

July - August 2025



W CITY HALL WIND WS



The Official Publication of the City Government of Legazpi

LEGAZPI CITY HALL

**Honorable
HISHAM
B. ISMAIL**

**A New Brand of
Leadership**



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Ma. Cristina D. Zantua

Hon. Hisham Ismail: A New Brand of Leadership in Legazpi City

Legazpi City is witnessing a refreshing shift in governance under the leadership of Hon. Hisham B. Ismail. More than just a new face in the mayor's office, Ismail embodies a new brand of leadership, one characterized by accessibility, innovation, and a genuine commitment to community empowerment.

Gone are the days of distant, inaccessible leaders. Ismail has actively cultivated a culture of open communication, evident in his frequent proactive engagement with citizens on social media, barangays and the civil society organization. This approach fosters transparency and ensures that the voices of Legazpi residents are heard and valued.

But perhaps the most defining characteristic of Ismail's leadership is his unwavering commitment to community empowerment. By prioritizing sustainable livelihood programs, employment facilitation programs, supporting students with special needs, and actively involving barangay leaders in decision-making processes, Ismail is building a more inclusive and resilient Legazpi City.

While challenges undoubtedly remain, Hon. Hisham Ismail's new brand of leadership offers a promising vision for Legazpi City – a vision of progress, inclusivity, and a government that truly serves the people. His focus on accessibility, innovation, and empowerment is not just a change in style, but a fundamental shift in the way Legazpi is governed, paving the way for a brighter future.

The Power of Three: Mayor Hisham, Kiko, and Naya - A Family Serving Legazpi with a Heart

Legazpi City thrives not only on the strength of its governance but also on the power of its leader's inspiration. At the helm is Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, a man known for his innovative leadership and genuine care for his constituents. But behind this driving force is a powerful support system: his kind-hearted wife and First Lady of Legazpi, Kiko, and their vibrant daughter, Naya. Together, they form a trio whose influence extends far beyond the walls of City Hall.

Mayor Hisham often credits Kiko as his rock and guiding star. Her unwavering support and compassionate nature provide him with the emotional strength to navigate the challenges of public service. Kiko's dedication to social welfare initiatives, particularly



those focused on women and children, reflects her deep commitment to the community. She is often seen working alongside local organizations, lending her voice and energy to uplift the lives of Legazpi residents.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua

Legazpi City Distributes School Supplies to Empower Young Learners

The Government of Legazpi, under the leadership of Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, successfully carried out a city-wide distribution of school supplies to elementary students across various barangays. This initiative, in partnership with Ako Bicol Partylist Congressman Alfredo A. Garbin, Jr. and the Sangguniang Panlungsod, reflects the city's steadfast commitment to nurturing young minds and investing in a brighter future.

Mayor Ismail personally led the distribution efforts, reaching schools in both southern and northern barangays—including Rawis, Tamaoyan, Pawa, Dita, San Joaquin, Bogtong, Bonga, Mabinit,

Matanag, Buyoan, Padang, Bigaa, and central schools such as Albay Central, Bagumbayan, EM's Barrio, Bitano, Cabangan, Gogon, Estanza, and Buraguis.

The school kits—comprising notebooks, writing materials, backpacks, and art supplies—were distributed to ensure that every child, regardless of background or location, has access to the basic tools needed to succeed in school. These items are more than just supplies, but rather a symbol of hope, opportunity, and city's belief in the limitless potential of every Legazpeño learner.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



DepEd's Angara Meets with Legazpi Officials, backs Ibalong Integration in School Curriculum

The Department of Education Secretary Sonny Angara met with Mayor Hisham Ismail and Councilor Atty. Roberto Rafael N. Lucila II on August 28, 2025 at the Marison Hotel, Legazpi City for a productive coffee meeting focused on strengthening educational initiatives in the city.

