

TAMBULI Weekly Newsletter

The Official e-Newsletter of the Federation of Philippine Industries

Volume 29 Issue No. 34

26 September 2025

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1. 12 days to go: FPI Business Summit 2025





























2. A call for strong leadership: Senator Lacson's role in combating corruption and supporting PHL industries – By: FPI CE, Dr. Jesus Lim Arranza

In my column on May 21, 2025, I congratulated Senator Panfilo "Ping" Lacson on his victory in the midterm elections. Filipino voters recognize him as a dedicated public servant. I said the Federation of Philippine Industries now has an additional ally in the Senate to support our efforts against smuggling and all forms of illicit trade.

For decades, we at FPI have long been combating smuggling and illicit trade due to their devastating impact on our nation. I call it the triple-whammy effect: Smuggling deprives the government of crucial revenue, undermines local businesses that lead to downsizing and/or closures, and can even destroy entire industries. Additionally, it disrupts employment, pushing more Filipinos into poverty.

I've been highlighting for years that smuggling is detrimental to Philippine industries. Take the tire industry, for instance; we once had six manufacturers, but now we're down to just one due to smuggling. Similarly, the textile sector used to operate with 1.5 million spindles, but now only has 100,000. Here's the striking fact: each spindle provides jobs for 35 people around the clock. Just think about how many Filipinos have lost their jobs in this single industry alone.

Another significant issue in the country is the proliferation of substandard products. Throughout my 83 years, I have dedicated much of my life to combating smuggling and various forms of illicit trade, especially the smuggling of low-quality steel and other construction materials. These substandard materials can jeopardize the structural integrity of our buildings, putting the lives of Filipinos at risk.

(Continue reading: https://businessmirror.com.ph/2025/09/17/a-call-for-strong-leadership-senator-lacsons-role-in-combating-corruption-and-supporting-phl-industries/)

3. Addressing the flood problem effectively - By: Ernesto M. Ordoñez

MANILA, Philippines — Addressing the flood problem effectively needs much more than just decreasing corruption. It also requires addressing the root causes of floods. Most of the attention today is on corruption.

We need to take a much broader view, and look at the whole picture. This includes not only remedial, but also preventive measures. One underutilized initiative is the role of the 18 multisectoral and decentralized River Basin Management Councils (RBMCs).

Last Sept. 15, President Marcos appointed Andres Reyes Jr. to lead the three-member Independent Commission on Infrastructure (ICI). The two other members are former Public Works Secretary Rogelio Singson and SGV country managing partner Rosana Fajardo. Mayor Benjamin Magolong will be the special adviser. Its main objective is to look into the anomalies of the government's flood control and other infrastructure projects. This certainly is an impressive team with a very important task.

(Continue reading: https://business.inquirer.net/548033/address inq-the-flood-problem-effectively)

4. FPI Comments – Draft Revised IRR of RA 9516 (PNP Controlled Chemicals)

In a letter addressed to PBGen. Ronald V. Gayo, Director, Firearms and Explosives Office, Philippine National Police the

Federation said that in response to the call for comments on the Draft Revised IRR on Controlled Chemicals, we respectfully

submit the attached **Position Paper** and **Proposed Draft IRR** for your consideration.

Our comments focus on aligning the regulation of controlled chemicals strictly with Sections 4-C to 4-F of PD 1866, as amended by R.A. 8294 and R.A. 9516, and ensuring consistency with the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act of 2018 (R.A. 11032), ARTA issuances, and Supreme Court rules.

Key recommendations include:

- Adoption of a single licensing system, removing transaction-by-transaction permits and separate transport/storage permits which are not required by law.
- Removal of requirements for notarized applications and reports, consistent with ARTA Memorandum Circular 2020-06 and Supreme Court rules.
- 3. Specification of **clear processing timelines** (3-7-20 days) in line with R.A.

- 11032.
- 4. Limiting fees to **license application** and renewal only, ensuring proportionality to actual service cost.
- 5. Defining **clear and objective grounds** for denial, suspension, or revocation of licenses to avoid arbitrary discretion.

For ease of review, we have prepared a **side-by-side comparison** of the PNP Draft IRR and our Proposed Draft IRR. Provisions of the PNP Draft that are not included in our Proposed Draft are deemed deleted, as they exceed the mandate of the law or conflict with R.A. 11032.

