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GOV. PACOY DELIVERS 2ND SOPA

Camille R. Burnatay

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III highlighted transformative governance through steadfast partnership during his second State of the Province Address (SOPA) on May 24, 2018 at Speaker Pro Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Provincial Legislative Building and Session Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

He also discussed the plans to achieve the growth of the local economy through inbound and local investments, business location and expansion, jobs and employment generation and local income generation.

Gov. Pacoy explained that by aligning the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) with the National Policies and Global Standards, La Union was ranked 12th Place nationwide in the 2017 Cities and Municipalities Competitiveness Index (CMCI) and first in Northern Luzon. La Union was again awarded by the Regional Development Council as the Cleanest, Safest, and Greenest Province in the Region. The Department of Tourism (DOT) and the

Association of Tourism Officers of the Philippines (DOT-ATOP) recognized the La Union Surfing Break as the National Champion for Best Tourism Event in the Philippines under the Sports Category for the third consecutive year, making it a Hall of Famer. In the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry's (PCCI) Search for the Most Business Friendly LGU, La Union is one of the finalists. The Provincial Employment Service Office (PESO) was recognized by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) as the Best Public Employment Office in Region I.

In an effort to provide better service delivery, the Internal Audit Service (IAS) Unit has been established to evaluate the effectiveness of the different internal controls under PGLU. As a result, all the Provincial Departments, District Hospitals, and the La Union Medical Center are ISO 9001:2015-certified which means they abide by internationally-accepted and recognized standards of performance that warrant client satisfaction. PGLU successfully passed

the metrics of the 2017 Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG) set by the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG).

Gov. Pacoy displayed excitement and pride as he mentioned these achievements and recognitions the PGLU received while audience was receptive and showed affirmation on the governor's report.

Gov. Pacoy also stressed the reinforced peace and order in the province. He mentioned the development of Anti-Illegal Drugs Framework that envisions a Drug Free La Union. Municipalities of Burgos, Rosario, Balaoan, Sudipen, and Caba are cleared of illegal drugs and the Municipality of Bagulin was declared as a Drug-Unaffected Municipality in 2017. La Union is also reaffirmed as Insurgency-Free on July 20, 2017.

Discussed in the SOPA are different programs and projects that provide the populace easy access to education, employment, health, and other social services such as the La Union Educational

1ST WOMEN'S SUMMIT OF LA UNION CONDUCTED

City of San Fernando, LU – The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) conducted the 1st Women's Summit with the theme, "We Make Change Work for Women" held on May 8, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

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PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICES ASSESSED AND TRAINED

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) La Union Field Office (LUFO) conducted National Skills Registry System Program (NSRSP) Validation, Assessment and Re-orientation to the PESO Managers in La Union on May 4, 2018 at 3rd Floor LUPAC Bldg., City of San Fernando, La Union.

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SP BARES 2018 1ST QUARTER ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

The Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) conducted a total of 13 sessions this quarter with two out-of-town sessions and a total of 85 guests and visitors attended the SP Sessions as observers in the gallery. The members tackled a total of 122 items in the SP Agenda wherein 93 of which were referred to the appropriate committees for further study and recommendation. 26 items or issues were raised in the privilege speeches and unassigned business and likewise referred to the appropriate committees.

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Assistance Program (LUEASP), Provincial Leadership and Governance Program – Governors for Health and Development (PLGP-G4HD), and 1,295 families were also assisted through the provision of hospitalization and burial assistance in partnership with the representatives in Congress. Gov. Pacoy also commended the Sangguniang Panlalawigan for passing 18 ordinances and 707 resolutions for 2017.

Gov. Pacoy concluded the SOPA by encouraging stakeholders and partners to engage in the business of governance and transformative mission. He also asked the help of God in guiding him in rendering service.

The Sangguniang Panlalawigan led by Vice Governor Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce, heads of Regional Line Agencies, Leaders of Non-government organizations, department heads and employees of the PGLU, local chief executives and leaders from the different municipalities and city of La Union attended the SOPA.

ABONO, PGLU CONDUCT PAMMADAYAW DAGITI SCHOLARS 2018

Camille R. Sumatay

The ABONO Party-list in partnership with the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU), held the Pammadayaw Dagiti Scholars 2018 at the Ortega Gym, City of San Fernando, La Union on April 30, 2018 in recognition of the scholar-graduates of the party-list.

Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III and ABONO Party-list representative Vini Nola A. Ortega extended their well-wishes to the 116 ABONO scholars who graduated from their respective courses for academic year 2017-2018. They gave their words of trust to the graduates as they apply for employment.

Administrative Officer IV of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Regional Office served as the Guest of Honor and Speaker for the said event. He shared his life experiences as he worked his way to his current position. He highlighted the importance of education in achieving success in one's life.

The program ended with the awarding of certificate of recognition from ABONO Party-list and dinner for the graduates.

ABONO, in partnership with PGLU, grants scholarships to qualified students who have complied with the requirements set by ABONO and CHED.



Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III congratulates ABONO scholars who recently graduated and wished them well in their chosen fields during the Pammadayaw Dagiti Scholars at the Ortega Gym, City of San Fernando, La Union on April 30, 2018.

