



February was strategic planning month for DTI Central Visayas.

The strategic planning allowed the region’s REXMANCOM to foresee its future and to prepare accordingly. Through strategic planning, the department is able to anticipate certain unfavorable scenarios before they happen and take necessary precautions to avoid them. With the strategic plan, DTI R7 is proactive rather than merely reacting to situations as they arise. Being proactive will enable the agency to be prepared for any eventuality.

The regional activity also coincided with the DTI Wide Planning which was organized to set the direction of the organization for the year and to set goals that are in line with the organization’s vision and mission.

The planning activities offered much-needed foundation from which the department can evaluate its success, establish boundaries for efficient decision-making and increase operational efficiency.

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- Int’l, PH firms urged to tap growing global food markets at IFEX Philippines 2019
- DTI prompts training providers on copyright for PNS, ISO and IEC
- DTI releases latest expanded SRP list of basic and prime goods



The DTI-Wide Planning was held in Bohol on February 20-22, 2019.



For the information and guidance of the consumers and retailers, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) released the updated Suggested Retail Price (SRP) list of basic necessities and prime commodities (BNPCs) dated as of 13 February 2019.

Out of 242 shelf keeping units (SKUs) in the SRP list, 186 or 77 percent retained their SRPs while the remaining 56 SKUs or 23 percent increased their prices due to high cost of raw materials and depreciation of peso value against the US dollar. *“Due to the three-month price hold-off that was implemented in the last quarter of 2018, no price increase was effected despite peak in inflation, oil price hike, peso devaluation, and increase in the prices of raw materials in the world market. It is only this time when the DTI implemented SRP adjustments after thorough evaluation and consultation with the manufacturers of basic and prime goods,”* said DTI-Consumer Protection Group (CPG) Undersecretary Ruth B. Castelo.

Prices of several canned sardines 155g have increased by Php 0.40 to Php 1.30. According to one manufacturer, the continuous spike in the prices of tamban, tin can, tomato paste, fuel, and other miscellaneous fees contributed to the rise in price of the said commodity. The price of tamban, in particular, increased by 33% in December due to the close of fishing season which began last November 2018 up to February 2019. Aside from canned sardines, prices of processed meat and canned beef also increased due to escalating cost of raw materials (meat) and packaging materials (label, tin, and carton).

Prices of evaporated and condensed milk products also noted an increase ranging from Php 0.50 to Php 1.10 and Php 0.50 to Php 1.20, respectively, due to significant increases in the cost of Skimmed Milk Powder and Anhydrous Milk Fat, and weakening of Philippine peso.

Condiments such as vinegar, fish sauce (patis), and soy sauce also increased in prices due to rising cost of their raw materials (fish extract and soy bean meal) labor rate, and packaging materials (PET bottle and carton). The SRPs of vinegar range from Php 6.40 (200ml) to Php 14.70 (350ml), patis 350 ml from Php 20.50 to Php 25.65, while soy sauce 340ml ranges from Php 16.25 to Php 17.35.

“The DTI assures the consuming public that all increases in the SRPs are kept at the absolute minimum level. Amid the SRP adjustments, the DTI remains vigilant and steadfast in its commitment to ensure reasonableness of prices of basic and prime goods and maintain the adequacy its supply, and to stop trade malpractices in the market”, said Undersecretary Castelo.

The DTI continues to intensify its prices and supply monitoring activities to ensure that prices of BNPCs in the markets are within the SRPs. The [SRP list](#) can be accessed through the DTI website (www.dti.gov.ph) or downloaded from the [e-Presyo](#) mobile application via Play Store for Android device, and App Store for Apple devices. The latest SRP list was published in Philippine Star and Pilipino Star Ngayon last 16 February 2019.

For more information, or to report retailers selling goods above the SRPs, contact DTI Consumer Hotline at 1-DTI (1-384) or text 09178343330.♦

BASIC NECESSITIES

Basic necessities are goods vital to the needs of consumers for their sustenance and existence in times of any of the cases provided under Section 6 or 7 of the Price Act such as, but not limited to:



Rice, corn, cooking oil, fresh, dried, and other marine products, fresh eggs, fresh pork, beef and poultry meat, fresh milk, fresh vegetables, root crops, sugar, and fresh fruits*



Canned fish and other marine products, processed milk, coffee, laundry soap, detergent, candles, bread, salt, potable water in bottles and containers* locally-manufactured instant noodles*



Firewood and charcoal



Drugs classified as essential by DOH



Household liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and kerosene



*Based on RA 7581 or the Price Act, as amended by, RA 10623



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Activities in Photos



(Photos above and below) During the REXMANCOM Planning Workshop held on February 18-19, 2019 at the Golden Prince Hotel, Cebu City.



