

Office of the President  
of the Philippines  
Malacañang

18 May 2020

**SEN. VICENTE C. SOTTO III**  
Senate President  
The Philippine Senate  
Pasay City

Mr. Senate President:

We respectfully transmit herewith the 8th Report of the President to the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee pursuant to Section 5 of Republic Act No. 11469, otherwise known as the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act.

Best regards.

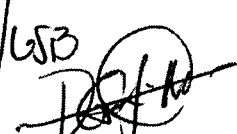
Very truly yours,

  
**SALVADOR C. MEDIALDEA**  
Executive Secretary

Copy furnished:

**Rep. Alan Peter S. Cayetano**  
Speaker of the House  
House of Representatives  
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

**Sec. Adelino B. Sitoy**  
Head  
Presidential Legislative Liaison Office  
2/F New Executive Bldg.  
Malacañang, Manila

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**Robert A. Castro**  
05/18/2020 8:07 pm

**REPORT TO THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL  
OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

**MONDAY, 18 MAY 2020**

In compliance with Section 5 of Republic Act (RA) No. 11469 or the “*Bayanihan* to Heal as One Act,” I respectfully submit this eighth weekly report summarizing the major updates and significant developments on the programs and activities of 89 departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the Executive branch, relative to our whole of government response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of these updates were reported to the Office of the Executive Secretary on **15 May 2020 (Friday)**.

As parts of the country start transitioning from an Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) to a Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) or General Community Quarantine (GCQ) pursuant to the resolutions of the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF), I recognize that the future poses profound challenges for our nation and our countrymen. While we are slowly reopening the economy, our commitment to protect and maintain the health of our people remains as top priority. I shall continue to judiciously exercise all the powers of government, including those granted under RA No. 11469, and to optimize all available government resources in dealing with the COVID-19 and its effects, strengthening our health system capacities through enhanced detection and isolation measures, providing relief to the vulnerable and those most in need, and leading the way for our country to move forward. Through the resilience and fortitude of the Filipino, I am certain that we will all overcome these difficult times.

As in the previous reports, the discussion is focused on the four (4) major objectives of: (1) Providing Emergency Assistance to all Affected Sectors; (2) Securing Facilities and Resources for the Health Sector and Other Frontliners; (3) Establishing Sound Fiscal and Monetary Actions that are Responsive to all Stakeholders; and (4) Formulating a Responsive and Sustainable Recovery Plan. This report also includes responses to the questions and observations of the members of the Senate, and incorporates proposals for a more effective implementation of RA No. 11469 consistent with the declared policy therein.

**I. Providing Emergency Assistance to all Affected Sectors**

*Update on the Social Amelioration Programs (SAPs)*

Updates on the implementation of the Emergency Subsidy Program pursuant to Section 4 (c)<sup>1</sup> and (cc)<sup>2</sup> of RA No. 11469, particularly the: (1) Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situation Program (AICS) of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD); (2) the COVID-19 Adjustment Measures Program (CAMP) for Affected Formal Workers; (3) CAMP *Abot-Kamay ang Pagtulong* (AKAP) for Displaced Overseas Filipinos Workers (OFWs); (4) *Tulong Panghanapbuhay para sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers* (TUPAD) of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE); and (5) the Financial Subsidy for Rice Farmers (FSRF) of the Department of Agriculture (DA), are summarized in **Table 1**, as follows:

**Table 1: Summary of implementation of SAPs**

	Imple- menting Agency	Program	Estimated Beneficiaries	No. of Beneficiaries Served	Allotted Amount	Remarks
1.	DSWD	AICS	17,933,769	16,996,999 as	PhP101,419	Total disbursed amount is

