

Surigao Sur's economic activity prospers

Written by WOWSURIGAO .com
Friday, 21 October 2011 20:53

LANUZA, Surigao del Sur, Philippines – Economic activity in this part of Surigao del Sur is now in high gear after the Surigao del Sur 1st District Engineering Office (SDS 1st DEO) of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) announced Friday the completion of retrofitting, rehabilitation, strengthening of the Bocawe Bridge and approaches located here, which is a vital road component that connects the southern and northeastern municipalities in this Pacific Ocean facing province.

SDS 1st DEO District Engineer Joseph R. Calderon said that the completion of these infrastructure projects were ahead of schedule, while other on-going projects are already hitting their target timeline of completion.

In a related development, the national government now has a partner on environment preservation and forest protection campaign, eco-system, global warming and climate change mitigation programs, when for the first time a private firm proposed the “Adopt a 1,000-hectare Forest land” (A1-FL) project.

It was learned that the proposed concept will help the government in the preservation and protection of the remaining forest land from timber poachers and wildlife hunters.

This developed during the exit briefing of the two-day visit of top officials from the Forest Management Bureau (FMB), Environment Management Bureau (EMB) and Mines and Geo-Sciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) from central office Manila at the concession area of the PhilSaga Mining Corporation (PSMC) in Rosario, Agusan del Sur.

The visiting officials gave a good and satisfactory rating to the PSMC for its continuing support to the national government’s environment program, such as “greening” and various social and infrastructure projects and livelihood to the various communities.

During the exit briefing on Thursday, PSMC president Col. Samuel G. Afdal proposed that the A1-FL project is aimed at preserving the remaining forest in the area.

“We will protect and manage this area if the government will give in to this idea. I think this is a great help in preserving our remaining forest, and at the same time, also protects our wildlife,” said Afdal.

The Philsaga also plans to plant fruit-bearing trees at the proposed A1-FL in Rosario town and nearby the border of Surigao del Sur for the consumption of wildlife and for eco-system, and at the same time making the program as tourism area in Northeastern Mindanao.

In another development, police stations spread at various areas in the Caraga Region got the corresponding boost for their fighting capabilities to deter criminality and insurgency problem with the arrival of brand new service vehicles.

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The seven new patrol Toyota Hilux vehicles were blessed the other day by the Police Regional Office 13 (PRO 13) Chaplin, and witnessed by top regional police officials, mayors, and chiefs of police of the recipient municipal police stations of Surigao del Sur, Agusan del Sur, and Agusan del Norte, during a simple ceremony at the PRO 13 regional headquarters at Camp Rafael C. Rodriguez in Butuan City. (Manila Bulletin)