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| COMMITTEE MEETINGS                        |          |                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| COMMITTEE                                 | MEASURES |                  | SUBJECT MATTER                                                                                                                                                                                      | ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|                                           | NO.      | PRINCIPAL AUTHOR |                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Good Government and Public Accountability | HR 1551  | Rep. Acharon     | Investigation into the alleged payments by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) of road right-of-way (RROW) claimants in General Santos City using spurious or fabricated land titles | <p>The Committee, chaired by Camiguin Rep. Xavier Jesus Romualdo, terminated its inquiry relative to HR 1551.</p> <p>HR 1551, authored by Rep. Pedro Acharon Jr. (1<sup>st</sup> District, South Cotabato and General Santos City), alleged the existence of a road right-of-way scam in General Santos City involving about P8.7 billion in government funds. Based on the initial reports of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), a criminal syndicate purportedly submitted fake titles in the name of non-existent persons to claim from the DPWH the just compensation from the expropriation of lands, which would be used for government projects.</p> <p>DPWH Region XII Director Reynaldo Tamayo was asked to comment on the allegations of whistleblower Roberto Catapang concerning his involvement in the alleged right-of-way scam in General Santos City. Tamayo denied ever meeting Catapang prior to their appearance in the Senate investigation. He also explained that the claims paid during his time were only the balance of claims that were already determined to be valid prior to his assumption to office. Tamayo went on to say that the group tasked to revalidate the claims attested to the veracity of the claims, which he relied on.</p> <p>Laureano Suan Jr., a former employee of the DPWH and head of the group tasked to revalidate the claims, supported Tamayo's statements. In his defense, Suan said that he had no reason to suspect anything was out of order since he was presented with various reports and other legal documents supposed to have been issued by the Land Registration Authority (LRA) and the Commission on Audit (COA).</p> <p>Deputy Speaker Ferdinand Hernandez (2<sup>nd</sup> District, South Cotabato) expressed dismay that despite the DPWH's assertions that due diligence was exercised in the payments of claims, the claims and claimants themselves still turned out to be fictitious.</p> |

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| <p>Continuation...<br/>Good<br/>Government and<br/>Public<br/>Accountability</p> |                                                                                                |                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <p>Rep. Romualdo and Deputy Speaker Hernandez were convinced that the scam was perpetrated by a syndicate that is operating within the government agencies being questioned. DPWH Director for the Flood Control Management Cluster Patrick Gatan and General Santos City's Register of Deeds Peter Armand Henares did not deny this possibility.</p> <p>Some of the Committee Members asked about the appropriate measures that have been undertaken to identify and prosecute the people accountable for the alleged right-of-way scam and to ensure that this illegal activity does not happen again.</p> <p>Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR) Assistant Commissioner James Roldan said that the BIR is planning to conduct a tax audit of the personalities mentioned in the House and Senate investigations.</p> <p>DPWH Assistant Secretary Eugenio Pipo Jr. said that the Department's regional legal offices were tasked to look deeper into matters concerning right-of-way acquisitions.</p> <p>Meanwhile, NBI agent Mamerto Tello Jr. reported that the NBI has already recommended to the Office of the Ombudsman the filing of appropriate charges against several of the personalities involved in the scam.</p> <p>The Committee asked the LRA to submit its recommendations which will form part of the Committee Report.</p> |
| <p>Government<br/>Reorganization<br/>jt. w/<br/>Transportation</p>               | <p>Substitute<br/>Bill to HBs<br/>190, 1725,<br/>2731, 3116,<br/>5042, 5480<br/>&amp; 6978</p> | <p>Reps. Bravo<br/>(A.), Biazon,<br/>Alejano,<br/>Villafuerte,<br/>Garcia (G.),<br/>Vargas, and<br/>Fariñas</p> | <p>Establishing the Philippine Transportation Safety Board (PTSB), defining its powers and functions, and appropriating funds therefor</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | <p>The Joint Committee, co-chaired by Rep. Mariano Michael Velarde Jr. (Party-List, BUHAY), Chair of the Committee on Government Reorganization, and Rep. Edgar Mary Sarmiento (1<sup>st</sup> District, Samar), Vice Chair of the Committee on Transportation, approved the substitute bill and the corresponding Committee Report.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <p>Housing and<br/>Urban<br/>Development</p>                                     | <p>HR 2067</p>                                                                                 | <p>Rep. Benitez</p>                                                                                             | <p>Inquiry into the implementation of 1) Proclamation No. 96 series of 2001, declaring Parola Estate under the administration of the Philippine Ports Authority (PPA) situated in Tondo, City of Manila, open for disposition to the actual occupants; 2) Proclamation No. 518 series of 1990, excluding from the operation of Proclamation No. 423 dated July 12, 1957, which established the military reservation known as "Fort William McKinley" (now Fort Andres Bonifacio), Barangays Cembo, South Cembo, West Rembo, East Rembo, Comembo, Pembo and Pitogo, situated in Makati and declaring the same open for disposition; and 3) Proclamation</p> | <p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Alfredo "Albee" Benitez (3<sup>rd</sup> District, Negros Occidental), will deliberate further on the issues raised relative to HR 2067 in its next meeting.