

Ilocos Sur's 6th Negosyo Center Opens in Narvacan

"The Negosyo Center Narvacan will help you start and grow your business. It will be your partner in uplifting the lives of every Narvacaneos", said Regional Director Florante O. Leal during the blessing and launching of the Narvacan Negosyo Center held on November 17, 2016.

In his speech, Mayor Zuriel S. Zaragoza thanked the DTI for its continuing effort to improve the business climate in Narvacan, being the center of commerce in Central Ilocos Sur and Abra. He expressed his strong support to the various projects of DTI in the municipality like the Shared Service Facility and the



Left: The Narvacan Negosyo Center (NC) during its launching on November 17, 2016. **Right:** Narvacan Municipal Officials headed by Mayor Zuriel S. Zaragoza and Vice Mayor Fayinah Zaragoza grace the opening of the Narvacan NC. Also in the presidential table are PD Grace R. Lapastora, SPM Gina Cordero Pe Benito, RD Florante O. Leal and Dr. Esperanza R. Lahoz

Located at the 2nd Floor of the Narvacan Mall, Margaay, Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, the Narvacan Negosyo Center is the 6th Negosyo Center established in the province and the 21st in Region 1. The launching was graced by Sanggunian Panlalawigan Member and Chairman of the SP Committee on Trade and Industry Hon. Gina C. Pe Benito, Narvacan municipal officials headed by Mayor Zuriel S. Zaragoza, Vice Mayor Fayinah Zaragoza and the members of the Sanggunian Bayan and Dr. Esperanza R. Lahoz, Co-Chair of the Ilocos Sur Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Council (ISMSMEDC). With the establishment of the Narvacan Negosyo Center, DTI services will be more accessible for the people of Narvacan and its adjoining town. They need not go to Vigan City to access the services of DTI, saving them time and the cost of transportation

Negosyo Center as tools in uplifting the lives of Narvacaneos. (bqp)

Diskwento Caravan Goes to Gregorio Del Pilar and Sigay, Ilocos Sur

A Diskwento Caravan was simultaneously conducted by the DTI-Ilocos Sur in the upland municipalities of Gregorio Del Pilar and Sigay on November 11, 2016. This is in response to the requests of Mayor Henry Gallardo and Mayor Aries Gaerlan to provide the residents a more accessible and affordable source of basic and prime commodities. The devastating effects of Typhoon Lawin has rendered travelling inconveniences to the people of Gregorio Del Pilar and Sigay since they have to pass through a longer route to the nearest commercial center to purchase their needs. The regular route of 2 hours through the Buaya River in the

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municipality of Salcedo has increased to 3 hours through rough roads via the municipality of San Emilio. The travelling time likewise, for the residents of Sigay has increased from 2½ hours to 3½ hours passing through San Emilio route. The conduct of the Diskwento Caravans also coincided with the pay-out of the 4Ps beneficiaries of the DSWD. The 4Ps beneficiaries were able to purchase the basic needs of their families during the caravan.

“We are thankful that the DTI heeded our request for the conduct of a Diskwento Caravan because my constituents are really affected by the increase in travelling expenses and thank you for bringing products to our far flung municipality at discounted prices”, said Mayor Gallardo.

Small Business Corporation Continues to Address the Funding Needs of Local MSMEs

The Small Business Corporation (SBC), an attached agency of the DTI that caters to the funding needs of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), continues to assist local entrepreneurs by providing them access to its financing programs.



Left: Juanita's Garlic Products owner Ms. Juanita I. Impelido and husband accomplishing loan documents facilitated by the SBC's Ms. Mayet Bautista at the Impelido's residence in Brgy. Duyayyat, Sinit, Ilocos Sur **Right:** Ms. Josefa Besidas, owner of Abuela's Muebles Shop and son accomplish the loan documents facilitated by SBC's Ms. Clarisse Ramos at the Besidas' residence in San Julian, Bantay.

Through the endorsement and facilitation of the DTI, two local MSMEs have again benefited from SBC's ASENSO Financing Program. Abuelas Muebles Shop, a furniture firm owned by Ms. Josefa Besidas of Brgy. San Julian, Bantay, I. Sur was granted a P400,000.00 loan last November 7, 2016. Juanita's Garlic Products, producer of garlic chips/flakes/powder owned by Ms. Juanita Impelido of Brgy. Duyayyat, Sinit, I. Sur was granted a P100,000.00 loan last September 28, 2016.

The beneficiaries are thankful for the loans afforded them which will be used for expansion purposes, raw material purchase and increase in production. (yqq)



Upper photo: Residents of Gregorio del Pilar, Ilocos Sur flock to the venue of the Diskwento Caravan to buy basic and prime commodities. The activity coincides with the cash pay-out of the DSWD to the 4Ps beneficiaries. **Lower photo:** DTI staff are busy assisting the buyers during the conduct of Diskwento Caravan in Sigay.



SBM Rafael Cachola of Narvacan talks to SPM Gina Pe Benito, PD Grace R. Lapastora and Vice Mayor Fayinah Zaragoza regarding the SSF project with a project cost of Php 903,800.00 during the launching the SSF on Meat Processing in Narvacan, Ilocos Sur on November 17, 2016. The blessing was officiated by Rev. Fr. Michael Tanacio, Assistant Parish Priest of St. Lucy Parish, Narvacan, Ilocos Sur. Vice-Mayor Fayinah Zaragoza expressed her gratitude to DTI for the agency's continuing effort to uplift the status of the bagnet industry of Narvacan which she proudly claims, the best bagnet in the province. Located at Margaay, Narvacan, Ilocos Sur, the SSF is one of the 74 SSFs established in Ilocos Sur. (bqp)