During his visit in Legazpi last August 28, 2025, Secretary Angara received a resolution from the Sanggunian Panlungsod of Legazpi

advocating the inclusion of the Ibalong Epic in the DepEd Matatag Curriculum. The resolution, authored by Councilor Lucila, seeks to integrate the epic into the curriculum for elementary and secondary students in both public and private schools in Legazpi.

With DepEd's commitment and the city's proactive efforts, Legazpi aims to preserve its cultural heritage and ensure that the Ibalong Epic continues to be taught to future generations.

Paul Joshua S. De Dios



DepEd Secretary Angara in a great mood with Mayor Ismail, and other officials in a dynamic meeting to elevate local education.

Free Rabies Vaccination Now Available for Legazpeños!

A new chapter in public health has dawned for Legazpi City as the City Health Office officially launched its Rabies Vaccination Station.

This new facility now offers free rabies vaccines to all Legazpeños. With this station, lifesaving rabies treatment is now more accessible than ever—right within the heart of the city. The center is especially helpful for residents in need, offering free vaccinations to indigent residents of the city at a first-come, first-served basis.

This initiative was made possible through the strong support of Congressman Atty. Alfredo A. Garbin, Jr. to Mayor Ismail, whose leadership helped turn this long-awaited project into reality.

This program is a testament to the city's commitment to public health and responsible pet ownership.

Let's protect our families and our furry companions – get vaccinated today!

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Legazpi City Ramps Up Anti-Smoking and Vaping Campaign

Mayor Hisham B. Ismail is calling on the public—especially the youth—to say no to smoking and vaping as the Legazpi City Health Office intensifies its campaign against tobacco and e-cigarette use. In a meeting with the Smoke-Free Committee, Mayor Ismail underscored the detrimental effects of smoking to communities saying “Smoking doesn't just harm the smoker—it affects everyone around them.” He emphasized the city government's commitment to protecting minors and ensuring that smoke-free policies are upheld

across public spaces.

To support residents who wish to quit smoking, the Legazpi City Health Office offers free services through its cessation clinic. These include brief tobacco interventions, medical assessments, check-ups, and medication. The campaign is further strengthened by the deployment of additional deputized enforcers from the Philippine National Police, the Public Safety Office, and the Smoke-Free Coordinating Unit.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Mr. Jose Balbin, CHO Smoke-free Unit Enforcement Team Leader in an intense session with fellow attendee.



Smoke-free program coordinator, Ms. Portia O. Rogando flashes her winning smile during the conduct of the orientation.

Mayor Ismail Strengthens Public Service Commitment Through Executive Training

Legazpi City Mayor Hisham B. Ismail with Executive Assistant IV Ronaldo A. Garbin has successfully completed an intensive course for Local Executives and Administrators further enhancing their leadership capabilities and commitment to public service. The course, “Introducing Local Executives to Administration & Development” was held at the Institute for Small-Scale Industries, University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City from August 4 to 8, 2025, focused on equipping local leaders with the latest strategies and best practices in governance, sustainable development, and community engagement.

Throughout the program, Mayor Ismail & Mr. Garbin engaged in rigorous training sessions, collaborative workshops, and insightful discussions with fellow local executives and administrators from

across the region. The curriculum covered a wide range of topics, including fiscal management, disaster risk reduction, infrastructure development, and social welfare programs.

The completion of this course underscores Mayor Hisham’s dedication to continuous learning and professional development. By acquiring new knowledge and skills, the mayor is better positioned to address the evolving challenges and opportunities facing Legazpi City. This accomplishment reflects a commitment to effective leadership and a desire to serve the community with excellence and integrity. The enhanced expertise gained will undoubtedly contribute to the continued progress and prosperity of Legazpi City.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua



Mayor Ismail beams with pride with EA IV Garbin and fellow classmates during their executive training at UP Diliman.



City Government of Legazpi Opens New Chapter in Governance at 17th Inaugural Session

The 17th Inaugural Session of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Legazpi City marked the commencement of a new chapter in local governance. Held on July 7, 2025, at La Piazza Hotel & Convention Center, the session formally represented by Vice Mayor Luis Felipe L. Gutierrez and the newly elected and re-elected councilors, reaffirming their commitment to serving the constituents of Legazpi.