We affirm our support for the PNP's mandate to regulate controlled chemicals in the interest of public safety and national security. At the same time, we respectfully urge that the Revised IRR be aligned with the governing statutes and regulatory reform principles. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this consultation.

5. FPI Committee

Environment / Sustainable Development



The Federation of Philippine Industries (FPI) attended the Stakeholder Workshop on The Cost-Benefit Analysis (CBA) in Updating the DENR Administrative Order No. 2000-82 Integrated Air Quality Improvement Framework and Air Quality Control Action Plan (IAQIF-AQCAP). The stakeholder workshop was held on 17 September 2025 from 2:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Seda Vertis North Hotel, Quezon City.

6. FPI in the news

Group supports efforts to ensure transparency in public funds use

To read/view the article: https://metronewscentral.net/metro-business/group-supports-efforts-to-ensure-transparency-in-public-funds-use

Business group urges transparency to boost investor confidence, economic stability

To read/view the article: https://newsphilippinesonline.com/news-details.php?nid=13572

Business groups: Protests 'turning point' for investor confidence

To read/view the article: https://mb.com.ph/2025/09/22/business-groups-protests-turning-point-for-investor-confidence

Business groups urge Marcos to heed public's call for transparency, accountability

To read/view the article: https://www.bworldonline.com/top-stories/2025/09/23/700081/business-groups-urge-marcos-to-heed-publics-call-for-transparency-accountability/?amp

Proactive gov't engagement sought after successful Trillion Peso March

To read/view the article: https://tribune.net.ph/amp/story/2025/09/22/proactive-govt-engagement-sought-after-successful-trillion-peso-march

Biz group reiterates call for transparency, reforms

To read/view the article: https://www.manilatimes.net/2025/09/23/business/top-business/biz-group-reiterates-call-for-transparency-reforms/2188427

Biz groups seek institutional reforms, good governance

To read/view the article: https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2025/09/23/2474770/biz-groups-seek-institutional-reforms-good-governance

Businesses urge PBBM to take decisive, concrete action against systemic gov't corruption following huge indignation rally

To read/view the article: https://logisticsnews.ph/2025/09/22/businesses-urge-pbbm-to-take-decisive-concrete-action-to-end-systemic-govt-corruption/

A turning point: Anti-corruption protests could lead to PH reforms, investor trust – FPI

To read/view the article: https://bilyonaryo.com/2025/09/22/a-turning-point-anti-corruption-protests-could-lead-to-ph-reforms-investor-trust-fpi/business/

FPI urges swift government action on corruption, warns of investor concern

To read/view the article: https://manilastandard.net/business/314645823/fpi-urges-swift-government-action-on-corruption-warns-of-investor-concern.html

Biz group backs efforts to ensure transparency in public funds use

To read/view the article: https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1259227

Opportunities in PH Manufacturing | Business 360 – Bilyonaryo News Channel

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45gmq7zmeN4

Corruption on BOC | Bilyonaryo News Channel

Watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3Ll4SEz134

"Never underestimate the value of integrity in everything we do—especially in infrastructure," FPI Chairperson Elizabeth H. Lee

To read/view post: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/15xtCLSpRu/

FPI Chairman Emeritus Dr. Jesus Lim Arranza Jr. on ghost projects and the real theft: Corruption's assault on public trust

To read/view post: https://www.facebook.com/share/p/169r9XAX7z/

Addressing the flood problem effectively | By: Dr. Ernesto M. Ordoñez

To read/view the article: https://business.inquirer.net/548033/addressing-the-flood-problem-effectively

A call for strong leadership: Senator Lacson's role in combating corruption and supporting PHL industries | By: Dr. Jesus Lim Arranza

To read/view the article: https://businessmirror.com.ph/2025/09/17/a-call-for-strong-leadership-senator-lacsons-role-in-combating-corruption-and-supporting-phl-industries/

FPI pushes for manufacturing revival

To read/view the article: https://www.philstar.com/business/2025/09/16/2473045/fpi-pushes-manufacturing-revival

FPI urges designation of industrial smuggling as economic sabotage

To read/view the article: https://logisticsnews.ph/2025/09/16/fpi-urges-designation-of-industrial-smuggling-as-economic-sabotage/

