



Committee Daily Bulletin

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First Regular Session

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ORGANIZATIONAL MEETINGS

COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Agriculture and Food	Organizational meeting, adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure, and creation of subcommittees	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Wilfrido Mark Enverga (1st District, Quezon), held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p> <p>The Committee, which shall be composed of 65 Members, created nine subcommittees. The head of each subcommittee will be designated at a later date.</p> <p>Under the Rules of the House, the Committee has jurisdiction over all matters directly and principally relating to food and agricultural production, agribusiness, agri-economics, agricultural research and technology, agricultural education including extension services, soil conservation, soil survey and research, irrigation, farm credit and security, animal industry and quarantine, and crop and livestock production, insurance, and guarantee programs.</p>
Economic Affairs	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Sharon Garin (Party-List, AAMBIS-OWA), held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p> <p>The Committee has jurisdiction over all matters directly and principally relating to economic development planning and programs inclusive of economic and socio-economic studies and development policies and strategies.</p> <p>Rep. Garin reported on the accomplishments of the Committee during the 17th Congress and presented the Committee's legislative agenda for the 18th Congress which include the proposed amendment of the Public Service Act and Foreign Investment Act; institutionalization of National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA); and the proposed Collective Investment Scheme Law.</p>
Games and Amusements	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Eric Go Yap (Party-List, ACT-CIS), held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p> <p>Rep. Yap said that the Committee has jurisdiction over all matters directly and principally relating to all forms and places of gaming and amusements.</p>
Legislative Franchises	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Internal Rules	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Franz "Chicoy" Alvarez (1st District, Palawan), held its organizational meeting and adopted its Internal Rules for the 18th Congress.</p> <p>Committee Secretary Portia Silang presented the Committee's mandate and proposed Internal Rules, as well as an overview of the nature of a legislative franchise. She mentioned that the Committee, composed of 45 Members with six Vice Chairpersons, has jurisdiction over all matters directly and principally relating to the grant, amendment, extension or revocation of franchises.</p>
Local Government	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Noel Villanueva (3rd District, Tarlac), held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p> <p>Under the Rules of the House, the Committee, composed of 55 Members, has jurisdiction over all matters directly and principally</p>

Continuation... Local Government		<p>relating to autonomous regions, provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays, including their revenues and expenditures.</p> <p>The Committee created six subcommittees, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subcommittee on General Legislation; • Subcommittee on Provinces and Autonomous Regions; • Subcommittee on Cities; • Subcommittee on Municipalities and Barangays; • Subcommittee on Legislative Districts; and • Subcommittee on Local Taxation and Fiscal Matters. <p>The designation of chairpersons and members of these subcommittees will be announced at a later date.</p> <p>On the major accomplishments of the Committee, Rep. Villanueva reported to the body that 9 national laws and 31 local laws were passed by the Committee during the 17th Congress.</p>
Trade and Industry	Organizational meeting and adoption of the Committee's Rules of Procedure	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Wes Gatchalian (1st District, Valenzuela City), held its organizational meeting during which the Committee's Rules of Procedure for the 18th Congress was adopted.</p> <p>Under the Rules of the House, the Committee shall have general and exclusive jurisdiction over all matters directly and principally relating to domestic and foreign trade, intellectual property rights, patents, trade names and trademarks, standards, weights and measures, designs, quality control, consumer protection, prices and marketing of commodities, handicrafts and cottage industries, and the development, regulation and diversification of industry and investments.</p> <p>Upon consultation with the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) and the Committee's counterpart in the Senate, Rep. Gatchalian reported to the Committee that the legislative agenda that were agreed upon were the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amendment to the Retail Trade Liberalization Act; • Corporate Social Responsibility Act; • Timbangan ng Bayan Act; • Carpark Fees Regulation; • E-Vehicles Act; and • Bamboo Industry Act <p>According to Rep. Gatchalian, the first three bills may already be approved by the Committee pursuant to Section 48 of the House Rules which provides that priority bills passed on third reading in the immediately preceding Congress may already be disposed of as matters already reported, upon approval by the Committee.</p>