			<p>Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4,287,676<sup>3</sup> Million (Pantawid Familyang Pilipino Program beneficiaries [4Ps])</li> <li>• 13,556,093 (Non-4Ps)</li> <li>• 90,000 [Transport Network Vehicle Service (TNVS) and Public Utility Vehicles (PUVs) in the National Capital Region (NCR)]</li> </ul>	<p>of 15 May 2020</p> <p>Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4,134,133 (4Ps)<sup>4</sup></li> <li>• 12,800,838 (Non-4Ps)</li> <li>• 62,028 (TNVS and PUVs in NCR)</li> </ul>	<p>,632,900.00</p> <p>Breakdown:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PhP18,574,901,400.00 (4Ps)</li> <li>• PhP82,124,731,500.00 (Non-4Ps)</li> <li>• PhP720,000,000.00 (TNVS and PUVs in NCR)</li> </ul>	<p>PhP100,617,268,500.00 of which PhP96,028,089,950.00 has been received by the beneficiaries.</p> <p>For 4Ps: Total disbursed amount is PhP18,436,079,850.00, of which PhP17,979,240,450.00 has been received by the beneficiaries.</p> <p>For non-4Ps: Total disbursed amount is PhP81,684,964,650.00, of which PhP77,552,625,500.00 has been received by the beneficiaries.</p> <p>For TNVS and PUVs in NCR: Total disbursed amount, which has already been received by the beneficiaries is PhP496,224,000.00.</p>
2.	DOLE	CAMP for affected formal workers	657,201 workers/beneficiaries	649,573 workers/beneficiaries (98.83%)	PhP3.286 Billion	The utilized amount is PhP3.247 Billion
3.	DOLE	CAMP AKAP for displaced OFWs	Estimated total beneficiaries: 150,000 On-site OFWs - 100,00 Repatriated - 50,000	104,574 OFW beneficiaries paid (69.71%)	PhP1.5 Billion	The utilized amount is PhP1.167 Billion
4.	DOLE	TUPAD for informal workers	337,198 workers/beneficiaries	309,414 workers/beneficiaries (91.67%)	PhP1.264 Billion	The utilized amount is PhP1.179 Billion
5.	DA	FSRF <sup>5</sup>	591,246 rice farmers	525,478 as of 12 May 2020	PhP 3 Billion	PhP 2.956 Billion has been transferred to the Land Bank of the Philippines (LBP) <sup>6</sup>

The Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) continues to monitor the compliance of local government units (LGUs) in the distribution of SAPs to low-income families in their localities, with a total of 1,370 out of 1,634 LGUs nationwide<sup>7</sup> having been able to meet the 10 May 2020 deadline in the distribution of the first tranche of the emergency cash aid. Below is the breakdown of the payouts to non-4Ps beneficiaries per region as of 14 May 2020:

Table 2. Summary of payouts to non-4Ps beneficiaries per region as of 14 May 2020.

Field Office	Total No. of LGUs	No. of Target Low Income Non-4Ps	Budget Allocation	Funds Downloaded to LGUs (Based on DSWD's Finance and Management Service Financial Report)	LGUs with Funds	Payout (as of 14 May 2020)	No. of Beneficiaries Paid (With accomplishment rate)
I	125	798,206	PhP4,390,133,000.00	PhP4,363,727,500.00	125	PhP4,218,406,500.00	766,983 (96.09%)
II	93	593,973	PhP3,266,851,500.00	PhP3,213,419,000.00	93	PhP3,045,476,500.00	553,723 (93.22%)
CAR	77	255,676	PhP1,406,218,000.00	PhP1,338,748,150.00 <sup>8</sup>	77	PhP1,284,074,000.00	233,468 (91.31%)
III	130	1,515,847	PhP9,853,005,500.00	PhP9,811,184,500.00	130	PhP9,506,581,500.00	1,462,551 (96.48%)
NCR	17	1,558,615	PhP12,468,920,000.00	PhP12,468,920,000.00	17	PhP12,038,800,000.00	1,504,850 (96.55%)
IV-A	142	1,929,422	PhP12,641,973,500.00	PhP12,641,973,500.00	142	PhP12,175,917,000.00	1,873,218 (97.09%)
IV-B	73	416,246	PhP2,081,230,000.00	PhP2,077,445,000.00	73	PhP1,959,575,000.00	391,915 (94.15%)
V	114	772,287	PhP3,861,435,000.00	PhP3,861,435,000.00	114	PhP3,861,435,000.00	772,287 (100%)
VI	133	1,153,784	PhP6,922,704,000.00	PhP6,922,704,000.00	133	PhP6,301,404,000.00	1,050,234 (91.03%)
VII	132	1,058,075	PhP6,348,450,000.00	PhP6,343,218,000.00	132	PhP5,734,194,000.00	955,699 (90.32%)
VIII	143	591,612	PhP2,980,470,000.00	PhP2,980,470,000.00	143	PhP2,697,555,000.00	539,511 (91.19%)
IX	72	403,185	PhP2,015,925,000.00	PhP2,007,170,000.00	71 <sup>9</sup>	PhP1,988,530,000.00	397,706 (98.64%)
X	93	623,590	PhP3,769,458,000.00	PhP3,769,458,000.00	93	PhP3,670,128,000.00	611,688 (98.09%)
XI	49	690,083	PhP4,140,498,000.00	PhP4,113,282,000.00	49	PhP3,813,144,000.00	635,524 (92.09%)
XII	50	709,417	PhP3,547,085,000.00	PhP3,341,435,000.00	50	PhP3,302,295,000.00	660,459 (93.10%)
CARAG A	73	305,096	PhP1,525,480,000.00	PhP1,525,480,000.00	73	PhP1,525,480,000.00	305,096 (100%)
BARMM	118 <sup>10</sup>	180,979	PhP904,895,000.00	PhP904,895,000.00	NA	PhP429,630,000.00	85,926 (47.48%)
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1,634</b>	<b>13,556,093</b>	<b>PhP82,124,731,500.00</b>	<b>PhP81,684,964,650.00</b>	<b>1,515<sup>11</sup></b>	<b>PhP77,552,625,500.00</b>	<b>12,800,838 (94.43%)</b>