CEBU DESIGN WEEK

Connect. Create. Cultivate.

CDW Launch

SEDA HOTEL CEBU, Ballroom 2
Cardinal Rosales Ave, Cebu City

March 1, 2019
Registration starts: 9:00 am
Program starts: 9:30 am



PRIME COMMODITIES

Prime Commodities are goods not considered as basic necessities but are essential to consumers in times of any of the cases provided under Section 7 of the Price Act such as, but not limited to:



Dried pork, dried beef and poultry meat, fresh dairy products not falling under basic necessities, onion, garlic, fertilizer, pesticides, herbicides, poultry, swine and cattle feeds, veterinary products for poultry, swine and cattle



Flour, processed and canned pork, processed and canned beef and poultry meat, vinegar, patis, soy sauce, toilet soap, paper, school supplies, cement, clinker, GI sheets, hollow blocks, construction supplies, batteries, electrical supplies, light bulbs, steel wires



Plywood, ply board, nipa shingles, sawali



Drugs not classified as essential by DOH



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DTI issues guidelines to implement DAO on cement

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) issued a memorandum circular on the Supplemental Guidelines for the Department Administrative Order (DAO) 17-06:2017 or The New Rules and Regulations Concerning the Mandatory Certification of Portland Cement and Blended Hydraulic Cement with Pozzolan.

The Memorandum Circular (MC) 18-09:2018 or the Supplemental Guidelines for DAO 17-06:2017 aims to secure the manufacturer's and/or importer's undertaking to perform its duties in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Certificate of Conditional Release issued by the DTI-Bureau of Philippine Standards (DTI-BPS). The DAO 17-06:2017 or The New Rules and Regulations Concerning the Mandatory Certification of Portland Cement and Blended Hydraulic Cement with Pozzolan specifies that an importer shall apply for a Statement of Confirmation (SOC) on a per product, per shipment, per Bill of Lading basis prior to its distribution in the market.

"We have issued these supplemental guidelines for DAO 17-06:2017 to strictly ensure that only cement sourced from a manufacturing plant holding a valid PS License, and whose product has successfully passed the requirements of the relevant standard and the BPS Product Certification Scheme are available for purchase of consumers in the market," DTI-Consumer Protection Group (DTI-CPG) Undersecretary Ruth B. Castelo emphasized.

Under the Section 1 of the MC 18-09, a Show Cause Order (SCO) shall be issued to a manufacturer or importer who failed to comply with the legal and technical requirements or whose product/s failed to conform to these requirements.

An SCO may include a Cease and Desist Order for the manufacturers/importers to refrain from supplying, distributing, selling or displaying the products until the said SCO is lifted.

The circular also states the degree of non-conformity or non-compliance (NC) of a manufacturer/importer which is classified into four (4) categories: minor, significant, major and, critical non-compliance or non-conformity.

In addition, the MC 18-09 notes that while there are non-conformities that are negligible or non-compliances that are justifiable warranting the application of mere corrective or remedial actions, the amount of bond to be forfeited shall depend on the degree of non-conformity or non-compliance of a manufacturer/importer. For significant non-conformity, 25% of the bond shall be forfeited; 50% for major non-compliance; and, 100% forfeiture of the bond for critical non-compliance or non-conformity. The DTI through its Bureau of Philippine Standards (BPS) subjects 74 critical products and systems, including the Portland Cement and Blended Hydraulic Cement with Pozzolan on its list of products under the mandatory certification scheme that include electrical and electronic products, chemical, consumer and other products, and, other mechanical, building and construction products. #

DTI prompts training providers on copyright for PNS, ISO and IEC

The Department of Trade and Industry - Bureau of Philippine Standards (DTI-BPS) calls the attention of commercial training providers to cease reproducing, digitally or in print, copies of standards developed by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Standards and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), including Philippine National Standards (PNS) as such practice constitutes copyright infringement.

