

PRESS RELEASE

DepEd readies employees for automated election

The Department of Education, one of the government agencies actively involved in the May 2010 elections, conducted a voter's education forum for the employees to better appreciate election automation.

DepEd has allotted time to conduct this activity to familiarize its employees on how the new system of conducting the electoral process works. It also allowed the participants to experience the actual shading of the training ballots and the use of the Precinct Count Optical Scanner (PCOS) machines.

Training ballots were of the same size as the actual ballots that will be used on May 10. However, a different set of names was used.

The event was among the activities prepared by DepEd's Staff Development Division (SDD) as part of the celebration of Women's Month.

"DepEd central office staff will not man the polling precinct. However, since they are voters themselves and this is a new system, they also deserve to know how the new process works prior to the actual elections," said Nerissa Losaria, SDD Head.

For its part, Comelec said the purpose of the automated election system is to increase accuracy in counting and reduce time for canvassing. "This is the reason why we are pushing for election automation" explained Atty. Adolfo Ibañez, director of the Comelec's Personnel Department, the forum speaker.

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