As of 14 May 2020, a total of 43 mayors have been issued show cause orders by the DILG to explain their poor/slow distribution of the financial aid despite the extension of their deadline for distribution of the first tranche. Additionally, a total of 183 barangay officials were investigated by the Philippine National Police (PNP) for alleged anomalies on SAPs distribution, such as pocketing of cash aid intended for qualified beneficiaries. Meanwhile, 36,699 barangays have complied with the directive of the DILG to post the list of SAPs beneficiaries in a conspicuous place in their respective barangays, as well as in their respective websites.

As of 14 May 2020, a total of 155,523 agrarian reform beneficiary (ARB) identification cards have been distributed by the Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR) under its ARB ID System to facilitate access to the existing SAPs, the "PaSSOver: ARBold Move for Deliverance of our Farmers from the COVID-19 Pandemic" project<sup>12</sup> of the DAR, and other relief operations of the government and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

With regard to other relief assistance, as of 15 May 2020, the DSWD has provided relief assistance to affected families amounting to PhP335,712,575.20,<sup>13</sup>

which consists of: 794,520 family food packs (FPs),<sup>14</sup> 5,500 ready-to-eat food, 9,956 sacks of rice, 17 boxes of sardines, 13 boxes of coffee, 9,905 hygiene kits, 811 sleeping kits, 329 family kits, 859 pieces of *malong*, 185 pieces of flexi mats, 1,046 laminated sacks, and 24 pieces of pillow.<sup>15</sup> A detailed list of augmentation support per region is shown in **Annex A**.

#### *SAP for Small Businesses*

We have continued distributing assistance to employees of small businesses through the Small Business Wage Subsidy (SBWS) program. As of 14 May 2020, a total of Php20.4 Billion in cash grants has been released by the Social Security System (SSS) to 2,654,155 employee-beneficiaries of the SBWS program.<sup>16</sup> On 13 May 2020, the Bureau of the Treasury transferred Php25.5 Billion to the Development Bank of the Philippines (DBP) for the 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche payout of the SBWS program.

To ensure that there is no duplication in benefits received from the SBWS and CAMP, the DOLE is sharing its list of CAMP beneficiaries with the Department of Finance (DOF) and the SSS. Employers were also asked to disclose in their SBWS application which employees have received assistance under the CAMP.<sup>17</sup> CAMP beneficiaries who are also approved under the SBWS program will receive the latter subsidy less the Php5,000.00 already received under the CAMP. To facilitate the reversal, Php5,000 pesos will be deducted from the 2<sup>nd</sup> tranche payouts. The DOF estimates that the SBWS program, running parallel with SAPs implemented by other government agencies, cover more than 85% of the estimated 24 Million families in the country.<sup>18</sup>

#### *Transportation, Repatriation, and Mobility Assistance to Health Workers, Frontliners, OFWs, Stranded Passengers, Foreign Nationals in the Country, and Other Entities or Individuals*

We continue to provide transportation assistance to ferry health workers, frontliners, OFWs, and other persons in need; logistical assistance in the distribution of medical supplies and food relief; assistance and emergency response to vehicles, passengers, and stranded seafarers; and repatriation services for OFWs and foreigners.