The DTI-BPS as the National Standards Body and the Philippines' official member representative to the ISO is the only authorized distributor of PNS, ISO and IEC standards in the country. "The DTI-BPS was made aware that it has become common practice for some training centers to photocopy some PNS, ISO and IEC Standards and distributes them to their session participants. Please note that this is in violation of the DTI-BPS, ISO and IEC's copyright which might lead to legal conflict and criminal penalties." DTI-BPS Director, Engr. James E. Empeño apprises. "Copyright should be respected because it safeguards the use of standards and preserves its integrity and authenticity from unauthorized alterations or adjustments.", Director Empeño expounds. PNS, ISO and IEC Standards are available for purchase at the DTI-BPS Standards Data Center at the DTI Main Office, 3F Trade and Indus-

try Building, 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City. The prices depend on the number of pages of the specific standard. Every original document released by the DTI-BPS bears a copyright notice which prohibits the end-user to reproduce the publication by electronic or mechanical means, including photocopying or posting on the internet or an intranet, without prior written permission.

At present, the DTI-BPS does not grant permission to reproduce to end-users of standards even if requested. Such measure is to control and prevent copyright infringement issues. However, end-users may directly request permission from the ISO Copyright Office and IEC Central Office for ISO and IEC standards only. PNS reproduction requires permission from the DTI-BPS. "The DTI reminds local users of PNS, ISO and IEC standards that the provisions of RA No. 8293 or the Intellectual Property Code (IPC) also apply to creations or works that are protected by virtue of and in accordance with any international convention or other international agreement to which the Philippines is a party.", states DTI - Consumer Protection Group (CPG) Undersecretary, Atty. Ruth B.Castelo. #

Activities in Photos



(Photo above) DTI Consumer Protection Division Cebu Provincial Office during a routine monitoring of Construction Materials sold at a local store.



Activities in Photos



(Photo above) During a productive dialogue and interaction with Bohol Island State University-MC Entrepreneurship Students on the Business Name Law and P3 Program.

(Photo below) During a briefing on DTI Advocacies conducted for Business Administration students from the Misamis University.





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Int'l, PH firms urged to tap growing global food markets at IFEX Philippines 2019

International and local companies are invited to explore the growing market for quality food exports in the 13th edition of the International Food Exhibition (IFEX) Philippines which will be held on 24-26 May 2019 at the World Trade Center (WTC) Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines.

Organized by the Philippines' Department of Trade and Industry through the Center for International Trade Expositions and Missions (DTI-CITEM), IFEX Philippines is the country's biggest and most respected business-to-business (B2B) event for Asian food and ingredients.

Starting 2018, IFEX Philippines has become an annual event for more opportunities for international and local companies to tap the rising global demand for premium and quality food products from different regions across the globe, including North and South America, Europe, East Asia, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Australia and many more.

The three-day event will cover 12 different food sectors namely (1) seafood and marine products; (2) alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages; (3) coffee, herbal teas and cocoa; (4) fresh and processed seafood; (5) fruits and vegetables; (6) grains and cereals; (7) herbs and spices; (8) meat and poultry; (9) natural, healthy and organic products; (10) bakery and confectionery; (11) specialty, ethnic and gourmet products; and (12) other allied industries.

"IFEX Philippines continues to be the premier export platform for international and local companies with its reputation as an internationally recognized food trade show brand for Asian food and ingredients in the food exhibition industry," said DTI-CITEM Executive Director Pauline Suaco-Juan.

"For our upcoming edition, we aim to elevate participating companies to a strategic position where they can better leverage on the event's exhibits, seminars, networking and business-matching activities, as well as take advantage of the Philippines' proximity to other markets," she added.

According to DTI-CITEM, individual exhibitors who participated in IFEX Philippines 2018 can avail of a loyalty discount. This discount excludes exhibitors or companies under group or regional participation.

IFEX Philippines is the country's biggest international trade exhibition on the Philippines' and Asia's ethnic and specialty food, tropical fruits, vegetables, seafood, beverages, bakery and confectionery products, meat and poultry, Halal-certified products, as well as natural, organic, and healthy food products.

IFEX Philippines is organized by the Center for International Trade Expositions and Mission (CITEM), the export promotion arm of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), co-presented with the Department of Agriculture (DA), through the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) and Agribusiness and Marketing Assistance Service (AMAS).



Calendar Art

FEBRUARY 2019						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6 <small>3rd part audit</small>	7 <small>3rd party audit</small>	8 <small>3rd party audit</small>	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 <small>REXMANCOM Planning Workshop</small>	19	20 <small>DTI Wide Planning</small>	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

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