1ST WOMEN'S SUMMIT OF LA UNION HELD

Zenaída Del Moral Sellem

City of San Fernando, LU – The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) conducted the 1st Women's Summit with the theme, "We Make Change Work for Women" held on May 8, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

In his message, Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III acknowledged the big role of the strong and good women of the beloved province for they will be the backbone of the transformations for La Union. "They (women) will lead the change we dream of in the fields and farms of our lands, in our families with loved ones, in nurturing the great bounty and beauty of our homeland," said Gov. Pacoy as he further challenged the women to join in his mission to make La Union better.

Institutional Development Division Chief Ms. Annely Ferrer of Department of Social Welfare and Development shared ways to empower women such as active participation in different organizations, having a sufficient support mechanisms on gender and development; and shared parenting in every household.

She ended with the challenge, "Let us continue our advocacy, we should promote a culture that empower the rights of women; a culture that appreciates their rights - being consulted, engaged and women who will help in development activities."

Provincial Consultant on Gender and Development Ms. Victoria L. Aragon discussed the salient features and provisions of the Provincial Gender and Development Code.

As part of the advocacy on the rights of women and empowerment, Business Consultant Mr. Francis Kong shared his life experiences and gave nuggets of wisdom empowering women.

The summit was attended by Women Leaders like La Union Vibrant Women Inc. - Board of Directors (LUVWI- BOD) Chairperson Mrs. Geraldine R. Ortega, Former LUVWI-Chair of San Fernando City Mrs. Mariquita P. Ortega, LUVWI-BOD of San Juan, La Union Mrs. Ella Valdriz, and women leaders from different women groups. The celebration is also just in time for Mother's Day celebration.



A renowned inspirational speaker in the country, Mr. Francis Kong, inspires the women of La Union as Guest Speaker during the 2018 Women's Summit/ Symposium held on May 8, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

PGLU PARTAKES IN ISO 9001:2015 QMS BASIC CRASH COURSE

Jamie Rose N. Mifa

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) participated in the Basic Crash Course for ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems (QMS) on May 4, 2018 at the Summer Room, 3rd Floor, Ace Hotel and Suites, United St., Pasig City, Metro Manila.

There were 18 PGLU participants who attended the said training including newly appointed ISO Facilitator Ms. Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat, ISO Deputy Facilitator Mr. Arvin C. Camacho and Governor's Consultant Ms. Agnes Grace A. Cargamento.

Also present were Deputy Facilitator of District Hospitals Dr. Hector T. Beñas and Lead Auditors Ms. Mila L. Gamboa and Dr. Gretchen F. Aromin. Document Control Custodians (DCC) from the Information and Communication Technology Division and Secretariats from the Office of the Provincial Administrator, Office of the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Officer and Office of the Provincial Health Officer. Dr. Glenn Ernest M. Fonbuena also headed the contingents from the La Union Medical Center.

Macro Vision Consultancy President Engr. Margel Albano-Jajurie facilitated the whole course. He discussed the main objective of the course which is to enhance the ISO Leaders for the necessary knowledge and skills in managing the management system as well as to understand the existing problems encountered in the organization. Engr. Jajurie also iterated the three C's



The Provincial Government of La Union ISO Core Group participated in the Basic Crash Course on ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Systems conducted by Engr. Margel A. Jajurie of Macrovision Consultancy on May 3-4, 2018 at Ace Hotel, United St., Pasig City.

(Commitment, Control and Communication) for success as an ISO Leader. According to him, an ISO Leader must be seen involved not only by word of mouth, the benefits and reasons for control must be cleared and agreed by all staff involved and eventually create a positive and open environment for discussing and exchanging of ideas. As such, a workshop with three teams was done to identify their roles in an established business processes to help the organization consistently provide services.

The 18 departments, seven Office of the Provincial Governor Divisions, five district hospitals and one provincial hospital of the Provincial Government of La Union became certified ISO 9001:2015 QMS on February 23-24, June 7 and September 18-19, 2017 consecutively.

The QMS was designed to support a business to improve and deliver the products and/or services to its customers. Top Management is taking accountability for the QMS and shall promote the use of the process approach and of risk- based thinking. There is a total of 95 Quality Procedures and 89 Work Instructions maintained by the PGLU DCCs among other documents.

As PGLU prepares for the surveillance audit of the ISO 9001:2015 QMS, the ISO leaders are doing its part to motivate PGLU employees in resolving problems and seeking improvements that are essential for the success of the organization's daily operation.

LA UNION – 1ST TO GRADUATE IN PLGP BRIDGING LEADERSHIP FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM 2ND CYCLE

Glenda R. Cabautan



Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III poses with the graduates of Bridging Leadership for Public Health Program under Provincial Leadership Governance Program during the Colloquium and Graduation Program held on April 27, 2018 at Hotel Ariana, Bauang, La Union.