The following table provides updates on the assistance we have extended to Filipinos overseas and foreign nationals who were affected by worldwide travel restrictions.

**Table 3. Assistance to OFWs and Foreign Nationals**

	<b>Implementing Agency</b>	<b>Form of Assistance</b>	<b>Number of Beneficiaries Served</b>
1.	Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA)	Repatriation of OFWs	1,096 beneficiaries, consisting of 1,051 sea-based workers and 45 land-based workers (08 May to 13 May 2020)
		Monitoring of total OFWs infected with COVID-19	2,322 OFWs (400 additional cases as of 08 May to 14 May 2020)
2.	Department of Tourism (DOT)	Assistance in the repatriation of foreign tourists	25,920 stranded foreign tourists were assisted (since 30 March)
		Assistance to domestic tourists	8,479 domestic tourists were assisted; 7 DOT-mounted sweeper flights bound for Manila were arranged and 4 sweeper flights were assisted (as of 08 May)

	Implementing Agency	Form of Assistance	Number of Beneficiaries Served
		Tourist care kits and vouchers	1,085 tourist care vouchers worth Php2,000 each were distributed (since 10 April)
3.	DOLE - Overseas Workers Welfare Administration	Food, transportation and accommodation assistance	35,385 stranded workers and repatriated OFWs
4.	Philippine Overseas Employment Administration	Various forms of assistance	201 OFWs
5.	Bureau of Immigration (BI)	Facilitated immigration formalities	4,461 passengers in repatriation flights and 1,616 passengers of special or sweeper flights
6.	Maritime Industry Authority	Mobile <i>Malasakit</i> Help Desks and <i>Salubong</i> Teams	30,439 repatriated seafarers
7.	Manila International Airport Authority	<i>Libreng Sakay</i> Program	1,370 OFWs from 08 May to 14 May 2020

### *Protection of Consumers and Related Measures*

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), in coordination with the PNP-Crime Investigation and Detection Group and the National Bureau of Investigation, continues to conduct operations for the apprehension of persons/entities violating RA No. 7581 or the "Price Act." Similarly the DA, through its *Bantay Presyo Task Force*, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR), and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) continue to conduct prices monitoring operations over major markets and establishments nationwide.

### *Other Assistance to Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), and Productive Sectors<sup>19</sup>*

The DA, through the Agricultural Credit Policy Council, continues to offer zero-interest loans to marginalized and small farmers and fisherfolk (MSFFs) and agri-fishery based micro and small enterprises (MSEs) under the Expanded SURE Aid and Recovery Project, the details of which are summarized below:

**Table 4. Status of Other Assistance from the DA**

	Target Beneficiaries	Number of Beneficiaries Served	Allotted Amount (in PhP)	Utilized Amount (in PhP)
MSFFs	40,000	4,751 as of 12 May 2020	1 Billion	432.792 Million
Agri-fishery based MSEs <sup>20</sup>	150	26 as of 12 May 2020	1.5 Billion	193.5 Million

Department of Science and Technology (DOST) agencies and regional offices are offering online seminars and trainings for MSMEs, such as "food safety emergency preparedness and response," "navigating financials through the new normal," and a webinar series entitled "*#Bangon: Bayanihan Tungo sa Pagbangon*," which was participated by almost 300 MSMEs under the Small Enterprise Technology Upgrading Program, focused on helping MSMEs adjust and prepare for the new norms in the business playing field.

For the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter of 2020, 16 regional offices of the DTI received a total of Php81.982 Million for the Livelihood Seeding-*Negosyo Serbisyo sa Barangay* Program, which aims to provide appropriate livelihood kits to qualified beneficiaries.

The Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) reports that MSME loans with a performing status, to the extent guaranteed by a qualified Credit Surety Fund, are

assigned a preferential risk weight of 20% under the BSP's Risk-Based Capital Adequacy Framework. The assignment of preferential risk weight allows banks to extend more credit to the MSME sector.<sup>21</sup>

*Access to Agri-Fishery Products and Ensuring an Uninterrupted Supply Chain<sup>22</sup>*

The DAR is assisting ARB organizations (ARBOs) in marketing their agricultural products through the establishment of Task Force Food ARBoost and the continued implementation of the Enhanced Partnership Against Hunger and Poverty Program and the Convergence on Livelihood Assistance for Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries Program. From 16 March to 14 May 2020, a total sale of PhP466.10 Million was generated by 2,115 ARBOs.