BUDGET BRIEFINGS		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Appropriations	<p>Briefing on the proposed FY 2020 budget, plans and programs, and major accomplishments of the following government offices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of National Defense (DND) 	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Isidro Ungab (3rd District, Davao City), listened to the presentation on the proposed FY 2020 budget, plans and programs, and major accomplishments of the DND, DOE, ERC, OVP and DPWH.</p> <p>Committee Vice Chair and Muntinlupa City Rep. Rozzano Rufino Biazon sat as the presiding officer during the DND's budget briefing.</p> <p>Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said the DBM-recommended FY 2020 budget for DND and its line agencies is P258.35 billion. This amount will be allocated to the Pension and Gratuity Fund, P69.7 billion (27%), and to the Regular Fund, P188.65 billion (73%).</p>

Continuation...
Appropriations

In terms of budget allocation by office, the bulk of the P188.65 billion Regular Fund will go to the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in the amount of P183.64 billion. The rest will go to the following DND civilian bureaus/agencies: Veterans Memorial Medical Center (VMMC), P1.65 billion; Government Arsenal (GA), P1.29 billion; Office of Civil Defense (OCD), P1.21 billion; Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO), P567.45 million; DND Proper, P517.28 million; and National Defense College of the Philippines (NDCP), P105.76 million.

Lorenzana said that the DND's program thrusts for next year will be on sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state; internal stability; highest standard of capability and preparedness on disasters; operations in support to global peace and security; and good governance.

House Speaker Alan Peter "Compañero" Cayetano (1st District, Taguig City-Pateros) and several House Members assured the DND of their support for the approval of proposed laws and budget allocations that will ensure the protection of the country's security and territorial integrity.

Rep. Biazon sought an explanation for the 11.3% decrease in the VMMC's 2020 proposed budget. VMMC Director Dominador Chiong Jr. said that the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) slashed the budget that the VMMC originally proposed. Chiong took the opportunity to request the Committee an additional budget amounting to P385 million to finance the requirements of the hospital whose number of patients is increasing.

On the query of Rep. Michael Defensor (Party-List, ANAKALUSUGAN), Lorenzana admitted that the country has a very limited capability to respond to intrusions into its waters.

Rep. Mohamad Khalid Dimaporo (1st District, Lanao del Norte) lamented that two years after the Marawi crisis, affected residents are not yet allowed to enter the City because the place is not yet totally cleared of improvised explosive devices (IEDs). Rep. Dimaporo criticized the government agencies tasked with the rehabilitation of the City for continuously blaming each other for the work delays while the residents have to wait until the agencies get their acts together.

The Marawi crisis was an armed conflict between the ISIS-backed local terrorist groups and the government forces that started in May 2017. The Task Force Bangon Marawi, composed of concerned government agencies, was created to spearhead and coordinate the government's rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts in Marawi City.

- Department of Energy (DOE)

Committee Vice Chair, Rep. Manuel Jose "Mannix" Dalipe (2nd District, Zamboanga City), sat as the presiding officer during the budget briefing of the DOE.

Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi was present during the budget briefing but it was DOE Undersecretary Jesus Cristino Posadas who presented the major features of DOE's 2020 proposed budget, major accomplishments for 2018, priorities for 2020, as well as the energy demand and supply outlook for 2016-2040.

Posadas said that under the FY 2020 National Expenditures Program (NEP), the DOE is set to receive P2.3 billion, distributed as follows: maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE), P1.15 billion; capital outlay (CO), P521 million; personnel services (PS), P580 million; and retirement and life insurance premium (RLIP), P52 million. Posadas cited two major laws signed by the President this year: Republic Act 11234 or the Energy Virtual One-Stop Shop (EVOSS) Act, which mandates the creation of an online platform to streamline the permitting process for new power generation, transmission and

Continuation...
Appropriations

distribution projects; and RA 11285 or the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act, which provides the framework to boost the use of energy efficient technologies for the promotion of energy efficiency and conservation in the country.