The session featured inspiring speeches from key figures, including Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, who outlined the administration's priorities for the upcoming term. These priorities centered on sustainable development, economic growth, improved social services, and enhanced infrastructure.

The Honorable Vice Mayor and the councilors pledged to work collaboratively, transcending political divides, to address the city's challenges and capitalize on its opportunities. A strong emphasis was placed on transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement, ensuring that the voices of the people are heard and reflected in policy decisions.

The 17th Inaugural Session signaled a renewed dedication to progress and prosperity for Legazpi City, with the Sangguniang Panlungsod poised to play a vital role in shaping a brighter future for all its residents. The councilors expressed their enthusiasm to work hand in hand with the community to achieve shared goals.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua



The illustrious men and women of SP Legazpi with Mayor Ismail during the 17th Sanggunian Inaugural Session, in the service of the Legazpeños.



Mayor Ismail Leads “Kapihan at Kwentuhan” with Tourism Stakeholders and Local Government

Mayor Hisham B. Ismail recently participated in a “Kapihan at Kwentuhan Kasama ang Turismo at Lokal na Gobyerno” on August 9, 2025, at Nena’s Hall Tower 4, Landco Business Park, Hotel Sentro, Legazpi City, bringing together key stakeholders from the tourism sector and local government officials. This significant gathering with Mr. Emilio Jose Antonio Reynoso, President of the Legazpi Tourism Stakeholders Council provided a platform for open dialogue, collaboration, and the exchange of ideas aimed at further developing and promoting Legazpi City’s tourism industry.

During the session, Mayor Ismail emphasized the importance of a unified approach to tourism development, highlighting the need for close coordination between the public and private sectors. Discussions centered on strategies to enhance the city’s tourism offerings, promote sustainable tourism practices, and attract more visitors.

Legazpi City Councilor Charlton Lajara, Vice Chairperson of the Committee on Tourism, reminded everyone that tourism is for all of us and every visitor helps our economy and shares our story.

Ma. Theresa D. Nuñez



Mayor Ismail poses with dedicated tourism czar during the Kapihan at Hotel Sentro.

City HRMO Holds Workshop to Boost Public Service

The City Human Resource Management Office, through its Learning Development Division, recently conducted a seminar-workshop aimed at improving public service delivery.

Held on August 6-7, 2025 at Legazpi City Hall, the “Enhancing Public Service Delivery for Frontliners 2.0” workshop was led by Ms. Asuncion C. Viñas, REB, REA, the Business Permit and Licensing Officer.

Department heads and key representatives from various city offices attended the training. The workshop specifically focused on the Anti-Red Tape Authority as mandated duly promoting the Ease of Doing Business Act. Participants gained practical strategies to streamline processes and reduce bureaucratic delays, ultimately strengthening the delivery of efficient and citizen-friendly government services.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



VM Gutierrez with councilors and department heads, all bright & glowing during the city’s seminar-workshop.

Legazpi CCDO Hosts Cooperative Leaders

Driven by its steadfast commitment to advancing cooperative development, the City Government of Legazpi led by Hon. Hisham B. Ismail convened with leaders of local cooperatives in a momentous Meet and Greet Session on July 29, 2025. The gathering, held at the Ibalong Centrum for Recreation, brought together over fifteen cooperatives for a warm luncheon and dynamic, informal exchanges. Representatives from Land Bank of the Philippines Legazpi, and the Sangguniang Panlungsod namely Hon. Luis Felipe L. Gutierrez, Hon. Renato A. Valladolid, and Hon. Butch N. Lucila, also joined the event, fostering dialogue and exploring potential collaborations to strengthen the city's cooperative sector.