Similar to the previous weeks, the Sugar Regulatory Administration estimates that there is sufficient supply of raw sugar and refined sugar stocks, which are good for four (4) months and five (5) months, respectively.

The DTI continues to implement its *Diskwento Caravan* and the *Kadiwa ni Ani at Kita* or *Kadiwa Diskwento Karavan* in collaboration with the DA in various locations nationwide, to allow producers of agricultural products and manufacturers of basic necessities and prime commodities to directly sell their products to consumers at prices 10% to 15% lower than the Suggested Retail Prices (SRPs).

Last week, the DA launched the e-*Kadiwa* to allow consumers to order fruits and vegetables online to be delivered by partner applications such as Grab. This is in addition to the ongoing efforts and programs of the DA and other government agencies to ensure the seamless movement of agri-fishery goods to consumers in the ECQ areas, the details of which are discussed in the table below.

Table 5. Summary of Programs and Efforts to Ensure Access to Agri-Fishery Products

Implementing Agency	Program	Beneficiaries Served
DA	<i>Kadiwa ni Ani at Kita</i> (KAK) project <sup>23</sup>	
	KAK-On Wheels	254 barangays and 51 subdivisions in the NCR and 586 cities and municipalities in other regions nationwide since the implementation of the ECQ to 12 May 2020
	KAK-Online	Five (5) cities within NCR and 65 cities and municipalities in Regions CAR, I, IV-A, and VI since the implementation of the ECQ to 12 May 2020
	KAK-Retail Selling	Manila City, Quezon City, Rizal, and 528 cities and municipalities in other regions nationwide since the implementation of the ECQ to 12 May 2020
	KAK Express	Delivered 32,728.63 MT of fruits and vegetables from Nueva Vizcaya and Benguet agri-trading centers to Metro Manila from 15 April to 12 May 2020
	Urban Agriculture Program	1,012,847 households and individuals nationwide benefitted from the distribution of assorted vegetable seeds and starter kits to communities, schools, military camps, and LGUs; <sup>24</sup> 23 e-Learning Courses on backyard gardening and household urban agricultures have been conducted by the Agriculture Training Institute of the DA <sup>25</sup>
	Distribution of livestock	7,202 individuals since the implementation of ECQ to 12 May 2020
Food passes	142,609 producers and distributors <sup>26</sup> since the implementation of the ECQ to 12 May 2020	
Philippine Fisheries Development	KAK-IsDA on the Go program	Sold 35,009.50 kg. of fish and fishery products at affordable prices benefitting 547,023 individuals since the implementation of the ECQ to 12 May 2020

Implementing Agency		Program	Beneficiaries Served
Authority	Others		Unloading of 103,202.90 MT of fish nationwide from 23 March 2020 to 12 May 2020
BFAR	Distribution of seedstock, seaweed seedlings/propagules, and fishing gears		4,635 fish farmers from 03 April to 12 May 2020 utilizing a total of PhP24.45 Million
	Establishment of production-related technology demonstration projects		38 fish farmers from 03 April to 12 May 2020 utilizing a total of PhP3.52 Million
	Local transport permits		32,257 producers and distributor from 03 April to 12 May 2020

The DA is preparing its Food Logistics Plan to address the imbalance in food supply and demand as a result of the limitations in transportation and operations. Further, the DA, through the KAK project, is working with agencies in-charge of delivering Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) to Visayas and Mindanao to backload the excess pork in those areas to be brought to Luzon.<sup>27</sup>

#### *Assistance to Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDLs)*

The Board of Pardons and Parole (BPP) has started processing applications for executive clemency pursuant to BPP Resolution No. OT-04-15-2020 or the "Interim Rules on Parole and Executive Clemency." To expedite the processing of applications, notices to parties have been waived in accordance with the Interim Rules. PDLs whose applications for parole and executive clemency will be granted, shall undergo a mandatory quarantine period of 14 days prior to release.