</p> <p>At the outset, Rep. Benitez informed the body that today's deliberation will only focus on the implementation of Proclamation No. 825, series of 1996, which amended Proclamation No. 843 and reclassified the use of the 10-hectare Tala Estate of the DSWD to include socialized housing.</p> <p>Rep. Benitez reminded the DSWD of the Committee's directive for it to submit a formal reply relative to the proposal that the</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

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| Continuation...<br>Housing and Urban Development |                                                      |                                                     | No. 825 series of 1996, amending Proclamation No. 843, series of 1971, known as reserving the Tala Estate for various government uses as well as for housing and urban development to reclassify the use of the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) lot at the Tala Estate to include socialized housing | <p>Department may enter into an agreement with the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council (HUDCC) for the provision of housing units to DSWD employees in any of the government's housing projects, in exchange for the Tala Estate. Thereafter, the National Housing Authority (NHA) and the City of Caloocan can commence with the development of the area for socialized housing purposes.</p> <p>DSWD Undersecretary Luzviminda Ilagan apologized for the delayed response. Nevertheless, she disclosed that the Department has reconsidered its previous position and now agrees to surrender to the NHA the subject property.</p> <p>However, Ilagan prayed that an adequate portion of the lot be reserved for social service facilities that cater to senior citizens and the marginalized sector among others, and housing provision for DSWD's low-income employees residing in the area.</p> <p>The Committee directed the local government of Caloocan City to submit a list of bonafide occupants in the Tala Estate, indicating their respective dates of occupancy.</p> <p>Rep. Benitez stressed that by virtue of EO 131, series of 2002, which is in compliance with the provision of RA 7279 or the Urban Development and Housing Act (UDHA), all government-owned lands not used for 10 years or more for its intended purpose shall be subject to disposition in favor of UDHA beneficiaries or for socialized housing purposes.</p> |
| Transportation                                   | Substitute Bill to HBs 7312, 7439, 7463 & 7920       | Reps. Velasco-Catera, Robes, Nieto, and Fariñas     | Designating the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of November as the "National Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims, Survivors and Families," ensuring its meaningful observance                                                                                                                                               | The Committee, chaired by Catanduanes Rep. Cesar Sarmiento, approved the substitute bill with amendment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                                  | Substitute Bill to HBs 1215, 2530, 3941, 6909 & 8822 | Reps. Acharon, Uy (J.), Durano, Del Mar, and Biazon | Allowing and regulating the use of motorcycles as public utility vehicles (PUVs), amending for the purpose RA 4136, otherwise known as the Land Transportation and Traffic Code                                                                                                                                          | The Committee approved the substitute bill subject to style.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

| <b>COMMITTEE MEETING</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| <b>COMMITTEE</b>         | <b>SUBJECT MATTER</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <b>DISCUSSIONS</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Ethics and Privileges    | 1st indorsement of Overall Deputy Ombudsman Melchor Arthur Carandang dated 19 April 2018 of a letter-complaint dated 17 January 2018, filed by a concerned citizen against Dinagat Islands Rep. Kaka Bag-ao for alleged unnecessary display of her name in signage/streamers stating her involvement in a particular project | The Committee, presided by Rep. Ma. Lourdes Acosta-Alba (1 <sup>st</sup> District, Bukidnon), declared the complaint filed against Rep. Bag-ao deficient in form and will send a letter-reply to the Overall Deputy Ombudsman informing him of this decision. Copies of the letter-reply will also be distributed to the Members of the Committee for their information. |

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| Continuation...<br>Ethics and Privileges | Letter-complaints of Mr. Bency Ellorin, chairperson of the Pinoy Aksyon for Governance and Environment, on the alleged anomalous activities of Party-List MATA and its Party-List Representative Tricia Nicole Velasco-Catera                                                                                                                                        | The Committee declared the complaints deficient in form and will send a letter-reply to the complainant informing him of this decision.                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                          | 1 <sup>st</sup> indorsement from Deputy Secretary General (DSG) Maria Elena Bautista-Horn, Office of the Speaker, dated 08 October 2018 on various concerns/complaints against several Members of the House of Representatives (HREP) forwarded to the HREP by the Civil Service Commission's (CSC) Contact Center ng Bayan                                          | The Committee declared the various complaints against several House Members deficient in form and non-compliant with Sections 15 and 16 of the Rules of Procedure of the Committee. A letter-reply will be sent to the CSC informing the Commission of this decision.                                                                     |