Paul Joshua S. De Dios



Vice Mayor Luis Felipe L. Gutierrez



Councilor Renato A. Valladolid



Igniting Heritage: The C



Legazpi City erupted in a vibrant display of culture and festivity as the opening commenced with a solemn Eucharistic celebration, setting a tone

The highlight of the day was the grand parade, a dazzling spectacle depicting characters from the Ibalong epic brought the legends of old to life

As dusk settled, the energy shifted to a high-octane concert featuring local acts culminated in a breathtaking fireworks display, painting the Legazpi sky with the heritage of the city.

Hon. Mayor Hisham B. Ismail took pride that the grand opening of the festival of culture, promising a memorable experience for both residents and visitors, showcasing the unwavering community spirit.



Grand Opening of the 34th Ibalong Festival in Legazpi

The Ibalong Festival 2025 officially opened on August 22, 2025. The grand event was a celebration of unity and gratitude for the blessings bestowed upon the city. It was a night of color, music, and artistry. Participants adorned in elaborate costumes and traditional headdresses, captivating spectators lining the streets. The event featured local and national artists, drawing crowds of enthusiastic revelers. The night was filled with bursts of light and color, symbolizing the vibrant spirit and enduring legacy of the Ibalong Festival.

The 34th Ibalong Festival 2025 set the stage for a week-long celebration of Bicolano pride and heritage. The event showcased Legazpi's rich history, artistic talent, and vibrant culture.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua





THE SEARCH IS ON FOR MUTYA NG IBALONG 2025

“Mutya ng Ibalong is a way for women to showcase not just beauty and talent, but also their ability to make a difference.”

HON. MARIA PAZ SALUD “SUNSHINE” C. IMPERIAL
Chairman, Mutya ng Ibalong Executive Committee

Photo Credits: EVENTOLOGIE



Official Launching of the Ibalong Festival 2025 Logo

With eyes set on the future yet firmly rooted in its legendary past, Legazpi City unveiled the new official logo of the Ibalong Festival yesterday—marking a milestone in its cultural journey. The unveiling, held in partnership with the Department of Tourism – Region V, served not only a design reveal but as a symbolic bridge between tradition and reinvention.

The gathering was thoughtfully led by Hon. Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, who spearheaded the event as part of his vision for a more vibrant and inclusive Legazpi. His presence reinforced the city's commitment to heritage as a driving force for progress.

Among the special guest was Mr. Ping Peralta, the creative force

behind the original Ibalong Festival logo. His return to the spotlight brought a heartfelt sense of continuity, reminding everyone of the enduring power of storytelling and symbolism in shaping community identity.

In every stroke and symbol, the new logo represents a vibrant call to celebrate heroism, unity, and resilience, echoing the spirit of the Ibalong epic in fresh, dynamic form.

The Ibalong Festival 2025 logo was officially presented to stakeholders and media partners—an emblem that now carries forward the legacy of the Ibalong Festival with renewed vigor and purpose.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Councilor Rañola, Chairman of the Ibalong Festival 2025, was all festive with the city officials & guests during the launching of the Ibalong logo.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

IBALONG GRAND JOB FAIR 2025

Legazpi City's Ibalong Job Fair, spearheaded by PESO Manager, Mr. Diosdado R. Rañeses, proved a resounding success this August 29, 2025, at SM Legazpi! The event showcased a remarkable 11,636 solicited job vacancies, attracting 1,114 eager applicants. A testament to the quality of local talent, 1,052 applicants were deemed qualified, and an impressive 46 individuals were hired on the spot. This initiative, a key component of the Ibalong Festival celebrations, provided a vital platform connecting job seekers with opportunities, boosting the local economy, and highlighting the city's commitment to employment under the able leadership of Hon. Mayor Hisham B. Ismail.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua

JOBSTART - A BRIDGE TO EMPLOYMENT

Legazpi City's JobStart program is set to empower 85 beneficiaries with a comprehensive 10-day training program commencing July 14, 2025. This initiative provides crucial skills development, equipping participants for future employment opportunities. Each beneficiary will receive a P4,000 training allowance, easing financial burdens and encouraging active participation.