To manage the spread of COVID-19 in the prison facilities of the Bureau of Corrections, two (2) quarantine facilities, one in the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) and another in the Correctional Institute for Women, have been set up, each manned by two (2) doctors and 17 nurses. Another quarantine facility inside the NBP Compound will be built with the help of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH).

In support of the jail decongestion efforts of the National Government, the Public Attorney's Office (PAO) has continuously rendered legal assistance to PDLs. Significantly, from 16 March to 05 May 2020, the PAO was able to secure the release of a total of 4,348 PDLs. Additionally, pursuant to its mandate to render legal assistance to indigent persons, the PAO has already assisted 9,214 persons during inquest proceedings and has represented 1,233 persons in court for the period of 16 March 2020 to 23 April 2020.

#### *Ensuring Water and Energy Supply<sup>28</sup>*

As of 6:00 a.m. of 14 May 2020, the water level in the Angat reservoir decreased from last week's 189.28 meters to this week's 187.75 meters, which is still 7.75 meters above the minimum operating water level of 180 meters and 13.56 meters higher compared to the water level on the same date last year. The water level in the Ipo Dam increased from last week's 99.86 meters to this week's 100.03 meters while the La Mesa Dam decreased from last week's 76.46 meters to this week's 76.02 meters respectively. The decrease in the water level in La Mesa Dam is due to the extraction by Manila Water Company, Inc. to augment their water supply in order to respond to customer demand. Per projections as of 15 May 2020, Typhoon *Ambo* was expected to bring 30 millimeters (mm) to 50 mm of rainfall to the Angat watershed.



To augment the water supply of Metro Manila, the DA's Bureau of Soils and Water Management (BSWM) continued its cloud seeding operations (CSO) by conducting 14 sorties at the Angat Watershed with a total of 192 sacks (25kg/sack) of salt disposed in the clouds on 12 May 2020. The BSWM shall extend their CSO to the Ipo and La Mesa watersheds depending on the availability of seedable clouds in said areas.

As for the energy supply, excess capacity over peak demand in electricity was once again displayed by the country's major island grids – Luzon at 23% (2,694 MW), Visayas at 27% (664 MW), and Mindanao at 35% (932 MW).<sup>29</sup> The highest peak demand on each grid was recorded at 9,279 MW in Luzon (13 May 2020), 1,861 MW in Visayas (11 May 2020), and 1,795 MW in Mindanao (07 May 2020).

The inventory of crude oil and petroleum products stood at 53.8 days<sup>30</sup> equivalent to 3,142 million liters. The inventory level consisted of 41.7 days in-country stocks (on-shore), and 12.2 days of crude oil and petroleum products that are still in-transit.

#### *Other Forms of Assistance and Partnership with LGUs*

In addition to the SAPs, the DSWD – through its regular AICS – has catered to 53,391 clients<sup>31</sup> for COVID-related concerns (e.g., requests for medical or burial assistance). Also, a total of 905,901 indigent senior citizens have received their social pension for the first semester of 2020 and/or their unpaid social pension for 2019, in the total amount of PHP2,717,703,000.00.

As of 13 May 2020, the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) has released a total net proceeds of PHP2.70 Billion in Emergency Loans to 159,657 active members and old-age pensioners. This is in addition to the PHP111.17 Million granted to 2,485 active members and pensioners who applied for Consolidated Loan, Policy Loan, and Pension Loan online. Likewise, a total net proceeds of PHP1.06 Billion was also released to 39,353 active members and pensioners who applied for loan through the GSIS Wireless Automated Processing System or the "GW@PS Kiosks." Moreover, the GSIS has ensured the continued receipt of pensions by its 519,087 pensioners. For the months of March to May 2020, the GSIS has released a total of PHP17.3 Billion in pensions. The GSIS has also allocated a total of PHP8 Million in support of its program called Adopt Local Isolation and General Treatment Areas (LIGTAS) COVID Centers, which aims to extend financial assistance to various LIGTAS COVID Centers in the country.

The DOT-Nayong Pilipino Foundation (NPF) continues to implement its *Damayan sa Nayon* project, which strategically responds to the needs of artists and cultural workers. It has five (5) components, as follows: (1) *Umpukan sa Nayon*, an online consultation platform for the NPF and cultural workers; (2) short-term amelioration or NPF crisis response; (3) creation of a database of human resources in arts and culture; (4) a survival and recovery phase; and (5) a long-term program that will complement NPF's ongoing policy research projects.

