

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JUNE 11, 2009

Hiring of teachers for public schools highlights June 12 celebration

The allocation of some 9,403 new teaching positions for 2009 and the awarding of 4,500 emergency employment contracts are among the highlights of the 111th celebration of Philippine Independence.

DepEd Secretary Jesli Lapus said that beefing up our human resources, particularly our teachers makes “for practical and significant celebration this Independence Day.”

“Employment generation especially among the ranks of educators is one way of giving honor to the country which has nurtured us,” he added.

President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo leads the Independence Day celebration in flag-raising and wreath-laying rites at the Rizal Park in Manila. She is joined by Lapus, who serves as co-chairman of the national organizing committee of the celebration. Simultaneous flag-raising ceremonies are held across the country.

Lapus said, “While we are improving the efficiency of DepEd-wide systems and processes, we continue to focus on the professional growth and welfare of our teachers and administrative support staff.”

He noted, “This year’s celebration is also focused on giving jobs particularly to displaced workers all over the country.” The emergency employment contracts are for non-teaching personnel that schools may require. Their contracts begin on July and end in December.

With the theme, “Kagitingan, Kagalingan at Kasipagan Tungo sa Tunay na Kalayaan,” this year’s celebration aims for the concerted efforts among government agencies and partners in the government’s Ten Point Agenda to Beat the Odds. Job and livelihood fairs are also set up in various locations

The public is invited to free sports activities, film screenings, and cultural performances in the National Capital Region and many historical landmarks in the country to drum up June 12 celebrations.

In line with the celebration, Lapus will also lead events in Barasoain Church in Malolos Bulacan.

The National Organizing Committee for the celebration is comprised of DepEd, Department of Labor and Employment, Office of the President, Department of Tourism, Department of Interior and Local Government and National Historical Institute.

PRESS RELEASE

DepEd encourages teachers to take up discussions on significant events in history that led to the country's independence. Teachers may also conduct essay writing, poster making, oratorical/declamation contests to enhance the significance of the celebration.

DepEd also continues its campaign to educate the public on the proper use and display of the Philippine National Flag and the proper singing and conducting of the Philippine National Anthem as vital factors in developing national identity.

END

PRESS RELEASE