Mayor Ismail captured in a vibrant mood with the city officials, PESO Manager, & beneficiaries of the employment programs.



PESO LEGAZPI EMPOWERS STUDENTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

City Public Employment Service Office (PESO) champions inclusivity by supporting 12 students with special needs through the Special Program for Employment of Student which is set to start this September 2025. Offering 20 working days of valuable experience, the program provides a P615 daily allowance, fostering financial independence and skill development. This initiative not only empowers these students but also promotes a more inclusive and equitable workforce. PESO's commitment demonstrates a dedication to breaking down barriers and creating opportunities for all young people in Legazpi, ensuring every student has a chance to thrive and contribute to the community.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua

A P200 load allowance further supports their engagement. According to Hon. Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, this investment in human capital underscores Legazpi's commitment to fostering a skilled workforce and providing pathways to sustainable employment for its residents, ensuring a brighter future for all involved.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua

Mayor Ismail Convenes Consultation Meeting to Bolster Ecological Solid Waste Management Program

Mayor Hisham B. Ismail recently held a consultation meeting with barangay leaders on August 19, 2025, at Legazpi City Expo Center to strengthen the implementation of the city's Ecological Solid Waste Management Program. The meeting served as a platform for open dialogue, addressing challenges and identifying opportunities to enhance waste reduction, segregation, and proper disposal practices across all barangays.

The mayor with the assistance of Engr. Linno Benju Q. Calleja, Officer-in-Charge of the Office of the City Environment & Natural Resources, emphasized the critical role of barangay leaders in driving the success of the program, urging them to actively engage their communities in promoting responsible waste management habits. Discussions focused on improving waste collection efficiency, expanding composting initiatives, and raising public awareness through targeted information

campaigns.

Barangay leaders shared their experiences, challenges, and best practices, fostering a collaborative environment for problem-solving. The meeting resulted in concrete action plans, including enhanced monitoring and enforcement of waste management regulations, provision of additional resources to barangays, and increased community participation through educational programs.

Mayor Ismail reaffirmed the city's commitment to environmental sustainability and expressed confidence that, through collective effort, Legazpi can achieve a cleaner, greener, and healthier environment for all its residents. The consultation meeting marks a significant step towards strengthening the city's ecological waste management program and fostering a culture of environmental responsibility.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua



Mayor Ismail sits with pride with Engr. Calleja & key leaders of barangays during the consultation meeting on ESWM program.



Lawa at Binhi Empowers Legazpi Farmers Towards a Sustainable Future

Legazpi City took a meaningful step toward strengthening its agricultural sector. Farmers and key stakeholders gathered at the City Agriculture Office on July 3, 2025 for the Lawa at Binhi Cash Training. This vital initiative focused on equipping participants with knowledge and skills in sustainable farming techniques and fostering food security - empowering local

farmers, ensuring a more prosperous and sustainable future for all.

Mayor Hisham B. Ismail's active support and presence powerfully reinforced this dedication – underscoring Legazpi City's steadfast commitment towards cultivating a resilient, climate-smart agricultural sector.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Legazpi City Joins Nationwide Launch of Kadiwa ng Pangulo Project

The City Government of Legazpi joined the nationwide launch of Kadiwa ng Pangulo Project with a ribbon-cutting ceremony held on July 3, 2025 at the Legazpi Post Office compound.

The project aims to give the public access to quality, low-cost goods, while promoting and supporting the products of local farmers, fisherfolk, and small-scale producers.

With the support of Hon. Mayor Hisham Ismail, the program was made possible through the efforts of the Legazpi City Agriculture Office and the Albay Provincial Agriculture Office. It provides a platform for local farmers to showcase their homegrown products and strengthen sustainable livelihoods.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



512 Legazpeños Receive Livelihood Aid

On July 18, 2025, 512 residents of Legazpi City received assistance under the Sustainable Livelihood Program, a joint effort by the DSWD and Ako Bicol Party-list. The event was held at Embarcadero de Legazpi, with full support from Legazpi City Mayor Hisham B. Ismail.