At this point, I express my appreciation of the efforts exerted by LGUs and the Bayanihan spirit overwhelmingly demonstrated by NGOs and the private sector, all of which have extended a helping hand to our countrymen during this critical time, above and beyond all expectations. The DSWD has recorded relief assistance ranging from

FPs, canned goods, ready-to-eat food, hygiene kits, masks, alcohol, etc., provided by the LGUs amounting to PhP10,875,045,593.73, from NGOs amounting to PhP362,010,589.83, and private partners in the amount of PhP29,268,245.56.<sup>32</sup> We should add to this all the assistance from private partners and donors which have been given directly to beneficiaries. While not all may have been documented in official records, they are without doubt substantial and of immense benefit, both to our frontliners and the low-income families. Their contributions, hand-in-hand with the government's efforts, have been critical in easing the impact of the COVID-19.

The DILG is continuously monitoring LGUs relative to their compliance with the rules and guidelines enforced during the ECQ. As of 14 May 2020, a total of 74 provinces, 134 cities, 1,346 municipalities and 32,396 barangays have been found compliant with the ECQ guidelines.

### *Assistance to Students, Educators, and Educational Institutions*

In lieu of a policy on mass promotion of students, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) gave higher educational institutions (HEIs) the discretion to determine the best system for providing grades to their students. The CHED further clarified that the call for mass promotion presumes that there is no basis for HEIs to compute their respective students' grades. This, however, does not appear to be the case for a majority of HEIs, especially those still using the old academic calendar year (June to May), as their semesters were about to end when the ECQ was imposed. The HEIs using the new academic calendar year (August to May), on the other hand, have adopted flexible learning systems and thus have both capacity and basis to give numerical grades. According to the CHED, of the 99 state universities and colleges (SUCs) it surveyed, only six (6) decided to implement mass promotion while 91 will give a numerical grade based on course requirements submitted by the students.<sup>33</sup>

The CHED has recorded a total number of 6,262 stranded students requesting transportation assistance from their school. The list of students has been shared with the DOTr.

The Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) continues to provide training support funds for on-board TESDA scholars who are enrolled in the alternative learning system. 26,246 scholars have been provided training allowances amounting to PhP103,453,389.60.

## II. Securing Facilities and Resources for the Health Sector and Other Frontliners

### *Human Resources for Health (HRH)*

As of 15 May 2020, the DOH has approved 5,601 slots for emergency hiring in 121 health facilities such as hospitals and quarantine facilities. Out of the 5,601 slots approved, 1,759 HRH have been hired and deployed to 31 hospitals and quarantine facilities managed by the Bureau of Quarantine (BOQ).<sup>34</sup> A total of 1,255 HRH or 79% is to be assigned in the NCR. Under the DOH HRH Deployment Program, a total of 756 nurses (167 in Luzon and 589 in Visayas and Mindanao) were temporarily redeployed to augment the capacity of health care institutions.

## Referral Hospitals, COVID-19 Bed Capacity, and Equipment

We continue to increase the country's capacity to handle COVID-19 related cases. As of 14 May 2020, there are 1,845 COVID-19 referral and accepting hospitals across the country, with 24 designated DOH COVID-referral hospitals and 49 other DOH accepting hospitals across the country. In total, there are 13,408 dedicated beds for COVID-19 with an average of 39.7% occupancy rate, broken down as follows: DOH COVID-19 referral hospitals – 54%, other DOH accepting hospitals – 41%, LGUs and other government hospitals – 31.6%, and private hospitals – 42.6%. The total reported number of mechanical ventilators remains at 1,937, of which 81.3% are available.

### Quarantine Facilities

The DPWH, other agencies, and LGUs continue to establish new and manage existing evacuation centers utilized as health/quarantine facilities, emergency operation centers, food hubs, and quarters for health workers.

