

that UP Economics professors Raul Fabella and Emmanuel de Dios rapped as likely to end up being a waste of funds;

WHEREAS the Cyber Education Project is believed to be another white elephant as the money to bankroll it could have been put to better use to address the more pressing problems of the ailing Philippine public school system;

WHEREAS to arrest the plummeting standards and quality of Philippine education, even more urgent than satellite-based distance learning programs are more schools and classrooms, more and better quality textbooks, educational subsidies for children who cannot afford to go to school, more teachers and teacher training programs, and upgrading the economic status of teachers;


WHEREAS the Alliance of Concerned Teachers (ACT) says that the costly Cyber Education Project has "little or no proven benefits to the students" as it would simply broadcast a 20-minute lecture to selected schools via satellite. "If that is the only thing the DepEd wants to do, it might as well tape the lectures, place them in compact disks and distribute them to the schools for viewing";

WHEREAS the educational content of the lectures-via-satellite can indeed very well be delivered without prejudice to form and substance through much cheaper "playback technology," i.e., the VCD and DVD;

WHEREAS far from delivering quality education and providing savings for the government, the whole Cyber Education Project could be inimical to the interests of the whole country, particularly to the youth whom it is supposed to serve;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED TO DIRECT THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH, WOMEN AND FAMILY RELATIONS TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S US\$465.5 MILLION OR P26.48 BILLION CYBER EDUCATION PROJECT (CEP) FINANCED BY THE SAME CHINESE LOAN PACKAGE AS THE NATIONAL BROADBAND NETWORK (NBN) DEAL (WHICH AT PRESENT IS THE SUBJECT OF NATIONWIDE CONTROVERSY BECAUSE OF ALLEGED CORRUPTION AND ANOMALIES) DUE TO SERIOUS QUESTIONS OF GROSS OVERPRICING, MISALLOCATION OF PUBLIC FUNDS AND ITS RELEVANCE TO THE REAL NEEDS OF THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM AND THE FILIPINO YOUTH.

Adopted,


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