank of the Philippines, Rang-ay Bank, Land Bank of the Philippines and other financial institutions. -Hana Josua C. Martinez

PACOY SWORN IN AS REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL- CIDG MEMBER

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III took oath as a member of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC) organized by the Philippine National Police - Criminal Investigation and Detention Group - Region 1 (PNP-CIDG-RO1) on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. Police Senior Superintendent Edgar DM Cacayan, Regional Chief of the CIDG, administered the oath to Governor Pacoy. He was also presented with a token of appreciation for his continued assistance to the efforts of the PNP-CIDG. The advisory councils organized nationwide by the CIDG are committed to actively involve stakeholders in policy making and to further promote good governance. Formed as part of the PNPs Peace and Order Agenda for Transformation and Upholding of the Rule of Law (PATROL) Plan 2030, the council serves to advise and assist by recognizing crucial priorities in the formulation of programs to be implemented by the PNP. - Marcel A. Florentino

decreased from 7,941 in 2015 to 5,692 in 2016. Envisioning a drug free La Union by 2017 and beyond, the Governor also serves as the Vice President of the National Tokhang Advocacy Coalition Group - Region 1 (PNP-CIDG-RO1) on Tuesday, August 1, 2017 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. Police Senior Superintendent Edgar DM Cacayan, Regional Chief of the CIDG, administered the oath to Governor Pacoy. He was also presented with a token of appreciation for his continued assistance to the efforts of the PNP-CIDG. The advisory councils organized nationwide by the CIDG are committed to actively involve stakeholders in policy making and to further promote good governance. Formed as part of the PNPs Peace and Order Agenda for Transformation and Upholding of the Rule of Law (PATROL) Plan 2030, the council serves to advise and assist by recognizing crucial priorities in the formulation of programs to be implemented by the PNP. - Marcel A. Florentino

PGLU CELEBRATES NUTRITION MONTH

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) Child Development Center under the Supervision of the Provincial Welfare and Child Development Office (PSWD) celebrated Nutrition Month on July 28, 2017 at the La Union Technology and Livelihood Development Center (LUTLDC), City of San Fernando, La Union wherein the 18 Pre-Kinder pupils enrolled in the center showcased their talents in singing and dancing.

Families of the pupils were also invited to participate in a brief seminar about good health and nutrition facilitated by Mr.

Vladimir E. Pifon, nutritionist and dietician of PSWDO. He also expounded on this year's theme, "Healthy Diet, Gaining Habit for Life."

The kids also watched a short story highlighting the benefits of probiotics to nutrition of growing kids. This was presented by Ms. Jovy Caccam from the marketing department of Yakult. There were also free Yakults distributed to kids who were able to actively participate in the question and answer portion.

During the program, the newly-inducted Parents-Teacher Association officers headed by Ms. Joanna C. Guerrero were inducted by the PSWD Officer Mr. Danilo P. Ipac. Other officers are Ms. Ghenny Estipular as Vice President; Ms. Lorena C. Luna as Secretary; Mr. Noel Bravo as Treasurer; Ms. Mary Ann Javor as Asst. Treasurer; Ms. Jennifer Lubrica as Auditor; Ms. Brenda Padilla and Mr. Rolando Cabanba as Public Information Officers.

After the program, nutritious foods prepared by the parents and contributed by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III for the kids were shared. -Zebaida del Moral Sellem



A pre-kinder pupil from the Provincial Government Child Development Center (PGCDC) shows her favorite vegetable while telling its nutritional values during their celebration of Nutrition Month with the theme "Healthy Diet, Gaining Habit for Life" on July 28, 2017 at the La Union Technology and Livelihood Development Center (LUTLDC). The said event aims to inform the parents on the benefits of good health and nutrition to growing kids.

GOV. PACOY REASSURES A HEALTHY AND HAPPY LA UNION

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III and the local health champions of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU), PhilHealth, Provincial Health Office (PHO) and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) joined the Core Group Formation Workshop on July 14, 2017 at the Oasis Country Resort, City of San Fernando, La Union. The workshop aims to develop camaraderie among health workers for them to efficiently perform their tasks.

