


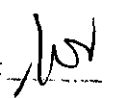
SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE

P.S. Resolution No. 1642

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO LOOK INTO THE POWERS AND MANDATE OF THE MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY, IN LIGHT OF THE ESCALATING NEWS REPORTS ON THE ALLEGED TANIM-BALA OR LAGLAG BALA EXTORTION ACTIVITIES WITHIN ITS PREMISES, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF FORMULATING MEASURES, IF ANY, TO ENSURE THE SAFETY OF FLIGHT PASSENGERS AGAINST THESE ABUSES

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 6 of the Philippine Constitution states that one's right to travel shall not be impaired except in the interest of national security, public safety, or public health;

WHEREAS, the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) is mandated to provide safe, efficient and reliable airport facilities for international and domestic air travel as well as help encourage and promote international and domestic air traffic in the country as a means of making the Philippines a center of international and domestic air travel;¹

WHEREAS, the MIAA commits to uplift the Philippines by providing exceptional airport services through professionalism, unity, and commitment of management, ensured customer security and continuous development that suits evolving global standards at the service of international and local market;²

WHEREAS, on 26 October 2015, news broke out about another Tanim-Bala or Laglag Bala incident at the NAIA Terminal 2, the victim being a 56 year old woman known as "Nanay Gloria" earning her living as a domestic helper in Hong Kong for twenty-six (26) years;

WHEREAS, news reports show that while the victim was at NAIA Terminal 2, waiting for her flight to Hong Kong for work, a carbine bullet was allegedly found in her luggage;

WHEREAS, the accusation against the OFW appear to be contrary to her her profile and circumstances considering that she already went through similar airport security coming from Laoag City and it would appear that she is more a victim of the Laglag Bala or Tanim-Bala *modus operandi*;

WHEREAS, the case of Nanay Gloria is just one case among the many cases that have been reported on the Tanim-Bala or Laglag Bala *modus operandi* and which

¹ Executive Order No. 778, as amended by Executive Order No. 903.

² http://125.60.203.88/miaa/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=27&Itemid=37

has created a paranoid atmosphere within airport terminals, contrary to the mandate and mission statement of the MIAA;

WHEREAS, in a hearing conducted by the Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises last 27 October 2015 on the issue of integration of the International Passenger Service Charge (IPSC), the issue on the "Tanim-Bala" *modus operandi* was briefly discussed and General Manager Jose Angel Honrado claimed that he will be responsible for the alleged activities despite it being under the Office of Transport Security;³

WHEREAS, it is not this kind of lip service that is hoped for in this country, but that all agencies and organizations, all sixteen (16) of them working within the airport terminals as General Manager Honrado stated during the hearing, be responsible in working together to bring back the safety of our airport terminals;

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, there is a need to review and look into the mandate of the MIAA, including the mechanisms in place within Philippine airports, in ensuring that flight passengers are safe and secure while within its premises;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to the appropriate Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to look into the powers and mandate of the Manila International Airport Authority, in light of the escalating news reports on the alleged Tanim-Bala or Laglag Bala extortion activities within its premises, with the end in view of formulating measures, if any, to ensure the safety of flight passengers against these abuses;

Adopted,


CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

³ In answer to a query made by former Cong. Señeres, General Manager Honrado stated:

"Ngayon doon sa sagot po kay Congressman Señeres, alam naman po niyo na iyong laglag balang iyan is a big issue. At alam naman po ninyo siguro na iyong tao doon hindi under ng MIA, alam niyong OTS po iyan, Office of Transport Security, that they are single authority na hindi under sa ano. Alam po ninyo iyon.

But being the general manager, I accept the responsibility dahil ako po ang general manager ng loob. Labing anim pong agency ang nandiyan sa airport, government agency, and each one of them is dependently trying to come up with their own mandate. But I'm accepting."