PHL shipbuilding hindered by lack of local suppliers — OECD

To read/view the article: https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2025/09/15/698582/phl-shipbuilding-hindered-by-lack-of-local-suppliers-oecd/

Domestic producers urge fast tracking of government's local procurement law implementation

To read/view the article: https://logisticsnews.ph/2025/09/15/domestic-producers-urge-fast-tracking-of-governments-local-procurement-law-implementation/

Federation of Philippine Industries

To read/view the article: https://tribune.net.ph/2025/09/15/federation-of-philippine-industries

PCCI, FPI welcome ICI creation

To read/view the article: https://www.manilatimes.net/2025/09/15/business/top-business/pcci-fpi-welcome-ici-creation/2184076

Biz groups say independent body can help restore investor confidence in Philippines

To read/view the article: https://wealthinsights.metrobank.com.ph/bworldonline/business-groups-say-independent-body-can-help-restore-investor-confidence-in-phl/

Filipino businesses put hope on the ICI promise

To read/view the article: https://logisticsnews.ph/2025/09/14/filipino-businesses-put-hope-on-the-ici-promise/

Key to restoring public trust: Industry group cheers Marcos team set to probe DPWH anomalies

To read/view the article: https://bilyonaryo.com/2025/09/14/key-to-restoring-public-trust-industry-group-cheers-marcos-team-set-to-probe-dpwh-anomalies/business/

Two major biz groups back probe body

To read/view the article: https://manilastandard.net/business/314642711/two-major-biz-groups-back-probe-body.html#google-vignette

PHL may have missed the bus in reviving manufacturing — FPI

To read/view the article: https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2025/09/14/698360/phl-may-have-missed-the-bus-in-reviving-manufacturing-fpi/

FPI urges gov't to revive manufacturing sector, lower business costs

To read/view the article: https://manilastandard.net/business/314642902/fpi-urges-govt-to-revive-manufacturing-sector-lower-business-costs.html

Structure, budget needed for intercropping strategy | By: Dr. Ernesto M. Ordoñez

To read/view the article: https://business.inquirer.net/546746/structure-budget-needed-for-intercropping-strategy

Ghost projects, real theft: Corruption's assault on public trust | By: Dr. Jesus Lim Arranza

To read/view the article: https://businessmirror.com.ph/2025/09/12/ghost-projects-real-theft-corruptions-assault-on-public-trust/

'SOMEONE MUST BE SUED'! Industry group backs Marcos probe

To read/view the article: https://tribune.net.ph/2025/09/11/someone-must-be-sued-industry-group-backs-marcos-probe

FPI sees 'positive outcomes' from gov't corruption fight

To read/view the article: https://www.bworldonline.com/economy/2025/09/11/697961/fpi-sees-positive-outcomes-from-govt-corruption-fight/

Investors' confidence improving as gov't runs after erring execs

To read/view the article: https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1258533

A spark of hope: FPI's Lee cheers Dizon and Nepomuceno's leadership

To read/view the article: https://bilyonaryo.com/2025/09/11/a-spark-of-hope-fpis-lee-cheers-dizon-and-nepomucenos-leadership/business/

7. Other news & announcements

DTI visits FPI members









DTI Secretary Cris A. Roque visited the Republic Cement & Building Materials, Inc. plant in Teresa, Rizal to highlight the Department's continuing

efforts to ensure the quality and safety of cement products in the Philippine market. Secretary Roque underscored the importance of upholding national standards for cement manufacturing as part of strengthening consumer protection and supporting the country's infrastructure and construction industries.



DTI Secretary Cris A. Roque visited Steel Asia Manufacturing Corporation in Meycauayan, Bulacan to underscore the vital role of the Philippine Standard quality certification in delivering safe and reliable steel products to Filipino consumers. The visit also reinforced DTI's commitment to work hand-in-hand with industry leaders in advancing innovation, strengthening compliance, and driving sustainable growth in the country's steel sector.



DTI **Secretary Cris A. Roque** visited the manufacturing facility of Pioneer Float Glass Manufacturing, Inc. in Pasig City to strengthen collaboration with the glass industry and underscore the importance of product quality and safety in the market. The tour and discussions with company representatives emphasized DTI's continuing efforts to work with stakeholders in ensuring that consumers are provided with safe, reliable, and high-quality products.