Former House Member and currently the Administrator of the National Electrification Administration (NEA) Edgardo Masongsong presented NEA's proposed FY 2020 subsidy from the national government of P1.53 billion. He said, of this amount, P1.16 billion will go to the implementation of the Sitio Electrification Program (SEP) Phase II. (NEA is an attached agency of the DOE.)

On the query of Rep. Sergio Dagooc (Party-List, APEC) if NEA is capable of pursuing its total electrification program nationwide with a meager budget, Masongsong explained that NEA, at its option, can access local or foreign grants or enter into joint venture agreements.

Referring to DOE Circular No. DC2018-02-0003, which prescribes a competitive selection process (CSP) in the procurement by the distribution utilities (DUs) of power supply agreement (PSA), Rep. Carlos Isagani Zarate (Party-List, BAYAN MUNA) emphasized that the Supreme Court ruling on the matter be strictly followed to ensure consumer protection. (The SC decision requires all PSAs forged after June 30, 2015 to undergo CSP. The CSP requires DUs to hold competitive bidding for their supply requirements as against securing power deals via bilateral contracts to ensure transparency and fair competition.)

Energy Undersecretary Felix William Fuentebella gave the assurance that the DOE is closely monitoring the DUs' compliance with the required CSP.

In reply to Rep. Micaela Violago's (2nd District, Nueva Ecija) query on the alleged smuggling of petroleum products in Subic, the Energy Secretary said that there is already a fuel marking system in place that will deter smuggling of petroleum products and ensure proper tax collection.

The DOE was requested to submit various documents required by the Members of the Committee.

- Energy Regulatory Commission (ERC)

Committee Vice Chair, Rep. Juan Miguel Macapagal Arroyo (Pampanga, 2nd District), sat as the presiding officer during the budget briefing of the ERC.

ERC Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Agnes Devanadera presented the ERC's proposed FY 2020 budget of P557.42 million. The budget will be distributed as follows: PS, P247.04 million; MOOE, P239.73 million; and CO, P70.65 million.

Deputy Speaker and Antique Rep. Loren Legarda manifested that the budget of the ERC be increased so that it has adequate funds for its operations as well as for training courses and seminars, and therefore ERC will have no more reason to seek donations from private entities, some of which it regulates.

Rep. Dagooc added that technical experts should look into the propriety of contracts entered into by ERC with DUs. He also suggested that system loss should not be charged to electric consumers as it is tantamount to penalizing them for the inefficiency of the DUs.

- Office of the Vice President (OVP)

Committee Vice Chair, Rep. Paul Ruiz Daza (1st District, Northern Samar), sat as the presiding officer during the OVP's budget briefing.

Vice President Maria Leonor Gerona Robredo was not able to make it to the meeting due to a cancelled flight brought about by today's poor

