

What's Up @ dti PHILIPPINES

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DTI celebrates 39th anniversary online

A breakthrough in DTI history amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the Department went virtual to celebrate its 39th anniversary during the flag raising ceremony on Monday 27 July 2020, that was led by **DTI Secretary Ramon M. Lopez** himself, together with DTI Executive Committee members, other officials, and some 700 participants from the regions and different parts of the world.



Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Secretary Ramon M. Lopez leads the 39th DTI Anniversary with an austere though meaningful, physically distant yet touching ceremony that demonstrates a One-DTI Family that delivers continuous and quality service amidst the COVID-19 crisis. The recognition of COVID-19 Mega-Swabbing Center Frontliners and DTI COVID Rapid Response Team volunteers highlighted the celebration.

In his inspirational message, Sec. Lopez congratulated the DTI Family, especially the men and women of DTI who continue to remain as one despite the challenges and who selflessly serve the people under the “new normal.”

"Happy 39th Anniversary sa DTI, sa ating kapamilya at kapatid sa DTI. Ito po ay 39 years in service to the country. Sabi ng ating awitin, Kaagapay ng Gobyerno," he said.

Notwithstanding the pandemic, the Secretary said the Department has continued to play a key role in helping the country's economy to survive, with initiatives in setting up policies to assist micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) that included the issuances of memorandum circulars to ensure unhampered movement of cargo and people. Major directives include ensuring that essential sectors remain open, imposing price freeze and conducting market monitoring, setting up the Php 1B CARES program, approving Php 645B B (BOI) investments in H1 2020, addressing concerns through the DTI COVID-19 Rapid Response Team, offering online programs, and conducting an impact assessment survey for MSMEs affected by the pandemic, among others.

"Maraming salamat DTI for being a second home, a family for me as well," Sec. Lopez added.

With the theme “Home at 39,” the annual celebration that was organized by the Human Resource and Administrative Service (HRAS) highlighted the awarding of COVID-19 Swabbing Centers' Frontliners as well as DTI COVID Command Center volunteers.

The Secretary personally commended four (4) DTI employees who “displayed unparalleled hard work and assistance despite the risk to their own lives,” namely:

1. **Michael R. Azur** - BDTP (Contract of Service Worker)
2. **Emmanuel O. Lavarias** - HRAS (Coterminous to Incumbent)
3. **Robinson R. Pilar** - OU/TPG-SC (Contract of Service Worker)
4. **Louis Jhay Kimverly Palmes** - BPS (Contract of Service Worker)

The volunteers were deployed at the Philippine Arena in Bulacan from May 12 to June 12, 2020 after undergoing three (3) phases during their engagement: First, they had the preparation for 12 days that included training and seminar with the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP). Second, they were deployed on actual Operations for (10 days) as Swabbers/Assistant Swabbers. Lastly, they went through Quarantine for 14 days, while being provided with room accommodations and meals during the period. The Certificate of Appreciation was signed by **Executive Secretary Salvador C. Medialdea**.

As part of the festivities, “Just Dance @39,” a dance-a-thon lasting 39 minutes commenced right after the flag raising ceremony, much to the delight of DTI dancing queens and kings all over the globe who Zoomed to the groove, solo or in groups, in the workplace or in the comfort of their homes.

In addition, a mid-day Thanksgiving Mass was offered through Zoom and livestreamed via the DTI Website. On 28 July 2020, the DTI Anniversary Online Quiz Bee was launched and shall run in batches until 30 July 2020. Promoting employee welfare during the pandemic, the ESPRIT Well-Being Webinar Series will be offered to target employees, with Basic Psychological First Aid Webinar on July 29 and Basic Psychosocial Skills in Dealing with COVID-19 on July 30.

Sec. Lopez has called on DTI to continue to work for nation-building and create “better normal” rather than adjusting to “new normal.” He urged everyone to revive consumer and business confidence in support of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte’s vision for a more inclusive and prosperous Philippines.

“I encourage everyone, your Family, your DTI family to stay healthy and happy,” he said.

The Secretary also cited those who served as volunteers for the DTI COVID Response Team, namely:

| Bureau/Office | Name |
|---------------|---------------------------------|
| PMS | Cherryl G. Carbonnel |
| | Dane Marvic B. Palencia |
| | Danielle Marixi C. Barrozo |
| | Thea Beatris B. Santos |
| NCRO | RD Marcelina S. Alcantara |
| | Joseph H. Dela Peña |
| | Rowena Domitilia B. San Jose |
| | Rosanna B. Aligaya |
| | Glenda S. Loloy |
| OUSEC-OSEC | Anna Carmela S. Que |
| OUSEC-ROG | Julius Ceazar T.Placer |
| OUSEC-SC | Ayatullah M. Mastura |
| OUSEC-MSG | Markley Gil A. Villarin |
| | Napoleon Ferdinand L. Melendres |
| IAS | Dir. Edgar C. Herrera |

| | |
|-------|----------------------------|
| CPAB | Geral Bernabe C. Calderon |
| EMB | Datubimban Pangonotan |
| BTIPR | Lauren Therese R. Litiatco |
| HRAS | Liz Fayredd H. Chua |
| BPS | Mario U. Gaudiano |
| FTEB | Perpetua Werlina R. Lim |
| BSMED | Jaworski F. Rifareal |
| KMIS | Kimberly T. Sagum |
| | Noralyn B. Rizado |
| BOI | Atty. Bobby G. Fondevilla |
| | Ernie delos Reyes |
| | Danela Bautista |
| CIAP | Martin Roy B. Base |
| STMO | James L. Principe |