



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



WEB UPLOAD
June 1, 2011

NMP gears up activities to commemorate Philippine Independence

Tacloban City - As the country is set to observe the 113th Anniversary of Philippine Independence on June 12, 2011, the National Maritime Polytechnic (NMP), led by Executive Director Josephus B. Jimenez, has lined-up series of activities for a meaningful celebration. The agency picks the theme “Kalayaan: Paninindigan ng Bayan” for the year.

On June 10, at six o’clock in the morning, the *Lakad Kalayaan (Walk for A Cause)* will kick off. Participating employees will gather together at the Samar end of the San Juanico Bridge for a warm up exercise before walking towards the NMP Complex.

It will be followed with *Alay Kalikasan (Tree Planting)* where 450 fruit-bearing tree seedlings from the Department of Agriculture Regional Office No. 8 will be planted at the back of the Officers dormitory. Participating NMP trainees will have their tree planting at 5:30 AM on June 9, a day before the employees’ schedule.

A *Laro ng Lahi* featuring Filipino sports will be played and competed by NMP personnel.

The *MusiKalayaan*, a cultural performance showcasing Filipino songs and dances, will be held at night on same day and to be participated in by NMP personnel and their family members. The competition is also open to interested NMP trainees.

A glimpse of the historical proclamation of the country’s liberation from Spain will be dramatized in a *Reenactment of the Proclamation of the Philippine Independence* immediately after the Monday flag raising ceremonies on June 13.

The finale activity of the NMP 2011 Independence Day celebration is a symposium on Philippine history entitled *Kasaysayan at Kasarinlan* with Director Jimenez as the principal paper presenter. Invited reactors are PIA Director Olive Tiu and media practitioner Rolie Montilla.

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Earlier, NMP has simultaneously hoisted 15 Philippine flags dubbed *Watawat Ko, Iwawagayway Ko*, as part of the National Flag Day celebration. The event took place on May 30 at the NMP grounds during the Monday flag raising ceremony. Director Jimenez addressed the employees and trainees by sharing his thoughts on the essence of independence in his poem '*Nasaan ang Kalayaan?*'.

Through the verses, he elucidated that real freedom rest on one's hands, heart and mind and in fact, a matter of choice for each Filipino. He ended by encouraging the crowd of NMP employees and trainees to achieve their aspirations through hard work, determination and faith to the Almighty and oneself.

A copy of the poem can be downloaded at the NMP website www.nmp.gov.ph. (MARIA SANDRA M. GALLARDO)

Copy Approved for release:

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