<p>Continuation... Appropriations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) 	<p>weather. Her Chief-of-Staff Philip Dy presented the OVP's 2020 proposed budget instead.</p> <p>According to Dy, the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) has recommended a budget of P673.02 million for OVP for FY 2020, which is only 0.22% higher than its FY 2019 budget of P671.55 million.</p> <p>By expense class, the OVP's 2020 budget will be distributed as follows: PS, P99.96 million; MOOE, P552.53 million; CO, P12.4 million; and Retirement and Life Insurance Premiums (RLIP), P8.14 million.</p> <p>Dy also highlighted three programs being implemented by the OVP, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Angat Buhay</i> - which aims to alleviate poverty in geographically isolated disadvantaged communities; <i>Istorya ng Pag-asa</i> – which aims to combat the rising trend of negativity by fostering stories of hope and transformation; and <i>Ahon Laylayan Koalisyon</i> - which aims to empower basic sectors through partnership with the local government units to advocate and implement anti-poverty initiatives. <p>Rep. Rufus Rodriguez (2nd District, Cagayan de Oro City) proposed an increase in the OVP's MOOE budget having learned that a huge portion of it (68.3% or P377.60 million) will be used as financial subsidy or assistance for the Filipino people.</p> <p>The Committee Members had no queries concerning the proposed 2020 budget of the OVP.</p> <p>Committee Vice Chair, Rep. Romeo Momo Sr. (Party-List, CWS), sat as the presiding officer during the DPWH's budget briefing.</p> <p>DPWH Secretary Mark Villar said that under the FY 2020 National Expenditure Program (NEP), the DPWH is set to receive P534.29 billion, which is 17% higher than its current budget of P454.79 billion.</p> <p>The bulk of the DPWH's budget or P502.62 billion goes to CO; while the rest will go to MOOE, P21.99 billion; PS, P8.89 billion; and Retirement and Life Insurance Premiums (RLIP), P79 million.</p> <p>Villar highlighted the Department's "Strategy Map 2022" with the aim of reducing travel time, improving road quality and safety, and protecting lives and properties from natural disasters.</p> <p>The DPWH Secretary also reported on DPWH's major accomplishments for the last three years including the completion of flood mitigation structures and the construction, widening and rehabilitation of roads and bridges. He also presented the Department's programs for next year which include: integrated water resources management; disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation; convergence and rural road development; integrated and seamless transport system; and traffic decongestion.</p> <p>House Speaker Alan Peter "Compañero" Cayetano (1st District, Taguig City-Pateros), who was present during the meeting, expressed the House's support for the Secretary and his Department. He went on to ask Villar what measures have been taken to rid the DPWH of corruption in line with the President's campaign against corruption in government.</p> <p>The DPWH Secretary said that for one thing, the Department has blacklisted at least 18 erring contractors, the highest in the Department's history. Villar also boasted of greatly improving the capability of the DPWH in monitoring the progress and tracking the</p>
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Continuation... Appropriations		<p>location of infrastructure projects through the use of geotagging and other technologies like drones and satellite photography.</p> <p>Speaker Cayetano also asked if there are “pork barrel” or “parked” funds in the Department’s proposed FY 2020 budget. The DPWH Secretary replied in the negative, adding that these are not allowed under the current administration. Such funds are deemed discretionary in nature, the use of which can lead to misuse and corruption.</p> <p>Several lawmakers questioned the apparent uneven distribution of infrastructure projects across the country and asked the DPWH how these projects were identified. Villar explained that the DPWH took into account several factors, including land area and population density, to ensure an equitable distribution of infrastructure projects.</p>
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COMMITTEE MEETINGS				
COMMITTEE	MEASURES		SUBJECT MATTER	ACTION TAKEN/DISCUSSION
	NO.	PRINCIPAL AUTHOR		
Economic Affairs jt. w/ Trade and Industry	HBs 300, 399 & 1221	Rep. Yap (V.), Deputy Speaker Villafuerte, and Rep. Salceda	Amending Sections 4 and 8 of RA 7042, as amended, otherwise known as the Foreign Investment Act of 1991 [by deleting the provisions relating to the “practice of professions” from the Foreign Investment Negative List (FINL) and by lowering the threshold of employment requirement to 15 direct local hires for small and medium-sized enterprises with minimum paid-up capital of US\$100,000]	<p>The Joint Committee, co-presided by Rep. Sharon Garin (Party-List, AAMBIS-OWA), Chair of the Committee on Economic Affairs, and Rep. Wes Gatchalian (1st District, Valenzuela City), Chair of the Committee on Trade and Industry, approved the consolidation of HBs 300, 399, and 1221.</p> <p>The Committee Secretariat was directed to prepare the corresponding Committee Report.</p> <p>A bill with similar subject matter was approved on Third Reading during the 17th Congress.</p>
Local Government	HBs 350 - 352, 354 - 358, 456 & 457	Rep. Cayetano,	Creating barangays in the City of Taguig, Metro Manila, and appropriating funds therefor	The Committee, chaired by Rep. Noel Villanueva (3rd District, Tarlac), approved the 12 bills.
	HBs 674 & 3145	Reps. Abueg-Zaldivar and Cabredo	Creating barangays in the Provinces of Palawan and Albay, respectively, and appropriating funds therefor	<p>Rep. Maria Laarni Cayetano (2nd District, Taguig City) took note of Section 48 of the House Rules, which states that measures identified as priority by the House and which were approved on Third Reading in the previous Congress “may be disposed of as matters already reported upon the approval of majority of the Members of the Committee present.”</p> <p>All the bills approved by the Committee in this meeting were approved on Third Reading in the 17th Congress.</p>
	HB 588	Rep. Mangaoang	Separating the sitios of Ileb, New Colayo Village, Kinama, and Nambaran Daya from Barangay Nambaran, City of Tabuk, Province of Kalinga and constituting them into a separate and independent barangay to be known as Barangay Nambaran East	The Committee approved HB 588.
	HB 1808	Rep. Pacquiao (R.)	Separating the sitio of Ladol from Barangay Poblacion in the Municipality of Alabel, Province of Sarangani and constituting it into a distinct and	The Committee approved HB 1808.

