Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA)

PRESS RELEASE
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DOST-PAGASA, BPSU Break Ground on Bataan Abucay Doppler Weather Radar Station

ABUCAY, BATAAN — October 27, 2026 — The Department of Science and Technology–Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (DOST-PAGASA), in partnership with the Bataan Peninsula State University (BPSU), officially broke ground on the Bataan Abucay Doppler Weather Radar Station on October 27, 2026, marking a major milestone for disaster resilience and weather forecasting in Abucay, Bataan.

The state-of-the-art facility will house an S-band magnetron-type dual-polarization Doppler weather radar. Designed to address localized monitoring gaps—particularly in tracking convective storms and microscale rainbands—the new system will provide real-time, high-precision data on precipitation volume, wind velocity, and storm tracks across Bataan and Western Luzon.

Bridging Science, Lives, and Livelihoods

Speaking at the ceremony, DOST Secretary Dr. Renato U. Solidum Jr. emphasized the agency's commitment to translating scientific data into actionable measures that safeguard both people and economic assets.

"*Protecting lives will always be our highest priority. But true resilience means protecting livelihoods as well: the crops our farmers work tirelessly to cultivate, the small businesses sustaining families, and the infrastructure needed to rebuild after a storm. Better information gives local leaders and families the power to take preventive action and minimize losses before disaster strikes*," Solidum stated.

Secretary Solidum further highlighted the necessity of impact-based forecasting, enabling local governments, institutions, and individuals to understand potential weather consequences and take timely, protective actions.

Echoing this vision, DOST-PAGASA Administrator Dr. Nathaniel T. Servando underscored the operational value of expanding observation systems.

"*The ultimate purpose of investing in observation systems such as the Abucay Doppler Radar Station is to improve forecasts and warnings, strengthen the understanding of severe weather, and provide information that can support timely decisions—from national agencies and local governments to emergency managers, responders, and communities*," Dr. Servando noted.

Strengthening Community Readiness and Academic Synergies

Beyond upgrading technical infrastructure, the Abucay facility will enhance communication among disaster risk reduction and management (DRRM) practitioners, local media, and vulnerable communities. The availability of localized, granular radar data will empower local stakeholders to interpret warnings faster and execute immediate emergency responses.

The project also highlights a vital partnership between DOST-PAGASA and academia. Once operational, the station will serve as a research asset for BPSU engineering and environmental science students, giving them direct access to real-time radar data streams and fostering future scientific innovation in the region.

The physical construction of the radar tower is now underway, reinforcing DOST-PAGASA's ongoing commitment to modernizing the nation's weather observation network and building climate-resilient communities.

For more information, please contact **Engr. Lorenzo A. Moron**, **Chief of PAGASA Regional Services Division - National Capital Region**, at telephone number 8284-0800 local 3030/3031.

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Administrator