

Influx of tourists in Surigao del Sur continue to rise

Written by WOWSURIGAO .com
Tuesday, 07 June 2011 02:32

TANDAG CITY, Surigao del Sur – Tourist arrivals, both foreign and domestic, continue to rise in the Pacific Ocean-facing province of Surigao del Sur.

As this developed, the provincial government of Surigao del Sur under Gov. Johnny T. Pimentel together with all the municipal mayors and local political leaders are joining hands to identify more infrastructure projects to be implemented to cater to the needs of the increasing number of tourists.

In her report to the provincial and local executives, Ma. Clara Ambray, the Surigao del Sur's tourism officer, said tourist arrivals went up from 24,155 in 2009 to 40,817 in 2010 – a growth rate of 67 percent.

She said statistics does not include excursionist who just dropped by at a particular place for just a short period of time or not more than 24 hours.

She said the most popular tourist spots frequently visited by the tourists in the province include: "Doot Poktoy," a surfing area in Lanuza town; a white beach in Cagwait town; the Britania Group of Islands that is noted for its fine white sand beaches; the Enchanted River in Hinatuan town; and the newly discovered Tinuy-an Falls in Bislig City.

For this period, influx of tourist arrivals is already noted and expected to rise more, the tourism officer said.

Ambray added that the big leap of the tourism industry in the province, which is expected to go further in the coming years, is attributed to the newly constructed and paved Surigao-Davao Coastal Road being implemented by the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH), which is being closely supervised by DPWH Region 13 Director Danilo E. Versola.

According to Versola, the said project is expected to hit its projected timeline of completion.

Also expected to help in boosting tourist arrivals in the province in the coming months is the near completion of roads being implemented in newly identified tourism areas.

"Because of the full support of Governor Pimentel in promotional activities and other programs of the tourism industry, our tourist arrivals continue to rise," said Ambray. (Manila Bulletin)