16 PGLU pride celebrated with Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III as they graduate in the Bridging Leadership (BL) for Public Health Program under the Provincial Leadership and Governance Program (PGLP) of the Department of Health in cooperation with Zuellig Family Foundation on April 27, 2018 at Hotel Ariana, Bauang, La Union. Dr. Hector Beñas and nine of his technical personnel from the Provincial Health Office (PHO), are among the graduates, together with the five District Hospital (DH) Chiefs and the Chief Executive

Officer La Union Medical Center (LUMC).

After two modules and six months of practicum period in between, PLGP participants from the Province of La Union were the first graduates of the second cycle of PLGP. Module 1 of the Program started in February 2017 where PLGP participants were introduced to the concept of Bridging Leadership for Public Health. BL formation is offered to governors, provincial health officers and other key health leaders in the province for the improvement of province-wide health system to attain best possible

health for Filipinos, particularly the poor. This program aims to help the province develop a sustainability plan to address leadership and health challenges identified both in the hospital and in public health.

The BL Program also aims to create leaders who can transform the local health system to one that is responsive, equitable, sustainable and effective in generating the desired health outcomes especially for the poor through the concept of ownership, co-ownership and co-creation. Ownership means showing

personal mastery, thinking strategically on health inequities and developing problem solving and decision making skills on health challenges. Co-ownership means leading change by engaging other stakeholders to work together to give solutions to health inequities. Co-creation is sustaining social innovations by involving stakeholders in responding to the needs of the people.

The PHO, DHs and LUMC were assessed based on the health indicators in the Provincial Health System Technical Roadmap, Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEmONC) and Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (CEmONC) Scorecards, respectively, in the beginning of the program to identify the weaknesses and challenges faced by each organization. During the practicum period, they implemented and monitored strategies that address identified health issues and challenges. They were again assessed after the program and their journey from start to finish have been documented. A big improvement on leadership and performance has been noted after the program as seen in the health indicators or parameters.

The Colloquium and Graduation Program was mainly a sharing of the journey of the PHO, Bacnotan and Naguilian District Hospitals and LUMC. Governor Pacoy congratulated the graduates for their contributions in transforming the health system but challenged them to continue what has been started.

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT SERVICES ASSESSED AND TRAINED

Rowell B. Timoteo

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) La Union Field Office (LUFO) conducted National Skills Registry System Program (NSRSP) Validation, Assessment and Re-orientation to the PESO Managers in La Union on May 4, 2018 at 3rd Floor LUPAC Bldg., City of San Fernando, La Union.

One of the NSRSP component presented is the Public Employment Information System (PEIS). It is an enhanced version of the Skills Registry System that serves as a database of active work force supply containing the profiles of all persons registered under the NSRSP. PEIS is an employment facilitation machinery of DOLE, which aims to address the growing problem of skills mismatch in our country. The web - based system is maintained and operated by all Public Employment Service Offices (PESOs) nationwide. The NSRSP Review aims to

assess the compliance of program implementers to the implementing procedures of the project and to identify possible problems encountered that hinders the efficient implementation of the program.

Ms. Darbie Ann R. Fernandez, Labor and Employment Officer II, DOLE – LUFO, discussed the process flow of accessing the PEIS. Part of the presentation is the PEIS First Quarter Accomplishment Report CY 2018 for the province of La Union.

Likewise, Ms. Delia S. Chan, Supervising Labor & Employment Officer, DOLE – LUFO also discussed the newly amended Special Program for the Employment of Students (SPES) Procedural Flow and the Revised DOLE - Government Internship Program (GIP) guidelines.

DOLE – LUFO awarded Certificate of Participation to the PESO Managers for the active implementation of PESO Programs and Services.

PGLU RECORDS OFFICERS PARTICIPATE IN RECORDS MANAGEMENT TRAINING AND SEMINAR

Glenda R. Cabautan



PGLU Records Officers pose with Ms. Estrella M. Domingo of NCCA after the culminating program of "Fundamentals of Records Management: It's Role and Importance in Government Offices' Operation" training and seminar held at Crown Legacy Hotel, Baguio City, Benguet on April 25 to 27, 2018.

The Government Records Officers' Association of the Philippines, Inc. (GROAP) organized a nationwide invitation to all Records Officers from the local and national government agencies. About 70 different agencies attended the "Fundamentals of Records Management: It's Role and Importance in Government Offices' Operation" training held at Crown Legacy Hotel, Baguio City on April 25 to 27, 2018.

Among almost 300 total participants, 16 Records Officers came from the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU).

Ms. Estrella M. Domingo, an archivist and member of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA)/National Committee on Archives (NCA) was the Resource Speaker for the three-day training /seminar. She iterated that Records Management's phases involve records creation; maintenance; and use into

disposition according to Ms. Domingo. It is an effective way of establishing a record system such as the Functional Subject Alphabetic Classification System (FSACS) to consolidate documents in the office.

Key activities like organizing and controlling current records; providing physical protection for records; managing records in Record Centers and Archives; and developing records management strategies should emanate within the office.

Participants came from different places from Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao. The La Union contingents took the opportunity to show a video showcasing the various Agri-Tourism areas they could visit.

As all PGLU Offices and Hospitals were certified with Quality Management System ISO 9001:2015, the said training was a motivation to continue providing good quality services to its constituents.