Continuation... Local Government			independent barangay to be known as Barangay Ladol	
	HB 2379	Rep. Robes	Dividing Barangay Muzon in the City of San Jose del Monte, Province of Bulacan into four distinct and independent barangays to be known as Barangay Muzon Proper, Muzon East, Muzon West, and Muzon South	The Committee approved HB 2379.
	HB 2949	Rep. Fariñas (R.C.)	Dividing Barangay Adams in the Province of Ilocos Norte into two distinct and independent barangays to be known as Barangay Adan and Barangay Bucarot	The Committee approved HB 2949.
Ways and Means	HBs 304, 1907, 2086, 2399, 2553, 2958 & 3359	Rep. Salceda, Deputy Speaker Villafuerte, Reps. Cua, Suansing (E.), Garin (S.), Deputy Speaker Romero and Rep. Hofer	Amending/repealing certain sections under RA 8424, otherwise known as the National Internal Revenue Code of 1997 (NIRC) (by redesigning the financial sector taxation into a simpler, fairer, more efficient, and a revenue neutral tax system)	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Joey Sarte Salceda (2nd District, Albay), approved, with amendments, HB 304, in consolidation with HBs 1907, 2086, 2399, 2553, 2958 and 3359.</p> <p>Rep. Salceda manifested that a bill with similar subject matter was approved on Third Reading by the House during the 17th Congress.</p> <p>Department of Finance (DOF) Undersecretary Karl Kendrick Chua presented to the Committee Package 4 of the Comprehensive Tax Reform Program (CTRP), which is called the "Passive Income and Financial Intermediary Taxation Act (PIFITA)." He said that the goal of PIFITA is to redesign financial sector taxation to be simpler, fairer, more efficient, regionally more competitive, and revenue neutral in the short term.</p> <p>Chua also cited the reasons why it is necessary to reform the passive income and financial intermediary tax system. Among these are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To rationalize the multiple tax rates and bases; • To lower the current high income tax rates; • To reduce the tax burden of low-income people by lowering the tax rate on interest income from 20% to 15% percent in favor of the poor, and increasing tax rate on dividends with interest income from 10% to 15% which will mainly affect the rich; • To deepen the shallow capital market; • To level the playing field among financial intermediaries (FIs) by simplifying the gross receipt tax (GRT) to across-the-board 5%; • To harmonize the unequal treatment of insurance products; • To reduce the high friction cost of documentary stamp taxes (DST) and to lower the high DST on non-life insurance to encourage more Filipinos to be insured from disasters; • To lessen administrative and compliance cost; and