Ms. Cecilia E. Arcilla, Department Head of the City Social

Welfare and Development Office organized and helped facilitate the distribution, ensuring smooth and fair delivery of aid. According to Ms. Arcilla, the program aims to support legal, honest livelihoods and promote economic resilience across the city.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Legazpi City Conducts Two-Day Social Pension Payout.

The City Government conducts a two-day social pension distribution for 3,438 senior citizens, at the Legazpi City Convention Center where each eligible recipient will receive ₱6,000 covering their pension for the period of January to June. This payout is a collaborative effort between the City Government of Legazpi, led by Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, and the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), funded through national allocations.

The payout process was meticulously managed by the City

Social Welfare and Development Office, led by Ms. Cecilia E. Arcilla, alongside the valuable support of Ms. Nelia A. Valladolid from the Office of the Senior Citizens Affairs. Their hard work and commitment ensured a smooth and respectful experience for all elderly pensioners.

Councilor Renato Valladolid was also present in payout, underscoring the city's commitment to supporting its senior residents.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



A Century of Grace and Gratitude

The City Government of Legazpi, led by Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, together with the National Commission of Senior Citizens, personally awarded a P100,000 cash gift to Lola Andrea Reporongon Agarin of Barangay Buyoan, Legazpi City, in celebration of her 100th birthday.

These efforts align with the government's centenarian

assistance, which highlights a gesture of honor and gratitude to Lola Andrea's remarkable longevity and enduring vitality. This meaningful recognition reflects the City Government and Commission's deep respect and admiration for centenarians like Lola Andrea, whose lives continue to inspire generations with strength, wisdom, and grace.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Mayor Ismail lovingly looks at Lola Andrea, honoring her presence & the life she lives at age 100.



Mayor Hisham B. Ismail Holds First Meeting with Department Heads

On his first day in office, Mayor Hisham B. Ismail met with the Department Heads of the City Government of Legazpi-providing an opportunity to listen to the concerns and priorities of each department, particularly in relation to the delivery of essential public services.

The initial engagement set the tone for a leadership anchored on collaboration, transparency, and a shared commitment to elevate

the quality of service for every Legazpeño. Mayor Ismail emphasized the importance of open communication and collective action in achieving the city's development goals.

This meeting marks the beginning of a new chapter—one that aspires to build a more responsive, inclusive, and people-centered City Government.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Mayor Ismail known for his charm & wit as affectionately surrounded by the heads of city offices on their first face to face meeting.



Mayor Hisham Eyes ALECO Service Improvements

Legazpi City Mayor Hisham B. Ismail recently provided an update on the progress of the Albay Electric Cooperative (ALECO) improvement projects. The update was delivered during the courtesy call of the cooperative's officials where they signified their commitment to address the ongoing challenges.

ALECO's commitment aligns with the full operation of the Banquerohan-Imalnod Substation for the Southern Barangays, which will fix the problem of low voltage and decrease the frequency of brown outs. Furthermore, the electric cooperative vows to assist in the removal of the remaining BAPAs in Legazpi and initiate the

shift to individual metering per household, continue to clear of the dangling wires within the city, and spearhead the creation of the Anti-Dangling Wire Ordinance, as well as the repair and replacement of all dilapidated leaning electricity poles.

The mayor reiterated the city government's commitment to supporting ALECO in its efforts to improve its services and provide a more reliable power supply for Legazpi City. He urged residents to remain patient and continue working together to achieve a more efficient and reliable electrification system.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua



Mayor Ismail standing tall with BM Ziga, also the Committee Chair on Energy & Health, and other key officers of the ALECO Cooperative.

Legazpi Boulevard Undergoes Enhancements to Elevate Visitor Experience

To maintain the beauty and accessibility of Legazpi Boulevard, the City Government led by Mayor Hisham B. Ismail has relocated street vendors previously stationed along the coastal stretch to a designated site near the Obelisk. The move aims to provide residents and tourists with a safer, unobstructed space for leisure while supporting sustainable urban development.