As of 15 May 2020, 72 out of 117 converted evacuation centers are already being utilized. An additional evacuation center was converted into a health/quarantine facility in Region IX, bringing the total number of such facilities to 52. These regional health/quarantine facilities have served a total of 844 persons from 789 persons that was reported on 11 May 2020, as illustrated in **Table 6** below:

**Table 6: Distribution of Evacuation Centers converted into Health or Quarantine Facilities**

Region	No. of Evacuation Centers being Used as Health/ Quarantine Facilities	Estimated / Target Capacity per Region	Persons Served Per Region
CAR	1	65	-
I	10	223	37
II	2	70	4
III	2	67	198 (+29)
IV-A	3	122	94
IV-B	2	200	114
V	2	64	96 (+10)
VI	6	280	45
VII	8	280	91
VIII	3	92	38 (+3)
IX	4	120	22 (+13)
X	1	65	-
XI	3	85	32
XII	2	60	2
XIII	3	120	71
<b>Total</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>1,913</b>	<b>844</b>

**Table 7** below shows a summary of completed converted quarantine centers, including those with ongoing or planned conversions (excluding evacuation centers), and their respective capacities.

**Table 7: Facilities Converted or for Conversion into Quarantine Centers<sup>35</sup>**

	Facility Name	Estimated / Target Capacity	Date of Completion/ Occupancy <sup>36</sup>
1.	Ninoy Aquino Stadium	116	for updating
2.	World Trade Center	502	380
3.	Philippine International Convention Center (PICC)-Forum	294	for updating
4.	Rizal Memorial Coliseum <sup>37</sup>	97 to 112	-

	Facility Name	Estimated / Target Capacity	Date of Completion/ Occupancy <sup>36</sup>
5.	Philippine Sports Complex/ ULTRA Stadium	132	91
6.	ASEAN Convention Center	150	40
7.	New Clark City-National Government Administrative Center	688	105
8.	Philippine Arena	300	0
9.	Filinvest Tent <sup>38</sup>	108	-
10.	Floating Quarantine Hospitals	546	266 OFWs as of 14 May 2020
11.	South Harbor Passenger Terminal Building	211	202 OFWs as of 14 May 2020
12.	BRP Ang Pangulo	28	For updating
13.	New Clark City-Athletes' Village	520	0
14.	Las Piñas Rehabilitation Center	50	25
15.	Quezon Institute	100	105
16.	Alta de Tagaytay	30	0
17.	Various Establishments (through the DOT)	1,198 establishments with 67,694 rooms	
18.	PSALM Property in Bagac, Bataan	20	59 patients (16 active ,43 discharged <sup>39</sup> )
19.	Alonte Sports Arena (Biñan City, Laguna)	68	25 May 2020

As of 08 May 2020, a total of 22 SUCs and 18 local universities and colleges are being used as quarantine facilities. The CHED is working with the DICT for the provision of free wireless networking technology in these facilities. To date, the Department of Education has approved the use of 2,402 school facilities for COVID-19 related concerns.

As of 13 May 2020, the BOQ is manning a total of 80 quarantine facilities (58 are hotels or similar facilities, while 22 are cruise ships) covering 12,476 repatriates. As of 14 May 2020, there are 32,264 repatriates from 362 repatriate vessels, of which number 22,903 (71%) have completed their respective quarantine and the rest are still in quarantine. Meanwhile, of the 8,130 land based repatriates, 7,446 (92%) are still in quarantine as of 13 May 2020.

As of 14 May, the DOT has screened and identified 705 hotels nationwide with 19,342 available rooms ready to accommodate returning OFWs. The DOT also reached out to 941 non-accredited accommodation establishments with a total of 6,451 rooms to serve as temporary quarantine facilities for OFWs.

#### *Update on Test Kits, Testing Centers, and Expanded Testing*

Our capacity to conduct COVID-19 tests continues to increase. As of 13 May 2020, a total of 189,469 tests have been conducted on 184,857 individuals. Significantly, from 08 May to 13 May 2020, the average of conducted tests was 7,809 tests per day.

As of 14 May 2020, the DOH has accredited 11 more testing laboratories, bringing the total to 34 laboratories and hospitals activated for COVID-19 testing. This includes the newly accredited Jose B. Lingad Memorial Regional Hospital, which has the capacity to use the COVID-19 laboratory equipment capable of 45,000 tests. Further, the Lung Center of the Philippines, Zamboanga City Medical Center, Cagayan Valley TB Reference Laboratory, Northern Mindanao Medical Center, and Ospital ng Palawan are now licensed to operate with the GeneXpert Cepheid testing kits. 71 laboratories are still being evaluated by the DOH.