2018 STATE OF THE PROVINCE ADDRESS

GOVERNOR FRANCISCO EMMANUEL "PACOY" R. ORTEGA III



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Provincial Government of La Union laid down various initiatives and strategies in 2017 to advance its transformative agenda of becoming the "Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025". Serving as a catalyst of change and committed to its cause of improving the quality of life of its citizens, the PGLU intensified its efforts to pursue transformative good governance as measured by its achievement of the 2017 Seal of Good Local Governance (SGLG). Transformative good governance was pursued through continued engagement in the Performance Governance System (PGS), achieving PGS Compliance and working towards Proficiency, and enhanced by the ISO certification for quality service management that was achieved during the year. During the year, 12 initiatives in its

tourism sites and establishments. Even as the circuit plans are still being finalized, eight sub-circuits have become functional, surpassing the year's target of one sub-circuit per Agri-Tourism circuit. This is followed by the accreditation by DOT of two out of the 49 Agri-Tourism sites and 3% and 2% more than the 2016 number of a c c r e d i t e d primary and secondary tourism establishments.

The Province established the La Union Agri-Tourism Center during the first quarter of 2017 to showcase the different products of the component LGUs and to provide a tourist assistance center in the provincial capital. The Center registered total sales of Php 1, 968,552.50 during the nine months it has been in operation. This model of an agri-tourism center has been replicated in almost all of the component LGUs of the Province, with some of these centers serving as circuit centers linked with the Agri-Tourism centers of their component LGUs.

The 2017 targets to provide the infrastructure support for the circuits were achieved. Targets for the Road Development Plan for the five Tourism Circuits i.e. rehabilitation /construction of tourism and farm to market roads, reached 70% completion covering a total length of 23.20 kilometers. There were also activities done to reduce infrastructure gaps in the agriculture sector which included the installation of drip irrigation systems and provision of farm tools and machineries.

development program.

The initial result of the strategic measures pursued by the Province showed that preliminary and partial count of tourist arrivals to the Province registered a 20.75% per cent increase from the 2016 level.

The Financial Stability Sector reports modest accomplishments in terms of improving local revenue generation, bringing about more responsive budget and procurement services and prudent management of expenditures.

In CY 2017, the Province collected a total of Php 350 Million from its local revenue sources, surpassing by 5% its targeted collection of Php 332.6 Million. Tax revenues totaling Php 158 Million, including Php 84 million real property taxes for the Special Education Fund (SEF), accounted for 45%, while non-tax revenues amounting to Php 192 Million accounted for 55%.

The modest strides in local revenue generation has allowed the province to achieve its target of reducing dependency on the Internal Revenue Allotment (IRA) to 75% for 2017, and is, thus, on track of meeting the 70% target for 2018.

The province has appropriated for CY 2017 the amount of Php1.9 billion or a 5% increase

from CY 2016 appropriation. The General Fund appropriation of Php 1.286 billion increased by 24% from its 2016 level. The annual appropriation had a continuing appropriation of Php 325 million from the RA 7171 share of the province.

Total expenditures for 2017 reached Php1.4 billion, with expenditures for Personal Services of Php 467 million accounting for 33%.

The Province has time and again manifested its strict compliance to accounting and auditing rules and regulations as it was given a "Qualified Opinion" by the Commission on Audit for CY 2017. It has punctually submitted all financial reports to various national line agencies while maintaining zero suspensions and disallowances. It has also sustained its creditworthiness for its prompt settlement of its contractual loan obligation with government financing institution like Landbank.

Accomplishments in the Economic Dynamism and Competitiveness Sector, showed that agricultural development addressed the critical challenges of providing food requirements of the growing population in the province that is augmented by the growing number of tourist arrivals. For CY 2017, this sector achieved



significant strides in commodity production with clean rice displaying a sufficiency level of 139 percent, higher than last year's 124 percent record. This also shows that the province had an additional surplus stock good for another 143 days.

Other agricultural commodities also gained significant production increases resulting to increased sufficiency levels, including that for corn with a sufficiency level of 225% higher than last year's 189%.

The fishery sub-sector also sustained its significant performance giving the province a sufficiency level of

107%. This continued to provide better opportunities for our fishery agripreneurs in their fish processing industries such as dried fish making, fish deboning, smoked fish processing and other by-products of the fishery. The support services provided by the province to the fishery sector included the distribution of various fishing gear and paraphernalia.

Livestock also posted increases in production during the year under review, brining sufficiency levels of 127% for beef, 170% for carabeef, 184% for pork, 117% for chevon, and 267% for poultry.

As for regulatory measures, the population was guaranteed safety against infected animals and spread of diseases through the extensive inspection conducted in the quarantine checkpoints established in the provincial gateways.

As for Investments and Tourism Development, an increase was noted on investments generated in the province during the year under review which is attributed to the increase in business registration mostly composed of MSMEs. This is corollary to the province's strategic initiative of providing support to MSMEs thereby expanding the agri-tourism

initiative of providing support to MSMEs thereby expanding the agri-tourism industry of La Union. Thus, in close coordination and cooperative efforts with the DTI, 4,166 MSMEs were developed thru matching with investors and extending fora in franchising and product development.

