

# Committee Daily Bulletin



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BUDGET BRIEFINGS		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Appropriations	<p>Briefing by the following government agencies on their proposed FY 2017 budget, plans and programs, and major accomplishments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Civil Service Commission (CSC)</li> </ul>	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Karlo Alexei Nograles (1<sup>st</sup> District, Davao City), listened to the presentations on the proposed FY 2017 budget, plans and programs, and major accomplishments of the Civil Service Commission (CSC), Commission on Human Rights (CHR), and the Department of Tourism (DOT).</p> <p>The Committee's Vice Chair Rep. Raul del Mar (1<sup>st</sup> District, Cebu City) was the presiding officer during the budget briefing of the CSC.</p> <p>CSC Chairperson Alicia dela Rosa-Bala said that under the 2017 National Expenditure Program (NEP), the CSC will get a slightly higher budget of P1.33 billion compared to its 2016 budget of P1.23 billion.</p> <p>The largest portion of the proposed budget goes to personnel services (PS), P1.04 billion (77.9%); while the rest goes to maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE), P238.26 million (17.9%); and capital outlay (CO), P57.49 million (4.2%).</p> <p>Bala said the proposed budget is aligned with President Rodrigo Duterte's policies and thrusts mentioned during his first State of the Nation Address (SONA). As such, Bala said the CSC has undertaken notable programs to deter corruption and promote transparency and accountability in government offices.</p> <p>With regard to the 2017 proposed budget of the Career Executive Service Board (CESB), Executive Director Maria Anthonette Velasco-Allones presented that the Board is set to receive a budget of P82.53 million. The said amount is allocated as follows: PS, P35.72 million; and MOOE, P46.81 million.</p> <p>The CESB, an attached agency of the CSC, is a governing body of the career executive service (CES) which promulgates rules, standards and procedures on selection, classification, compensation and career development of members of the CES.</p> <p>Sought to comment on the position of the CSC on Memorandum Circular No. 4 issued by the Office of the President (OP) which calls for the courtesy resignation of presidential appointees, Bala said career officials enjoy security of tenure and may therefore exempt themselves from filing a courtesy resignation. She added that presidential appointees who are not career officials are not under the jurisdiction of the CSC.</p> <p>On the issue of contractualization in the government service, some House Members requested the CSC to issue and enforce strict rules on the hiring of personnel on a job order and contractual basis. They also proposed the regularization of all qualified job order and contractual personnel performing the functions of regular or permanent staff.</p> <p>Bala disclosed that as of 2016, there are about 160,000 non-career employees (casual, contractual, and co-terminus) nationwide in the employ of the government. To address this issue, Bala informed the Committee that there is an ongoing discussion between the CSC and the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) on the matter.</p>



<p>Continuation... Appropriations</p>		<p>of 16% over the last four years. In 2015, total inbound visitors were recorded at 5.4 million. As of June 2016, inbound visitors continue to show robust performance with almost 3 million foreign visitors.</p> <p>Bengzon also highlighted the DOT's major accomplishments for 2015 and 2016 that are geared towards developing and marketing competitive tourist destinations and products; improving market access and air connectivity through better infrastructure of airports, seaports and roads; and improving good governance and upgrading human resources to ensure delivery of quality service for international and domestic travelers.</p> <p>For 2016 up to 2022, Bengzon said the DOT will continue to collaborate with concerned government agencies and other stakeholders to achieve the following targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase revenues from P2.08 trillion in 2015 to P3.9 trillion by 2022;</li> <li>• Increase the share of tourism to the country's gross domestic product (GDP) from 8.2% in 2015 to 10.1% by 2022;</li> <li>• Generate employment opportunities to about 6.5 million by 2022; and</li> <li>• Increase international visitor arrivals from 5.4 million in 2015 to 12 million by 2022, and the number of domestic travelers from 68 million in 2015 to 89 million by 2022.</li> </ul> <p>Rep. Henry Oaminal (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Misamis Occidental) inquired if the present administration plans to pursue the DOT-DPWH (Department of Public Works and Highways) Convergence Program citing its success in paving the way for road constructions leading to various tourist destinations. DOT Assistant Secretary Rolando Cañizal answered in the affirmative.</p> <p>Asked by Rep. Gil "Kabarangay" Acosta (3<sup>rd</sup> District, Palawan) on the status of negotiations with air carriers to increase the number of international flights, Bengzon said the DOT has already initiated bilateral talks with partner airlines to increase flight frequency and disperse the traffic to secondary destinations to address congestion at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA).</p> <p>On the query raised by Rep. Erlpe John "Ping" Amante (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Agusan del Norte), Undersecretary Alma Rita Jimenez said the DOT is in the process of creating a database that is capable of locating every property in the country that has the potential of becoming a tourist destination.</p> <p>Majority of the members of the Committee pushed for an increase in the budget of the DOT. They underscored the need to launch effective promotional information campaign that will promote and showcase the tourism potentials of every district and provinces.</p> <p>The DOT was requested to submit to the Committee a copy of its National Tourism Development Plan. It was likewise asked to submit data on the projected number of tourist arrivals per region; identify tourism-support infrastructure needed and the cost involved; and a report on the activities lined up to promote the country's tourism industry.</p>
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