BIR RMC No. 85-2025 - Lost One (1) Set of Unused/Unissued BIR Form No. 0423 - Apprehension Slip | Full Text

BIR RMC No. 84-2025 - Circularizing DOF Department Order No. 012-2025 re: "Revised Schedule of Filing Fees Imposed on Applications for Tax Exemption Indorsements (TEIs) and Non-TEIs in the Revenue Office" | Full Text | D.O. No. 012-2025

BIR RMO No. 40-2025 - Creation and Dropping of Alphanumeric Tax Code (ATC) of Selected Revenue Source under Republic Act (R.A.) No. 12214 (Capital Markets Efficiency Promotion Act) | Full Text

BIR RMO No. 39-2025 - Creation and Dropping of Alphanumeric Tax Code (ATC) of Selected Revenue Source under Revenue Regulations No. 2-1998 (Prescribes the regulations to implement RA No. 8424 relative to the Withholding on Income subject to the Expanded Withholding Tax and Final Withholding Tax, Withholding of Income Tax on Compensation, Withholding of Creditable Value-Added tax and Other Percentage Taxes) | Full Text

SEC supports lifting of bank secrecy to combat corruption | https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-supports-lifting-of-bank-secrecy-to-combat-corruption/

SEC further eases shelf registration rules | https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-further-eases-shelf-registration-rules/

SEC supports AMLC probe on possible money laundering linked to flood control fiasco | https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-supports-amlc-probe-on-possible-money-laundering-linked-to-flood-control-fiasco/

SEC MC No. 13, series of 2025 - SEC GUIDELINES ON PHILIPPINE GREEN EQUITY | https://www.sec.gov.ph/mc-2025/sec-mc-no-13-series-of-2025/

SEC supports AMLC probe on possible money laundering linked to flood control fiasco | https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-supports-amlc-probe-on-possible-money-laundering-linked-to-flood-control-fiasco/

SEC, DOF sign beneficial ownership data sharing deal | https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-dof-sign-beneficial-ownership-data-sharing-deal/

SEC outlines rules on exempt transactions under SRC | https://www.sec.gov.ph/pr-2025/sec-outlines-rules-on-exempt-transactions-under-src/

SEC MC No. 11, series of 2025 - PROVIDING FURTHER GUIDELINES ON EXEMPT TRANSACTIONS UNDER SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT (RA) NO. 8799 OR THE "SECURITIES REGULATION CODE" (SRC), AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE RULE 10 OF THE 2015 IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE SRC | https://www.sec.gov.ph/mc-2025/sec-mc-no-11-series-of-2025/

NOTICE TO SEC COVERED PERSONS ON THE PROHIBITION AGAINST TRANSACTIONS INVOLVING ONLINE GAMBLING PLATFORMS NOT REGISTERED WITH PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENT AND GAMING CORPORATION (PAGCOR) | https://www.sec.gov.ph/notices/notice-to-sec-covered-persons-on-the-prohibition-against-transactions-involving-online-gambling-platforms-not-registered-with-

philippine-amusement-and-gaming-corporation-pagcor/

Finance Secretary Recto, Commissioner Nepomuceno Visits BOC-Cebu | https://customs.gov.ph/finance-secretary-recto-commissioner-nepomuceno-visits-boc-cebu/

BOC Opens Beta Testing of Upgraded Online Tax Estimator | https://customs.gov.ph/boc-opens-beta-testing-of-upgraded-online-tax-estimator/

BOC OCOM Memo 57-2025 - Submission of Accomplishment Report for the First 100 Days of Commissioner ARIEL F. NEPOMUCENO | https://customs.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/2025-57-OCOM-MEMO-4.pdf

Commissioner Nepomuceno Establishes Balikbayan Action Center to Safeguard OFW Shipments | https://customs.gov.ph/commissioner-nepomuceno-establishes-balikbayan-action-center-to-safeguard-ofw-shipments/

BOC CMO 05-2025 - Supervision Over the Public Information and Assistance Division | https://customs.gov.ph/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/2025CMO-05-2025.pdf

20TH CONGRESS COMMITTEE HEARINGS/MEETINGS

- > Senate of the Philippines Committee Hearings/Meetings
- ► House of Representatives Committee Meetings