Continuation... Ways and Means				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To broaden the narrow tax base by repealing 32 laws which currently provide for many exemptions and special rates and leaving only ten laws on exemptions.
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AGENCY BRIEFINGS		
COMMITTEE	SUBJECT MATTER	DISCUSSIONS
Agriculture and Food	Briefing by the Department of Agriculture (DA) on its mandate, key strategies, plans and programs, and priority legislative agenda	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Wilfrido Mark Enverga (1st District, Quezon), listened to the briefing of the DA on its mandate, key strategies, plans and programs, and priority legislative agenda.</p> <p>Agriculture Secretary William Dar said that the DA aims to achieve food security for the country and increased income for farmers and fisherfolk. He said that from an average agricultural growth rate of 1.1% for the last 10 years, the DA hopes to increase the growth rate of Philippine agriculture to 3-4% by 2021.</p> <p>Dar also said that in order to fast-track the achievement of the country's agricultural goals, there should be policy and structural reforms in the sector and legislative measures for agricultural and rural development should be certified urgent.</p> <p>As a form of assistance to the farmers, Dar said that the DA is extending a one-time, zero interest loan starting September 1. The loan, amounting to P15,000, is payable for eight years and is open to farmers owning lands of up to one hectare.</p> <p>Dar informed the Committee that he directed the National Food Authority (NFA) to properly utilize the P7 billion fund for the procurement of palay. He added that he asked the NFA to adopt an accelerated roll-over procurement scheme wherein the NFA will speed up the buying, processing, and selling of palay/rice so that it will have fresh money to buy more palay from farmers.</p> <p>Another concern that the DA is focusing its efforts on is the swine disease causing deaths of pigs in Rizal province, which Dar said may emerge as a potential crisis if not properly contained. Dar said that existing quarantine measures have been put in place to address the problem.</p>
Games and Amusements	Briefing by the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) on its mandate, vision and mission, organizational structure, fund generation efforts, and charity allocations, as well as on the status of the small-town lottery (STL) program	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Eric Go Yap (Party-List, ACT-CIS), after listening to the PCSO's briefing, focused its discussion on the status of PCSO's fund generation and charity allocations, and on the operation of the small-town lottery (STL).</p> <p>PCSO Chair Anselmo Simeon Pinili, along with several PCSO officials, attended the meeting. But it was PCSO Vice Chairperson and General Manager Royina Garma who conducted the briefing.</p> <p>Gamma reported that PCSO's revenues increased by 19.98% from 2017 to 2018 or a total of P63.57 billion in 2018 compared to P52.98 billion in 2017. Lotto was the highest fund-raising product of PCSO in 2018 garnering a retail receipt of P31.9 billion followed by STL with P26.11 billion.</p> <p>With regard to charity allocations, Garma informed the body that the PCSO, by law, allocates 30% of its net receipts to charity fund. The increase of the Documentary Stamp Tax from 30% in 2017 to 43% in 2018 resulted in a decrease in the funds for charity programs and projects, from P10.4 billion in 2017 to P9.2 billion in 2018.</p>