|                                          | Memorandum from DSG Bautista-Horn, dated 21 November 2018, on referral of Atty. Salvador Panelo, Chief Presidential Legal Counsel, on the complaint of Atty. Fernando Campos against Rep. Jennifer Barzaga of the 4 <sup>th</sup> District of Cavite for alleged graft and corruption and violation of the Statement of Assets, Liabilities, and Networth (SALN) Law | The Committee declared the complaint against Rep. Barzaga deficient in form and will send a letter-reply to the complainant informing him of the decision. A copy of the letter-reply will also be sent to Chief Presidential Legal Counsel Salvador Panelo.                                                                              |
|                                          | Subcommittee Report PI-01-2017 on the consolidated six sworn complaints filed by former Rep. Herminio Harry Roque Jr. versus Rep. Ron Salo (Party-List, KABAYAN), docketed as Case Nos. SC-01-2017 to SC-06-2017                                                                                                                                                     | The Committee dismissed the complaint, docketed as Case No. SC-06-2017, filed against Rep. Salo and deferred action on the complaints covered by SC-01-2017 to SC-05-2017, as they were already filed in the courts. The Secretariat was directed to furnish the complainant and the respondent with a copy of the Committee's decision.  |
|                                          | Determination of form and content on the sworn complaint filed by Sandra Cam against Rep. Arnolfo "Arnie" Teves Jr. (3 <sup>rd</sup> District, Negros Oriental) for alleged violation of the House of Representatives' Code of Conduct, docketed as Case No. SC-09-2018                                                                                              | The Committee deferred action on Case No. SC-09-2018 upon receipt of a letter from Sandra Cam that she will file the complaint in her personal capacity.<br><br>The Committee earlier sent Cam a letter verifying if she filed the complaint in her personal capacity or as Director of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO). |
|                                          | Referral of incident report from P/Dir. Gen. Oscar Albayalde, Chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP), dated January 9, 2019 on the mauling incident involving Rep. Oscar Richard Garin Jr. and Mayor Oscar Garin Sr. against PO3 Federico Macaya Jr. of Guimbal Municipal Police Station in Iloilo which happened on December 26, 2018 at Guimbal, Iloilo     | The Committee deferred action on the complaint since a similar case has already been filed in the Office of the Ombudsman.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

| SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| COMMITTEE                                                   | SUBJECT MATTER                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | DISCUSSIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Subcommittee on Marawi Rehabilitation (Disaster Management) | Briefing by the following agencies, which are members of the Task Force Bangon Marawi (TFBM), on the status of the government's rehabilitation efforts in war-torn Marawi City: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Finance (DOF)</li> </ul> | The Subcommittee, chaired by Rep. Makmod Mending Jr. (Party-List, AMIN), listened to the briefing conducted by concerned government agencies on the government's rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in Marawi City in the aftermath of the battle between the ISIS-backed local terrorist groups and government forces which left the city in ruins.<br><br>DOF Undersecretary Mark Dennis Joven reported that the overall funding requirement for the rehabilitation of Marawi City amounts to P68.82 billion. This amount will be distributed as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bangon Marawi Comprehensive Rehabilitation</li> </ul> |

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| <p>Continuation...<br/>Subcommittee on<br/>Marawi Rehabilitation<br/>(Disaster Management)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)</li> <br/> <li>• Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)</li> <br/> <li>• Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)</li> <br/> <li>• Department of Agriculture (DA)</li> </ul> | <p>and Recovery Program (BMCRRP) – P47.20 billion;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Infrastructure for the recovery, reconstruction, and rehabilitation of the Most Affected Areas (MAA) in Marawi City – P13.73 billion;</li> <li>• Livelihood Assistance – P 1.25 billion; and</li> <li>• Humanitarian Assistance – P 6.64 billion.</li> </ul> <p>In reply to Rep. Mending’s query on the amount of cash donations from foreign donors, Joven clarified that donations from foreign development partners for Marawi’s rehabilitation were in the form of goods, equipment, livelihood and technical assistance.</p> <p>DSWD Undersecretary Luzviminda Ilagan reported that as of December 31, 2018, the Department has already distributed livelihood assistance to 35,533 families, ranging from P10,000 to P 20,000 per family depending on the evaluation of the DSWD.