In the said gathering, Gov. Pacoy emphasized that health and wellness of the people especially young children and mothers are essential to the growth and development of the province hence he promised to provide the best possible healthcare and nutrition to them. In the support group activity, Gov. Ortega integrates his exceptional leadership style in an image of an eagle symbolizing his aspirations for the province of La Union to become the Agri-Tourism destination of

Northern Luzon. He also directed everyone to be God-loving, people-oriented, accountable and committed as this fundamental values will propel the vision of prosperity for the health sector and people of La Union.

Moreover Gov. Pacoy said he would address the gap between the local leaders and unprivileged members of the society through developing dynamic programs on upgrading health facilities responding to the growing problems on maternal death and child care.

The Province of La Union being recognized for its abundant agricultural industries and major products incorporating its Agri-Tourism platforms was chosen as part of the Governors for Health and Development (G4HD) Project under the Provincial Leadership and Governance Program (PLGP) reinforced by Zuellig Family Foundation and the Department of Health. -Hana Josua C. Martinez



Gov. Pacoy is shown an image of an eagle symbolizing his leadership style during an activity called "My Leadership Animal" which is part of the Core Group Formation Workshop on July 14, 2017 at the Oasis Country Resort, City of San Fernando, La Union. Photo by: Wendell B. Tangalin

PGLU, ABONO GIVE AID FOR FARMERS



SPREADING THE LOVE AMONG FARMERS. Gov. Pacoy does out farm equipment and machines to barangay captains and councilors of the different Municipalities in the province on July 13, 2017 at the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist, City of San Fernando, La Union. These equipment and machines will be dispensed to farmer-recipients in their communities. Photo by: Wendell B. Tangalin

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) led by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel R. Ortega III in partnership with ABONO Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025. According to him, the province will be more prosperous when its strength in agriculture is augmented not only in terms of crop yield but also supplemented with tourism.

The event was attended by Barangay Council Members, farmer associations and cooperatives from the different municipalities and city of the province. A total of 289 jetmatic pumps, 878 Galvanized Iron (GI) pipes, 37 Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) pipes, and 142 rolls of hose were distributed to the beneficiaries.

Boosting the agricultural sector is one of the top priorities of Governor Pacoy towards establishing La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025. According to him, the province will be more prosperous when its strength in agriculture is augmented not only in terms of crop yield but also supplemented with tourism.

The National Rice Achievers Award resulting from the sustained effort of the provincial government.

The ABONO Party-List, represented by Hon. Vini Nola A. Ortega, is a long standing developmental partner of the PGLU that is fully committed to the improving the quality of life of the agricultural and marginalized sectors of the province. Partnering with many government agencies, ABONO is continuously changing lives of the people for the better through financial and marketing assistance, provisions for alternative livelihood programs for farmers and other sectors, support for agri-research and development, and many others. -Marcel A. Florentino

"Your governor is a full time governor, napigsa ti gagarko nga agsirbi because my foundation is very strong, ti agay ayat kadakayo amin a ni Manoling Ortega," said Governor Pacoy stating his dedication to public service as he was inspired by his father. His administration is directed towards consistency as La Union recently won

