



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Labor and Employment
NATIONAL MARITIME POLYTECHNIC



WEB ULOAD
April 13, 2011

Nurturing aspiring cadets to keep leadership in the seafaring trade

Tacloban City - Senior cadets from maritime schools are our potential source of Philippine maritime labor. As the future marine deck and engineer officers of the world's ocean-going fleets, the National Maritime Polytechnic (NMP) caters to the training needs of these prospective seafarers.

According to OIC Executive Director Grace Marie T. Ayaso, "During summer and semestral breaks, NMP block off its Basic Safety Training (BST) schedules to accommodate the incoming senior maritime cadets who make earlier arrangements through their respective schools. Arriving in batches, these cadets are given priority in terms of billeting in the NMP dormitories. Enough provision of beddings, pillows and fans is made available to make their stay pleasant and comfortable", she said.

Lined-up for April- June are graduating cadets from Saint Joseph Institute of Technology (SJIT) in Butuan City, Eastern Visayas State University in Tacloban City, Naval State University in Biliran and STI College in Calbayog City.

SJIT Instructor Alvin Pamat shared that some of their cadets opted to stay after taking BST to proceed with advance courses like Deck Watchkeeping, Consolidated MARPOL 73/73 Annexes I-VI and Proficiency in Survival Craft and Rescue Boat other than Fast Rescue Boats (PSCRB) until their classes resume in June. There are three batches of SJIT cadets at 48 per batch coming to NMP between April-May, Pamat informed.

Schools from as far as Mindanao and neighboring Visayas regions come to NMP for the mandatory course of BST. As holder of BST certificate, a cadet can apply for a Seafarer Identification Record Book (SIRB) which is a requirement for shipboard apprenticeship.

The BST course of NMP already includes SHAPIMS and PADAMS courses. These courses, developed by NMP and now adopted by other training centers, cover psycho-social topics on the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV/AIDS, alcohol and drug abuse where seafarers are most vulnerable.

Through these courses, NMP emphasizes the good qualities an aspiring seafarer must possess for him to reach the top of his seafaring career and that proper attitude and behavior are as essential as technical skills and competence, Ayaso imparted.

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To sustain Philippines' leadership as the manning capital of the world and address a global shortage of competent marine officers, NMP complements the academe through conduct of training interventions to produce a reservoir of aptly trained maritime cadets imbued with right values and attitudes. (MARIA SANDRA M. GALLARDO)

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