Taking advantage of this growing effort of our MSMEs, institutional support activities like the annual conduct of the La Union's Fairest continues to be undertaken. For the year 2017, the La Union's Fairest assisted 65 MSMEs in marketing and promotion activities.

Parallel to the increase in investments is the improved/increased local employment trend as recorded by a total of 13,969 individuals employed in various sub-sectors of the industry. As reported by DTI, the trading/services sub-sector contributed the highest employment accommodation of 5,407 during the year under review.

This employment initiatives in the industry sector resulted in the job placement of 1,992 job applicants both for local and overseas employment in 2017. Aside from these, a total of 3,898 job applicants were also referred for local and overseas employment.

Across sectors, Infrastructure support has

been implemented considering its critical role in facilitating growth of investment and tourism as well as the improvement of access to basic services. For the calendar year 2017, a total of 12.60 kilometers of provincial roads were constructed/improved under the DILG KALSADA Program. Likewise, for our locally funded road projects, the province assisted improve internal or inter-local accessibility through the construction and improvement /rehabilitation of farm to market and other local roads.

Under the Resilient Communities Sector, the Provincial Government of La Union improved the services and facilities of the five district hospitals and the La Union Medical Center. The partnership with DOH in the Health Facilities Enhancement Program (HFEP) resulted in the improvement of hospital facilities and procurement of hospital equipment to cater to the growing health care requirements of the people, particularly the poor and needy. The provision of PWD facilities in the five district hospitals were completed and ready for operation as the year 2017 ended. Likewise, the construction of the Decentralized Waste Water Treatment System of Caba District Hospital was



completed.

The province also gained much in its public health program thru the institutionalization of a system of primary health care which is aimed for disease surveillance and prevention. A decrease was noted in the number of maternal death cases from 18 in 2016 to 10 in 2017, and this is attributed to the intensified monitoring of the health and wellness of pregnant women particularly in far flung and depressed areas.

Children were given priority attention in their health care and wellness needs through the PGLU's partnership with DOH and the component LGUs which targeted to decrease the number of children suffering from malnutrition towards reducing the number of childhood mortality and morbidity. As such, around 300 identified underweight and severely underweight children identified from the Operation "Timbang" were benefitted with the Nutri-Outreach Program.

Likewise, 300 mothers were extended nutrition education thru the Nutrition Counseling program.

The province has also managed to lower the number of dengue cases of which La Union achieved a "zero dengue status" in this calendar year 2017. Moreover, the province has also maintained its "zero case malaria" status.

In terms of education, ensuring better access to education by the children and youth population in the province remains to be one of the top priorities of the administration. With the Provincial School Board and the Department of Education-Division of La Union as development partners, the Provincial Government of La Union implemented significant programs to improve the quality of education and ensure a brighter future for children and young people.

Different programs, projects, and activities (PPAs) were undertaken in the areas of Sports Development, Provision of Instructional Materials, Stipend for Science Stream Class, Manpower Augmentation, Infrastructure Development, and Scholarship. Indeed, the Provincial Government ensures that the welfare of

both teachers and students are attended.

As for Peace, Order and Public Safety, as in previous years, the Province of La Union has remained peaceful and orderly. Though crime volume increased by 15.49%, which was mainly caused by a more intensive drive through operations and follow-ups conducted by the law enforcement arms, the crime solution efficiency rate increased by 12.09%.

Project Tokhang continue to be the strongest weapon of the government in its Campaign Against Illegal Drugs as overwhelming results from these operations were accomplished this year.

Through initiatives of the Five Pillars of Criminal Justice System, 202 inmates were maintained and secured by the La Union Provincial Jail, providing them with religious and livelihood activities to aid them in their rehabilitation process.

The accomplishments in the Organizational Accountability and Governance Sector continued to put emphasis on bringing about a

constituent-focused, more responsive, transparent and performance-based PGLU organization. The PGS and ISO initiatives of the province, driven by the aim to institutionalize compliance to the SCLG, have been designed and pursued to increase productivity and efficiency in the delivery of provincial services guided and supported by more responsive and proactive legislative and policy-making environment. Measures were taken to increase public participation and transparency in governance through the regularity of meetings of the provincial Local Special Bodies, conduct of

congresses and summits like the Indigenous People's summit, and enhanced organizational systems and procedures that regularized technical meetings of departments with their municipal counterparts.

The province intensified actions to increase effectiveness and responsiveness of public service delivery. Measures were taken to regularize the review of LGU and NGA plans and project proposals to ascertain their alignment and support to the achievement of the Province's vision to be the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025. Monitoring and evaluation

was conducted for 65 major infrastructure projects, 48 funded under RA7171 and 17 funded from the province's 20% Development Fund. Measures are underway to establish the performance-based departmental and individual staff evaluation system in compliance to the requirements of the SPMS.

This year's performance may be considered modest but has positioned the province to take off and more vigorously pursue in 2018 its journey to become the heart of agri-tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025.