GOVERNOR'S DIARY

- JULY 3, 2017 (Monday)**
 - First Monday Flag Raising Ceremony, Capitol Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 4, 2017 (Tuesday)**
 - Cabinet Meeting, Diego Silang Hall, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union
 - 8th Induction Ceremonies of The Rotary Club of San Fernando, Pao Elementary School, CSF
 - Sarany Distribution Office of the Governor, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union
 - Courtesy Call of CSF Mayor Hermenegildo Gualberto, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 5, 2017 (Wednesday)**
 - Inauguration/ Turn-over Ceremonies of The One-Room Building Legacy Project of FSB, Bacnotan
- JULY 6, 2017 (Thursday)**
 - Blessing And Inauguration Of 4 Floor, 12 Room Building In Catbangen Central Schools, Catbangen, CSF
 - Presentation Of Education Production And Training Services, Inc, City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 7, 2017 (Friday)**
 - ESA Distribution of San Juan, Municipal Hall of San Juan
 - Environment Month Culmination Activity, Hotel Ariana, Bauang
- JULY 8, 2017 (Sunday)**
 - 22nd Police Community Relations Month Grand Celebration, PNP Camp Crame, QC
- JULY 11, 2017 (Tuesday)**
 - Strategy Alignment Session, La Union Medical Center, Agoo, La Union
 - ESA Distribution, Luna, La Union
- JULY 12, 2017 (Wednesday)**
 - 2nd Regular RDC I Full Council Meeting, Oasis Country Resort City of San Fernando, La Union
 - Discussion On The Malasakit Pillar Focusing On Experiences In Ensuring People-Centered, Clean And Efficient Governance Oasis Country Resort City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 13, 2017 (Thursday)**
 - Distribution of Farm Equipment and Tools, OPAg Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union Message
 - Visit and Dialogue NMYL, Office of the Governor, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union
 - 14th Regional Management Committee Meeting, Awesome Hotel, San Juan, La Union
 - Zuellig One-on-One Processing Of Work Sheet, Office of the Governor, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union
 - 1590 MMT Meeting, 1590 Energy Corp., Bauang, La Union
- JULY 14, 2017 (Wednesday)**
 - Convening Of The Health Core Team, Oasis Country Resort, City of San Fernando, La Union
 - DOH Dangerous Drug Use Summit, Oasis Country Resort, City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 14, 2017 (Wednesday)**
 - Taktbo Para Sa Pagbabago 2nd Leg, Baywalk Poro Point, City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 17, 2017 (Monday)**
 - Proclamation Of Bagulin As Drug Free Municipality, Bagulin, La Union
 - Blessing, Inauguration And Turn-Over Ceremony Of The Junior High School Building Of Baccui National High School, Bauang, La Union
 - LJMC Board of Trustees Meeting, Diego Silang Hall, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 18, 2017 (Tuesday)**
 - Inauguration and Turn Over of The Newly Repaired Bagong Lipunan Building, Bugbugcao Elem. School, San Juan, La Union
 - Distribution of ESA Checks For Santol And Tubao LUTLDC, City of San Fernando, La Union
 - Strategy Alignment Session La Union Medical Center, Agoo, La Union
- JULY 19, 2017 (Wednesday)**
 - Vice Mayors League of The Philippines Newtown Hotel, Baguio City
 - Opening Program for the Cure the Sea Project Marine Educational Center, DMMSU-NLJC, Balaaoan, La Union
- JULY 20, 2017 (Thursday)**
 - Inauguration Of The New Ground Water Source Under Prime Water, Bailay, Bauang, La Union
 - 3rd Rpmc Meeting, Diego Silang Hall, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union
 - 1st BJMP Pro I Stakeholders And Sponsors CRS Month Recognition Day, BJMP PRO I Multi-Purpose Hall, Camp Oscar Florendo, Parian, City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 21, 2017 (Friday)**
 - Gathering Of Local Chief Executives Relative To The Performance Governance System (PGS)
 - Dusit Thani Hotel, Manila
 - 1ST Regular Meeting Of The NRS OMA Governing Board, Marand Resort and Spa, Bauang, La Union
 - 13rd LJUMS Induction Ceremonies, Agora Events Center, Thunderbird Resorts, City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 24, 2017 (Monday)**
 - Joint Session of The Congress to Hear The State of The Nation Address of President Duterte, Plenary Hall, House of Representatives Complex
- JULY 25, 2017 (Tuesday)**
 - 15th Year Anniversary Of PDEA D'Hunters Den, PDEA RO1, City of San Fernando, La Union
 - Provincial School Board Meeting, Diego Silang Hall, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union
- JULY 26, 2017 (Wednesday)**
 - ZUELLIG Session, St. Giles, Makati
 - Blood Service Awarding and Recognition Ceremony, Diego Silang Hall, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union
 - Inauguration Of The One Storey School Building At Bucayab Elementary School 1590 EC, Bauang
- JULY 27, 2017 (Thursday)**
 - State Of The Province Address, City Plaza, City of San Fernando
- JULY 28, 2017 (Friday)**
 - Inauguration And Blessing of Calliat Elementary School
 - DTI Investment Forum, Oasis Country Resort, CSF Balaaoan, La Union

PGLU CHILD MINDING PROGRAM ON GOING

The Provincial Government of La Union through the Provincial Social Welfare Development Office commenced a Child Minding Program for School Year 2017-2018 on June 13, 2017, through their Day Care Center at the La Union Livelihood Training and Development Center (LUTLDC), Guerrero Road, City of San Fernando La Union.

The Provincial Social Welfare Day Care Center caters children of employees of the Provincial Government of La Union

This project started during the time of former Governor Victor C. Ortega, which during that time saw that most of the employees brought their children in the offices, which he addressed positively and came up with a conceptual plan for the Best Practice Program, with the help of the Provincial Development Council.