</p> <p>Ilagan said that in the giving out of assistance, the DSWD gives priority to the internally displaced persons (IDPs) who have already transferred to their temporary shelters from the evacuation centers.</p> <p>TESDA Region 10 Regional Director Tarhata Mapandi said that TESDA aims to provide skills and training opportunities for the people of Marawi who were affected by the war. Mapandi said that through these training programs, the trainees are expected to become more employable and competitive, thereby allowing them to have a new source of income.</p> <p>Among TESDA’s training programs for the victims of the war are the Training for Work Scholarship Program (TWSP) and the Special Training for Employment Program (STEP), which were able to graduate 6,160 and 3,606 participants, respectively.</p> <p>DTI representative, Atty. Ayatullah Mastura, outlined DTI’s programs and projects for the BMCRRP for 2019 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of livelihood starter kits for the IDPs;</li> <li>• Provision of retail spaces in malls and other selling platforms in 12 key cities to promote and sell Maranao products;</li> <li>• Provision of assorted power tools with stand shelves;</li> <li>• Provision of pedicabs;</li> <li>• Provision of machinery, equipment, tools in processing/ production including packaging equipment for food products; and</li> <li>• Provision of special financing package (soft loans) through the Small Business Corporation.</li> </ul> <p>DA Assistant Secretary Andrew Villacorta reported that for 2018, the amount of P325.48 million was allocated to DA for the implementation of its projects in Marawi. Out of this amount, P303.27 million has already been obligated to provide affected Marawi residents with agricultural inputs and tools, farm machineries and equipment, risk financial assistance, as well as other forms of assistance.</p> |
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**TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETINGS**

| COMMITTEE                                                                                   | MEASURES                         |                                                                                      | SUBJECT MATTER                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | ACTION TAKEN/ DISCUSSION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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|                                                                                             | NO.                              | PRINCIPAL AUTHOR                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Ecology<br>(Technical Working Group)                                                        | HB 4374                          | Speaker Macapagal-Arroyo                                                             | Providing for the protection of the environment by prohibiting the dumping of sewage sludge and industrial waste into the sea                                                                                                      | <p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Enrico Pineda (Party-List, 1-PACMAN), will deliberate further on the seven bills in its next meeting using HB 4374 as the lead bill.</p> <p>Resource persons from the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources - Department of Agriculture (BFAR-DA), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA), Federation of Philippine Industries (FPI), Philippine Inter-Island Shipping Association (PISA), Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corporation (PSPC), and Miriam College, expressed their support for the bills.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                             | HB 857                           | Deputy Speaker Villarica                                                             | Penalizing the dumping of sewage sludge and industrial waste into the seawaters                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                             | HBs 773, 6856, 8152, 8602 & 8772 | Former Rep. Aglipay-Villar, Reps. Rodriguez (M.), Sy-Alvarado, Pico, and Villafuerte | Providing a ban on dumping of sewage sludge and industrial waste into the sea                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Government Enterprises and Privatization jt. w/ Transportation<br>(Technical Working Group) | HB 7788                          | Rep. Bataoil                                                                         | Providing for the creation of the Lingayen Gulf International Transshipment Port Development Authority in the Municipality of Lingayen, Province of Pangasinan, defining its powers and functions and appropriating funds therefor | <p>The technical working group (TWG), chaired by Rep. Leopoldo Bataoil (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Pangasinan), will deliberate further on HB 7788 in its next meeting.</p> <p>Rep. Bataoil said that one of the purposes for the creation of the Lingayen Gulf International Transshipment Port is to transfer to this port the container terminal operations in the Port of Manila, thereby addressing at least 40% of the traffic congestion problem in Metro Manila.</p> <p>Among the recommendations that were presented by the resource persons during the meeting were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To come up with measures that will ensure the proper disposal of waste coming from the vessels and will ensure quick response in case of oil spills;</li> <li>• To study the impact of the creation of the new transshipment port to the environment and the existing tourism industry of the province; and</li> <li>• To consult with the government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs) and government financial institutions (GFIs) that were listed in Section 13 (1) of the bill as the sources of funds for the dredging and reclamation of lands and construction of the proposed port.</li> </ul> <p>The resource persons were requested to submit their respective position papers on the bill for consideration by the TWG.</p> |