ACCOMPLISHMENT AND COMMITMENT. Gov. Pacoy delivers his second State of the Province Address (SOPA) on May 24, 2018 at Speaker Pro Tempore Francisco I. Ortega Provincial Legislative Building and Session Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union. The SOPA highlights significant achievements and accomplishments towards the province's vision to position La Union as the Heart of Agri-Tourism in Northern Luzon by 2025



Provincial Administrator Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat encourages and uplifts the spirits of the Health Care Providers of La Union District Hospitals in their compliance with ISO 9001:2015 during the conduct of Special Internal Audit on May 9, 2018 at La Union Technology and Livelihood Development Center, City of San Fernando, La Union. Also in the photo is Provincial Health Officer Hector T. Beñas.



Former Senator Ferdinand "Bongbong" R. Marcos Jr. exchanges pleasantries with Immediate past Governor Manuel "Manoling" C. Ortega and Vice Governor Aureo Augusto Q. Nisce during his courtesy visit at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union on May 30, 2018.



Bacnotan District Hospital (BDH) physicians, led by Dr. Zenserly D. Pagaduan, together with founder and president of In His Presence Unto All Nations, Inc. Ministry, Mrs. Joan R. Cabatu (Right) distributes baby apparels to the hospital's admitted patients on May 9, 2018. Said church is based in New Jersey, USA and a partner and donor of BDH since 2015. Its local church counterpart is Peace Sanctuary Fellowship Center, Cabaroan, Bacnotan, La Union. One of their missions is to help babies and children in need by providing them clothing and school supplies.



Gov. Pacoy together with former ABC President Hon. Manuel Victor R. Ortega Jr. poses with the "I Love La Union" hand sign with the Provincial Government of La Union scholars at the Diego Silang Hall, Capitol Building, City of San Fernando, La Union on May 4, 2018.



VOTE CASTED. Gov. Pacoy exercises his right to vote for the Barangay and SK Elections 2018 on May 14, 2018 at his precinct in Canaoy Elementary School, City of San Fernando, La Union.



Provincial Administrator Jennifer Joan O. Manguiat calls the meeting to order during the Management Review for Provincial Government of La Union District Hospitals on May 8, 2018 at the La Union Technology and Livelihood Development Center, City of San Fernando, La Union.



Gov. Pacoy welcomes the newly appointed Civil Defense Administrator for Operations ASEC Nicanor Faeldon with a token of appreciation during his courtesy call on May 3, 2018 at the Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.



GIVING GRATITUDE. Gov. Pacoy awards plaques and tokens of appreciation to Provincial Government of La Union retirees during the First Monday Flag Raising Ceremony on May 7, 2018 at the Provincial Capitol Grounds, City of San Fernando, La Union. Retirees were (L-R) Virginia M. Canave of the Provincial Population Office (PPO); Marlina P. Mayo, Tita A. Halog and Jesusa G. Amuta of the Provincial Health Office (PHO); Wilfredo G. Nariz of the Office of the Provincial Governor Jail (OPG-Jail); Rodolfo P. Manuel of the Office of the Provincial Engineer (PEO) and OPG-Jail; Benito J. Corpuz of the Office of the Provincial Agriculturist (OPAg); and Florante R. Gacayan of the PEO. Not in the photo is Antonio E. Mabalo who is a retiree from PHO.

PGLU CONDUCTS SEMINAR TOWARDS BEING RESPONSIBLE MEN OF THE SOCIETY

Helen Sabado

The Provincial Government of La Union headed by Gov. Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III, through the Provincial Population Office (PPO), conducted an Orientation Seminar on Kalalakihang Tapat sa Responsibilidad at Obligasyon sa Pamilya (KATROPA) to 40 men on May 3, 2018 at Barangay Calincamasan, San Juan, La Union.

This one-day program touched various topics such as Ako Bilang Lalake: Katuwang ng Babae; Ako at ang Akang Kalusugan (Promoting Healthy Lifestyle Among Men); Ako Bilang Ama; Pagpapaganda ng Samahang Magasawa; Pagpapalano ng Pamilya; Lalaki, Tagapagtanggol Laban sa Karahasan (Men as Protector Against Violence); and other catchy topics that pulled together to form the right idea of a responsible man and equity among both gender roles.

This program was conducted to

provide deeper perspective on men's role and to guide them in identifying programs, projects and activities in their localities that will bring out a new idea of gender equality.

Said training is a continuing activity of PPO. This year, the target municipalities where the program will be conducted include Bacnotan, San Juan, Bagulin and Pugo. The participants were recruited by their respective Barangay Service Point Officer (BSPO) and were coordinated to the Barangay Council. Participants composed of men who are head of the family, members of the Barangay Council and Barangay Tanod, Tricycle Associations, Farmers and Fisher folks.

To ensure the sustainability of the program, representative from each municipality will continually monitor the progression of the responses and activity of the localities in the application of what they have learned in KATROPA.



"Ang maayos na pagkasama ay hindi nangyayaring kusa...itong ay pinagayaman at ginagawa," says PPW II Ms. Dahlia S. Martinez on her lecture on "Pagpapaganda ng Samahang Magasawa" during the one-day KATROPA Orientation to men held at Brgy. Calincamasan, San Juan, La Union on May 3, 2018.