Governor Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III reaffirmed this concern for the PGLU employees. The PGLU Day Care Center offers Pre-K-1 and Pre-K-2 Program. Pre-K-1 accepts children aged 2-3 years old and Pre-K-2 children aged 3-4 years old. Teachers are Ms. Lerma L. Navarro and Ms. Gail R. Mapanao. Children will undergo an Assessment Program upon enrollment with the following Domains category which includes Gross Motor, Fine Motor, Self Health, Receptive Language, Expressive Language, Cognitive Domain and Social and Emotional Domain. -Lorena C. Luna



Teacher Lerma L. Navarro (left) conducts an Assessment Examination to one of the Pre-Kinder Pupils of the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) Child Development Center on July 20, 2017. Photo by: Jefferson Lorenzo



La Union Medical Center (LUMC) Chairman of the Board Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III commences the meeting of LUMC Board of Trustees on July 17, 2017 at Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. In the said meeting, they tackled approval of requests concerning medical and non-medical contractual employees, filling-up vacant positions and endorsement of supplemental budgets. Photo by: Wendell B. Tangalin



SHARING THE LOVE AMONG CHILDREN. La Union Vibrant Women Incorporated (LUVWI) Chairperson Mdm. Geraldine Ortega leads the distribution of LUVWI give-away items to the students of Sudipen Central School, Sudipen La Union on July 10, 2017 as part of the Prevention of Common Diseases during Rainy Seasons Caravan. Photo by: Rivalde A. Buenaventura

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LGU BAUANG RECEIVES FUND FOR KABUHAYAN PROJECT



The Local Government of Bauang led by Mayor Eulogio Clarence Martin P. de Guzman receives fund for Kabuhayan Project as awarded by DOLE-ROI Director, Dir. Nathaniel V. Lacambra, Labor Information Officer, Arly Sta. Ana Valdez and La Union Field Office Livelihood Focal Person, Janet M. Mendoza.

The Local Government of Bauang received Php956,000 worth of Kabuhayan Project from the Department of Labor and Employment-Regional Office I (DOLE-ROI) on July 19, 2017 during the Gobyernong Abot ang Barangay (GABAY) Program at Barangay Acao, Bauang, La Union.

Bauang Mayor Eulogio Clarence Martin P. de Guzman III led the beneficiaries in the ceremony. Project includes Farm Implements Project for Urayong Farmers Association and Upper San Agustin

and Upper San Agustin Farmers Association.

Also, 25 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) graduates in Dressmaking NC II and 20 TESDA graduates on Hilot Wellness Massage NCII received Kabuhayan Starter Kits.

The project was awarded by DOLE-ROI Director, Dir. Nathaniel V. Lacambra, Labor Information Officer, Arly Sta. Ana Valdez and La Union Field Office Livelihood Focal Person, Janet M. Mendoza.

Bauang also received

various project funding in the previous years. In 2013, they reap Bottom-up Budgeting (BuB) Projects like Banca Fishing Project, Turmeric Processing Project, Goat Raising Project and Nego-kart Project worth Php1,000,000 in total. Banca fishing project amounting to Php405,158 was received in 2015 and Carabao Based Enterprise Project worth Php1,000,000 and Tulong Panghanapbuhay Para sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) Project worth Php199,225 in 2016. -Darlene Joy V. Acosta



INTENSIFYING THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS. Gov. Pacoy personally congratulates Barangay Captains of Bagulin, La Union for maintaining peace and order in their respective barangays. As a result of the intensive campaign against illegal drugs, Bagulin was declared as a Drug Free and Drug Unaffected Municipality on July 17, 2017 at the Bagulin Municipal, Covered Court. Photo by: Wendell B. Tangalin

AGOO IS REGION 1'S MOST COMPETITIVE TOWN

Agoo has proven once more its supremacy in Ilocos Region when it comes to effectiveness as a Local Government Unit (LGU). The LGU headed by its 1st term Mayor, STEFANIE ANN Y. ERIGUEL, M.D., garnered 1st Place (1st - 2nd Class Municipalities Category) in Overall Competitiveness during the 2017 Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) Award of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI).