<p>Continuation... Games and Amusements</p>		<p>On the issues concerning STL, Garma said that the PCSO is reviewing and revising its implementing rules and regulations (IRR) on STL operations and is implementing the conditions set by the Office of the President (OP) for the lifting of the suspension of STL operations.</p> <p>Rep. Elpidio Barzaga Jr. (4th District, Cavite) made a motion to suspend any inquiry on the STL because its IRR is yet to be approved and published by the OP.</p> <p>In July, President Duterte ordered the suspension of all PCSO licensed games, including the operations of STL, on grounds of massive corruption that deprive the government of its rightful share in the agency's earnings. On August 22, the suspension was lifted on the condition that the PCSO shall revise the IRR and that the STL franchise holders shall deposit to the PCSO a three-month cash bond and issue a waiver from pursuing lawsuit against the government on the forfeiture of the cash bond in case of failure to comply with the conditions. The effectivity of the resumption of the STL operations will be after the publication of the IRR.</p>
<p>Local Government</p>	<p>Briefing by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) on its FY 2020 budget, plans and programs, and major accomplishments</p>	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Noel Villanueva (3rd District, Tarlac) listened to the briefing conducted by the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) on its FY 2020 budget, plans and programs, and major accomplishments.</p> <p>DILG Undersecretary Marivel Sacendoncillo reported that out of the total proposed budget of the DILG for FY 2020, P11.71 billion will be allocated for the implementation of priority local infrastructure projects through the Assistance to Municipalities program that will benefit 1,373 municipalities; P1.55 billion will be allotted to 134 municipalities with high poverty incidence, low access to safe water, and high incidence of water-borne diseases through the Sagana at Ligtas na Tubig (SALINTUBIG) Program; and P8.22 billion will be earmarked to repair provincial roads across the country and improve the capacity of provinces in local road management through the Conditional Matching Grant to Provinces (CMGP).</p> <p>The DILG's proposed budget under the FY 2020 National Expenditure Program (NEP) is P238 billion.</p> <p>The DILG Undersecretary likewise discussed the Department's priority legislative agenda, among which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stepping up the drive against criminality, terrorism, and other threats to peace and order; • Professionalization of the interior sector agencies; • Amendments to the Local Government and Omnibus Election Codes; • Shift to federalism; • Extension of term of office of Barangay and Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) officials; • Passage of the Proof of Parking Act; and • Clearing of roads of illegal structures and constructions. <p>On the query of Benguet Rep. Nestor Fongwan if the DILG is amenable to the transfer of the control and management of provincial jails to the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), DILG Secretary Eduardo Año replied in the affirmative, citing similar clamor of many governors. The DILG's support to the jail transfer is based on the governors' claim that inmates in provincial jails were allegedly being used by politicians during the election period.</p> <p>Rep. Villanueva inquired on the amount needed to implement the proposed transfer. BJMP Chief Allan Iral said that approximately</p>

Continuation... Local Government		P11 billion should be allocated in the budget of the DILG to effect the transfer of the control and management of provincial jails to the BJMP and to manage these jails.
Trade and Industry	Briefing by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) on its plans and programs and major accomplishments	<p>The Committee, chaired by Rep. Wes Gatchalian (1st District, Valenzuela City), will continue its discussion on DTI's plans and programs in its next meeting.</p> <p>DTI Secretary Ramon Lopez said that DTI's mandate is summed up into three words: <i>Trabaho</i>, <i>Negosyo</i> and <i>Konsumer</i>. He said that <i>Trabaho</i> refers to the creation of jobs through investment promotion and industry development; <i>Negosyo</i> refers to micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) development and export promotion; and <i>Konsumer</i> refers to consumer protection.</p> <p>Lopez reported on DTI's accomplishments including the following: helped bring down unemployment rate to 5.1% and underemployment rate to 13.5% as of April 2019; made efforts to elevate the Philippines' ranking (56th) in the 2018 Global Competitiveness; and implemented several reforms and submitted data corrections to the World Bank to improve the country's Ease of Doing Business ranking in 2020.</p> <p>The DTI has already established 1,071 Negosyo Centers nationwide assisting 1.4 million clients. The goal is to establish one Negosyo Center per municipality as mandated by the Go Negosyo Act of 2014, Lopez said.</p> <p>The DTI Secretary also said that the Department's total budget allocation in 2019 rose to P18.70 billion due to the transfer of the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) to the DTI as one of its attached agencies. TESDA's budget for this year was P12.55 billion while that of DTI was only P6.15 billion.</p>