| AGENCY BRIEFINGS |                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| COMMITTEE        | SUBJECT MATTER                                                                                                                                                                          | DISCUSSIONS                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Transportation   | Briefing on the status of the Roll-on/Roll-off (RoRo) system by the Maritime Industry Authority (MARINA)                                                                                | <p>The Committee, chaired by Catanduanes Rep. Cesar Sarmiento, listened to the briefing conducted by MARINA on the status of the RoRo system.</p> <p>MARINA Administrator Narciso Vingzon Jr. said that the RoRo system in the country, which was developed and promoted by virtue of EO 170 series of 2003, reduced the high cost of inter-island transport, particularly between the Mindanao-Manila route. He reported that as of December 2018, there are 168 RoRo ports that are operational around the country.</p> <p>Vingzon also presented MARINA's Maritime Industry Development Program (MIDP) for 2019-2028 that aims to build a nationally-integrated and globally competitive Philippine maritime industry. He stated that by 2028, there will be 213 routes, 647 ports, 87 operators and 424 ships comprising the RoRo system. The MIDP, according to Vingzon, was signed by the Transportation Secretary last December 2018 and will be endorsed to the Office of the President for the issuance of an appropriate executive order.</p> <p>House Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo (2<sup>nd</sup> District, Pampanga) remarked that a memorandum of agreement (MOA) with concerned agencies is enough to implement the MIDP, adding that there is no need for an executive order. She suggested that MARINA's proposed new RoRo routes be reviewed in consultation with concerned government agencies and that incentives be given to shipping companies that will operate in ports that have no vessels operating yet.</p> <p>Likewise, Rep. Sarmiento echoed the Committee's recommendation to give ship operators incentives to modernize their fleet and to use vessels that are suitable to the country's terrain and weather conditions.</p> <p>Rep. Sarmiento also disclosed that during the Committee's inspection of the RoRo system, it found that although the whole system is strong and working, there are still issues and concerns that must be addressed, such as the overcrowding of ports; absence of passenger terminal building; insufficient number of Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) personnel to conduct pre-departure inspections; manual listing of passengers in the ship's manifest; and insufficient number of public utility vehicles (PUVs) or RoRo buses at the ports to improve connectivity.</p> |
| Ways and Means   | Briefing by the Bureau of Customs (BOC) on its collection performance for 2018 per major port, and plans and programs for the enhancement of the operations and functions of the Bureau | <p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Estrellita Suansing (1<sup>st</sup> District, Nueva Ecija), listened to the briefing conducted by the BOC on its 2018 collection performance as well as its plans and programs aimed at enhancing the Bureau's operations and performance.</p> <p>BOC Port of Manila District Collector Erastus Sandino Austria reported that the BOC has achieved an actual overall revenue collection of P592.87 billion for 2018, which is 1.4% higher than the P584.88 billion target for the year. The 2018 revenues collected by the BOC also surpassed its 2017 collections of P458.18 billion by 29.4%. Presenting the collection performance of each major port in the country, Austria noted that only the Port of Manila, Manila International Container Port (MICP), and Ninoy</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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| <p><i>Continuation...</i><br/>Ways and Means</p> |  | <p>Aquino International Airport (NAIA) have not met their respective targets.</p> <p>On the BOC's modernization program, Austria said that the Bureau intends to upgrade its information technology systems by replacing its already obsolete electronic-to-mobile (E2M) system which has been causing frequent errors and slowdowns as well as system downtimes taking about 12 hours to recover, and has an outdated security module, among other deficiencies.</p> <p>Replying to the query of Deputy Speaker Sharon Garin (Party-List, AAMBIS-OWA) on the total funding required to upgrade BOC's IT systems, Austria replied that the new customs processing system (CPS) will cost around P5.65 billion.</p> <p>BOC Commissioner Rey Leonardo Guerrero assured the body that Department of Finance (DOF) Secretary Carlos Dominguez III has already signified his full support for the BOC's IT modernization.</p> <p>Reacting to the proposal of the BOC to create additional positions, Deputy Speaker Prospero Pichay Jr. (1<sup>st</sup> District, Surigao del Sur) stressed that it should first look into the unfilled 3,000 vacant positions in the Bureau, with the reminder that funding for these unfilled positions may be removed anytime by the Department of Budget and Management (DBM).</p> <p>Austria also presented the BOC's 10-point priority program for 2019 which includes the enhancement of BOC's IT system, cargo clearance and examination capabilities, and other facilities; the restructuring of the BOC organization; and the codification and harmonization of all implementing rules and regulations and other BOC issuances.</p> |
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