Among the 35 participating 1st - 2nd class municipalities in Region I, Agoo was ranked as the best in the pillars of Economic Dynamism and Resiliency; and placed 2nd in the pillars of Infrastructure and Government Efficiency. Through an accumulative point, Agoo earned its feat as Ilocos Region's most competitive LGU besting Calasiao and Mangaldan, both Pangasinan towns that placed 2nd and 3rd places, respectively.

Agoo has also improved its standing in the national level wherein the LGU was ranked 16th among the participating 489 1st - 2nd class municipalities this year compared to 20th place among the 490 municipalities in 2016. In 2015, Agoo was ranked 3rd nationwide in the Government Efficiency pillar.

The Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index is an annual ranking of Philippine cities and municipalities devel-

oped by the National Competitiveness Council through the Regional Competitiveness Committees (RCCs) with the assistance of the United States Agency for International Development. For the past 3 years, LGUs were ranked on three pillars - Economic Dynamism, Government Efficiency, and Infrastructure. This year, Resiliency was added to determine disaster preparedness among LGUs. With the objective to accurately rank the locality's competitiveness, LGUs were classified according to 4 categories: 3rd to 6th Class Municipalities, 1st to 2nd Class Municipalities, Component Cities, and Highly Urbanized Cities.

The Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index is a program which encourages LGUs to gather and voluntarily submit data which are used to measure their performance on the aforesaid pillars anchored on global standards. The data submitted by the Local Government Units, through the assistance of a partner Academic and the Regional Competitiveness Committees, is used for the final scoring and ranking.

This program is conducted by the National Competitiveness Council, aligned with the goal to improve the country's overall competitiveness, through collaborative efforts between the national and local government agencies, and the public and private sectors.

NEW SCHOOL BUILDING IN BALAOAN INAUGURATED

With the aim to delivery quality education in Calliat Elementary School, Balaoan, La Union the New Bagong Lipunan Building was blessed and inaugurated on July 28, 2017.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III graced the activity together with Balaoan Mayor Aleli U. Concepcion, Barangay Calliat Chairman Adriano P. Navalta, representatives from the Department of Education (DepEd) and the School Faculty members.

The building which consists of five newly-repaired classrooms financed by the Provincial Government of La Union was blessed by Rev. Fr. Manuel Laviste.

In his speech Gov. Pacoy thanked all the teachers who give their best efforts to work for the welfare of their students and

who are molding them to become the future leaders of La Union.

Gov. Pacoy also thanked Mayor Aleli U. Concepcion and Barangay Captain Adriano P. Navalta for the support they have given to all the projects of PGLU implementing the vision of La Union to become the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon.

Gov. Pacoy also shared his vision to the student of the Calliat Elementary School and challenged them to study hard. "We are all here for you, to build the future of La Union by providing the best possible education environment to inspire and open and expand your minds and ability to wonder and the power to discover," he said.

-Lorenna C. Luna



Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III together with St. Nicholas Parish Priest Rev. Fr. Manuel Laviste and Balaoan Mayor Aleli Concepcion spearhead the ceremonial ribbon cutting during the Inauguration and blessing of the Bagong Lipunan Building of Calliat Elementary School, Balaoan, La Union on July 28, 2017.

BAGULIN IS DRUG FREE MUNICIPALITY

Governor Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III led the Signing and Declaration of Bagulin as a Drug Free / Drug Unaffected Municipality on July 17, 2017 at the Municipal Covered Court, Bagulin, La Union.

Gov. Pacoy commended the people of Bagulin and recognized the efforts of Mayor Ferdinand D. Tumbaga, Vice Mayor Joel E. Nang-is and Liga ng Barangay President Miguel Montes, who led in eliminating the drug menace in the Municipality in line with the administration's war on illegal drugs.

The Governor lauded the dedication

and support of the men and women from the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) and to Cong. Sandra Y. Eriguel, of the 2nd District of La Union for making the monumental achievement possible.

In his speech the Governor thanked the people of Bagulin for showing what love can do "Love is strong here in Bagulin and with all of us working together we can bring that Love to all of La Union and win that war on drugs," he said.

-Lorenna C. Luna



San Juan Mayor Arturo Valdriz and Board Member Manuel Victor "Mannix" Ortega dole out give-away items to the elders during the I Love La Union, I Love my Barangay Caravan on August 18, 2017 at the San Juan Gym, San Juan, La Union. Also in photo is Mdm. Ella Valdriz the wife of Mayor Valdriz. Photo by: Sonny Buenaventura