



READY, GET SET, GO! – A participant, wearing the mask of ‘Brook’, a fictional character in the popular Japanese anime and manga ‘One Piece’, leads runners at the start of the first-ever ‘One Piece One Run Philippines’ held at SM City Fairview in Quezon City on Sunday, Oct. 12, 2025. (Santi San Juan)

Davao Oriental quakes death toll rises to 8

By MARTIN SADONGDONG, BETHEENA UNITE, RAYMUND ANTONIO, AARON RECUEÑO, and JEL SANTOS

The death toll from the twin strong earthquakes that struck Davao Oriental and nearby provinces last Oct. 10 has risen to eight, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) reported on Sunday, Oct. 12.

President Marcos has instructed all front-line agencies to carry out round-the-clock rescue and relief operations, following the 7.4-magnitude earthquake that struck Davao Oriental on Oct. 10.

According to Presidential Communications Office (PCO) Secretary Dave Gomez, Marcos reminded them that the safety and well-being of residents remain as their top priority.

“The President’s paramount concern is the safety and well-being of our people in the earthquake-struck areas,” Gomez said in a statement. ▶7

President Marcos orders continued rescue, relief ops



‘NIGHT OF PRIDE, GRATITUDE’ – First Lady Liza Araneta Marcos (left) addresses the Filipino community on Friday, Oct. 10, 2025, during her visit to London where she also paid tribute to Filipino nurses for becoming ‘pillars of strength and kindness’ in the United Kingdom’s healthcare system. (Photo from First Lady Liza Araneta Marcos FB page)

First Lady honors Filipino nurses in London

By ARGYLL CYRUS GEDUCOS

First Lady Liza Araneta-Marcos paid tribute to Filipino nurses and community leaders in the United Kingdom, expressing gratitude for their courage, compassion, and service during a gathering in London on Friday, Oct. 10.

In a post on Instagram, Marcos

described the evening as “a night of pride and gratitude,” honoring the contributions of overseas Filipino health workers who have become “pillars of strength and kindness” in the UK’s healthcare system.

“You led with courage. You cared with compassion. You served with heart,” she wrote.

“Each of you carries the Fili-

pino spirit — strong, kind, and full of grace,” she added.

The First Lady, accompanied by Philippine Ambassador to the United Kingdom Teodoro Locsin Jr., said the event was an opportunity to recognize the vital role Filipino nurses play in upholding the nation’s reputation abroad through professionalism and empathy.

“Maraming salamat po. You make us proud,” she said.

During her trip, the First Lady also led the Serbisyo Caravan, a government outreach initiative that provided public services to overseas Filipinos in London.

“Even from across the ▶7



KEY RESTORATION ACTIVITIES – Workers of the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) are hard at work in restoring power transmission services in the Visayas following the magnitude-6.9 earthquake that struck Cebu last Sept. 30, 2025. NGCP has been able to successfully energize the Daanbantayan–Tabango 230kV Line 2, the submarine cable linking Cebu and Leyte; and the Compostela–Daanbantayan 230kV Line 1.

International aid pours in for quake victims in Davao Oriental, Cebu

By RAYMUND ANTONIO

In the wake of the multiple earthquakes that hit the Philippines in a span of two weeks, the international community came together to offer help and assistance for the government and the victims left devastated by the disasters.

United States Ambassador MaryKay Carlson shared about the US’ provision of some 137,000 fam-

ily food packs and 500 emergency shelter kits in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) as they “assess additional needs” in Davao Oriental.

“My heart goes out to all those affected by the Mindanao earthquake and recent natural disasters,” she said on X (formerly Twitter).

Japanese Ambassador Endo Kazuya, likewise, expressed solidarity

with the Philippines Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) responding to the request of the Philippine government in providing emergency relief goods—tents, blankets, plastic sheets, sleeping pads, portable jerry cans, and portable water purifiers.

“My heart goes out to all the families affected by the earthquake in Davao and the southern Philippines,” Endo said. ▶7

NGCP completes key restorations in Visayas Grid after magnitude 6.9 earthquake

Transmission services across the Visayas Grid have resumed normal operations after the National Grid Corporation of the Philippines (NGCP) completed its key restoration efforts following the magnitude 6.9 earthquake in Cebu.

As of 9:38 a.m. of Oct. 3, the NGCP successfully energized the Daanbantayan–Tabango 230kV Line 2, the submarine cable linking Cebu and Leyte. ▶7



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