

# ‘KRISTINE’ DEATH TOLL HITS OVER 40 AS DAMAGE WIDENS

STORY BY NESTOR CORRALES

Officials report devastation from more areas in 15 regions from Mindanao to Luzon whipped by the storm’s fury. Relief efforts are being hampered by still-flooded highways or roads damaged or blocked by fallen trees, mud and other debris.



TRAGEDY IN TALISAY A man weeps uncontrollably on Friday, Oct. 25, as he hugs a cadaver bag holding the remains of his sibling, a victim of a landslide triggered by Severe Tropical Storm “Kristine” (international name: Trami) which tore through Talisay, Batangas. Workers try to clear the landslide rubble in Barangay Sampaloc (top photo) while a jeepney lies half-buried in debris.

—RICHARD A. REYES

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OOTD: CAMOUFLAGE FATIGUES

Indonesia’s new Cabinet meet ‘army-style’

JAKARTA—Wearing military fatigues and black combat boots, the newly appointed Cabinet of Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto began a mountain retreat on Friday, in an unconventional bond-building exercise involving more than 100 members of his new government.

Ministers and their deputies donned caps and camouflage outfits, and stood in salute at a parade ground of a military academy in Central Java province to hear briefings from Prabowo, a former special forces commander who was sworn in as Indonesia’s eighth president on Sunday.

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NEWS

DA sees sharp drop in rice yield

The Department of Agriculture (DA) expects substantial losses in rice production this year due to bad weather, an official said on Friday. The DA expects the harvest for the year at 19.41 million metric tons, down from the 2023 crop of 20.04 million MT. The drop is being attributed to both the El Niño and La Niña, major factors predating Severe Tropical Storm “Kristine.” —STORY BY JORDENE LAGARE

REGIONS

BARMM poll preps: 1K guns turned over

COTABATO CITY—Authorities look forward to an improved security situation in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) in time for next year’s historic regional polls, as more loose firearms are turned over to the military and police. Some 1,000 firearms have been collected across the region as of mid-October under a year-old campaign.

—STORY BY DREMA Q. BRAVO AND RICHEL V. UMEL

WORLD

Canada curbs immigration targets

OTTAWA—Canada on Thursday sharply curbed its immigration targets in an effort to “pause” population growth, a shift that comes as public support for immigration declines. The announcement marked a major pivot for the country of 41 million and known as a welcoming destination for new arrivals, including economic migrants from the developing world seeking better living conditions.

—STORY BY AFP

PROPERTY

Two giants merge with a master plan

The partnership between Federal Land Inc. and Japan’s Nomura Real Estate Development Co. Ltd. marks a milestone in Philippine real estate. The joint venture, formalized in 2022 as Federal Land NRE Global Inc., promises to bring international innovation into the local market by leveraging on the strengths of both powerhouses, redefining urban development yet again.

—STORY BY AR. JOHN IAN LEE FULGAR