PGLU, FUND CAMPAIGN SUPPORTERS RECEIVE RED CROSS RECOGNITION

Camille R. Bumatay

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) and Fund Campaign Supporters receive recognition from Philippine Red Cross (PRC) during its 2018 Fund Campaign and Membership Drive Kick Off and Recognition of Fund Campaign Supporters on May 23, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Among those recognized are Local Government Unit (LGU) supporters; corporate, group, and individual donors; and School Membership and Fund Drive Supporters. Top Performing Supporters in the Membership Drive from LGUs, corporate, group, and individual donors, and schools were also cited.

PRC La Union Chapter Chairman Jonathan Justo A. Orros accepted the Plaque of Recognition for the PGLU.

In his Chairman's Report, Chairman



Philippine Red Cross - La Union Chapter Chairman Jonathan Justo A. Orros accepts the Plaque of Recognition for the Provincial Government of La Union during the Philippine Red Cross' 2018 Fund Campaign and Membership Drive Kick Off and Recognition of Fund Campaign Supporters on May 23, 2018 at the Diego Silang Hall, Provincial Capitol, City of San Fernando, La Union.

Orros talked about the activities and accomplishments of PRC La Union in the fields of Disaster Management, Blood Services, Safety Services, Health Services, Welfare Services, Volunteer Services, and others.

Over 90 participants joined the event. PRC Safety Services Committee Chairman Peter Paul Nang says, "By supporting the Red Cross, you do not only support an organization, you save lives.... This morning when we look at you...we see genuine Philippine heroes."

PRC's new membership program raises funds through member registration with the benefit of using their services instead of simply soliciting from donors. PRC Fund Generation Committee Chairman Alberto Dy says when they shifted to the membership program, it increased PRC's overall revenue to 30%.

ASSESSOR'S LEAGUE OF LU SPONSORS AUTOCAD USAGE AND MAPPING MAINTENANCE TRAINING

Allan Archimedes Bangui

The Municipal Assessors League of La Union (MALLU), in cooperation with the Office of the Provincial Assessors (OPAss), sponsored the First Autocad Software Usage and Mapping Maintenance with related laws on mapping and surveying seminar-workshop on May 9-11, 2018 at Puerto de San Juan Resort, San Juan, La Union.

This activity was conducted to prepare attendees for the General Revision of the 2019 Real Property Assessment and Classification. Municipal assessors of the 19 municipalities of La Union together with their technical staff attended the said seminar.

It is expected that the General Revision of the 2019 Real Property Assessment and Classification will cause some people to consider it as an

additional burden. Thus, before its effectivity, the OPAss and MALLU planned to spread awareness about the benefits that this will bring to the people of the province. After the revision, it is expected that there will be more accurate basis for revenue forecasting and targeting; more transparent and active property market; fair and equitable distribution of the tax burden; improved revenue collection; improved credibility of the Schedule of Market Values; and better informed property owners.

MALLU is headed by its President Engr. Leila P. Valdez. OPAss on the other hand, is headed by Engr. Arnulfo A. Cacho, DPA. These offices strive to make the Province of La Union updated with the latest information on real property and other matters.



Municipal Assessors of the 19 municipalities of La Union actively participate in the First Autocad Software Usage and Mapping Maintenance with Related Laws on Mapping and Surveying Seminar-Workshop on May 9-11, 2018 at Puerto de San Juan Resort, San Juan, La Union. Said training was organized by the Municipal Assessors League of La Union in partnership with the Provincial Assessors Office.

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PGLU AND NCCA LAUNCHES DAP-AYAN LA UNION

Darlene Joy V. Acosta

The Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) in partnership with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), launched the Dap-ayan La Union Center for Culture and the Arts on May 3, 2018 at the Mabanag Justice Hall, La Union Agri-Tourism Center (PasaLubong Center), City of San Fernando, La Union.

Highlights of the program included the ceremonial signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the PGLU and NCCA as well as the ribbon cutting and unveiling of the Dap-ayan marker which signifies that the building is now the official center for culture and the arts in the province, thus, will serve as a venue to cater cultural activities such as trainings; performances; exhibitions; workshops; festivals; stage arts; meetings; conferences; and trade fairs, among others.

Mr. Adamor L. Dagang, Provincial Tourism Officer, started the launching event by welcoming the guests. It was graced by PGLU Officials headed by Gov.



Gov. Pacoy and National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) Chairman and Executive Director, Rico S. Pableo, Jr. sign a Memorandum of Understanding witnessed by the Provincial Government of La Union (PGLU) and NCCA Officials to initiate a strong partnership in conveying the Dap-ayan project on May 3, 2018 at the Mabanag Justice Hall, La Union Agri-Tourism Center (PasaLubong Center), City of San Fernando, La Union.

Francisco Emmanuel "Pacoy" R. Ortega III. Also present were Board Members Nancy Bacurnay, Reynaldo Mosuela, Jonathan Justo Orros, San Gabriel Mayor Herminigildo M. Velasco,

NCCA Chairman and Executive Director, Dir. Rico S. Pableo, Jr., NCCA Head for Arts Section, Mr. Ferdinand P. Isleta and other NCCA Officials, stakeholders and government agency

The rationale of the Dap-ayan project was imparted by Mr. Isleta. He discussed that said project aims to develop existing structure to become a

cultural hub and develop local culture and arts programs that considers the important cultural assets of the community.

Gov. Pacoy gave his message saying that La Union is mixed up of

cultures as it is bounded by Ilocos Sur in the North, Pangasinan in the South and Cordillera in the East which makes the province's culture rich. He also extended his appreciation to NCCA for choosing La Union to be one of its grantees to develop culture and the arts in the province.

In Dir. Pableo's keynote speech, he further stressed that Dap-ayan is an attempt of NCCA to push development beyond the urban cities to the provinces and regional centers. It shall initiate various activities in the areas of Northern Luzon, Central Luzon and Southern Luzon, leading to a culture-based development in the said localities.

A Press Conference on culture and arts in the afternoon was held and a Stakeholders' Forum also took place after the conference to finalize programs of the cultural hub.

Dap-ayan La Union is the first culture and arts hub in Northern Luzon funded by NCCA. Hence, it is eyed to be the main hub for culture and arts in the North.

SP BARES 2018 1ST QUARTER ACCOMPLISHMENT REPORT

Jane T. Flores

The Sangguniang Panlalawigan (SP) conducted a total of 13 sessions this quarter with two out-of-town sessions and a total of 85 guests and visitors attended the SP Sessions as observers in the gallery. The members tackled a total of 122 items in the SP Agenda wherein 93 of which were referred to the appropriate committees for further study and recommendation. 26 items or issues were raised in the privilege speeches and unassigned business and likewise referred to the appropriate committees.

A total of four ordinances were enacted for this quarter and 139 resolutions approved. Most notable among the ordinances enacted include SP Ordinance No. 125-2018 which institutionalizes the medicines and medical supplies consignment system in the Province of La Union; SP Ordinance No. 127-2018 that establishes the Bungol Provincial Farm School at Bungol, Balaogan, La Union and SP Ordinance 128-2018 establishing the 24-hour cash pharmacy of the five District Hospitals in La Union as Revenue Enhancement Program of the Provincial Government of La Union

(PGLU) to be treated as Special Trust Fund Account and Appropriating Funds Thereof.

The SP approved 139 resolutions; 34 resolutions for review of local resolutions and ordinances, 32 resolutions for review of local budgets, 20 resolutions for commendations and congratulations, seven resolutions each for MOAs/MOUs and condolences, six resolutions for administrative related matters in the PGLU, five resolutions each for agriculture-related and PGLU contracts and/or loans, four resolutions each for environment-related and administrative cases filed before the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, two resolutions each for NGOs/CSOs; Agri-Tourism and Finance and one resolution each for constitutional amendments and public safety.

Five ordinances were published for this quarter. They are SP Ordinance No. 118-2017 or the LA UNION IRON-FORTIFIED RICE ORDINANCE OF 2017; SP Ordinance No. 123-2017 or the ACT PROHIBITING THE ACTS OF VANDALISM IN ALL PUBLIC PARKS AND AREAS OF PUBLIC DOMAIN WITHIN THE PROVINCE

OF LA UNION; SP Ordinance No. 125-2018 or the INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE MEDICINES AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES CONSIGNMENT SYSTEM IN THE PROVINCE OF LA UNION; SP Ordinance No. 127-2018 or the ACT ESTABLISHING THE BUNGOL PROVINCIAL FARM SCHOOL AT BUNGOL, BALAOAN, LA UNION AND PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF; and SP Ordinance No. 128-2018 or the ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE 24-HOUR CASH PHARMACY OF THE FIVE DISTRICT HOSPITALS AS REVENUE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM OF THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT OF LA UNION TO BE TREATED AS SPECIAL TRUST FUND ACCOUNT AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREOF.

A total of 25 privilege speeches were delivered. Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member Bellarmin A. Flores II delivered the most number of speeches with eight speeches; followed by Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member Reynaldo M. Mosuela with seven speeches; Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member Maria Annabelle S. de Guzman with five speeches; Sangguniang Panlalawigan

Member Ruperto A. Rillera, Jr. with four speeches and Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member Nancy Corazon M. Bacurnay with three speeches.

26 communications or letter-requests were received from the Office of the Provincial Governor and were all acted upon through appropriate legislation.

In terms of the workings of the committees, a total of 110 committee meetings and eight committee hearings were conducted and 41 committee reports were adopted. As to administrative cases, one administrative case was resolved for the first quarter.

There are eight legislative articles submitted and published in the Baro a Timek ti Kapitolio and in the PGLU website.

In terms of the attendance of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan Members SPM Francisco "Kit" C. Ortega, Jr., SPM Reynaldo M. Mosuela, SPM Carlo castor U. Concepcion, SPM Annabelle S. de Guzman, SPM Christian I. Rivera, SPM Ruperto A. Rillera, Jr. and SPM Bellarmin A. Flores II perfected their attendance for the quarter with 13 sessions.