Recognizing the vendors' role in the local economy, the city encourages them to resume operations daily from 4:00 p.m. onwards at the new location. The initiative also addresses

safety concerns, helping prevent accidents involving joggers and vehicles.

Future enhancements include the installation of string lights to improve ambiance and attract more visitors. Councilor Alan Rañola, chair of the Ibalong Festival, joined the inspection and highlighted the boulevard's value as a premier tourist destination.

The effort reflects strong collaboration among the Legazpi City Police, Task Force Kalinisan, City Engineering Office and Barangay Puro Council.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Legazpi City Champions “Boot Camp for a Better Pet” Program

Legazpi City proudly launched the “Boot Camp for a Better Pet” program on July 19-20, 2025, a transformative initiative aimed at cultivating responsible pet ownership and unlocking the healing potential of the human-animal bond.

Spearheaded by Honorable Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, this pioneering effort positions Legazpi as the first city in the Bicol Region to formally incorporate trained pets into community wellness strategies.

“This boot camp is more than a program,” Mayor Ismail shared. “We believe that a well-trained pet is a true asset to any family and community. It reflects our commitment to public health, mental wellness, and a culture of compassion. We are not just training pets; we are building a safer, more harmonious future where people and animals thrive together.”

The program lays the groundwork for Animal-Assisted Therapy, promoting emotional support and companionship that extend beyond households into the heart of community care. A key public health benefit is the projected decline in dog bite cases, contributing to a safer homes and neighborhoods. This initiative not only raises awareness but empowers residents to be active agents of change in creating a secure, pet-friendly city.

The boot camp also serves as a vital component of the city’s CHANGE Approach (Community Harmony in the New General) for rabies elimination, reinforcing Legazpi’s dedication to education, engagement, and proactive pet care.

Legazpi calls on all dog owners and animal advocates to join in fostering a culture of safety, wellness, and compassion—values that define the city’s progressive vision for community development.

Emmanuel V. Estipona / Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Barangay Mobile Registration: Improving Access for Legazpeños

The Cabangán Covered Court in Legazpi City became a center for accessibility and community service during the Barangay Mobile Registration event last August 15, 2025.

This occasion aimed to provide residents with the convenience of registering for the PSA National ID and obtaining civil registration services without the need for long-distance travel. By bringing these essential services directly to the community, the program eliminated barriers that many faced as they try to secure their documents.

High school students of Cabangán National High School were active participants in the event, assisting with registrations and gaining insights into the significance of proper identification and civil documentation. Their involvement not only provided essential support but also educated them on important civic responsibilities.

This initiative was organized by the City Civil Registrar’s Office, led by Ms. Priscilla L. Galicia, in partnership with the Philippine Statistics Authority. The event received



The young-at-heart mayor with the vibrant students of Cabangán National High School.

essential support from Mayor Hisham B. Ismail and the City Government of Legazpi.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño

UAP Legazpi Conference and Exhibit 2025 Opens with Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

The United Architects of the Philippines (UAP) Legazpi Chapter officially opened its highly anticipated Conference and Exhibit 2025 in Legazpi City, with a ribbon-cutting ceremony graced by Hon. Mayor Hisham B. Ismail. The event, drew architects, industry professionals, students, and enthusiasts from across the region.

Speakers highlighted the importance of innovation, sustainability, and collaboration in the field of architecture, emphasizing the role of architects in shaping the future of Legazpi City and beyond

The conference features a diverse range of workshops,

and networking opportunities, while the exhibit showcases the latest architectural designs, building materials, and technologies. Attendees can explore cutting-edge solutions, gain valuable insights, and connect with industry leaders.

The UAP Legazpi Conference and Exhibit 2025 which lasted from August 21 to 23, 2025 at the Legazpi City Convention Center promises to be a significant event for the architectural community, fostering creativity, knowledge sharing, and professional development.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua



Mayor Ismail & the UAP- Legazpi City Chapter Officers radiate with happiness during the ribbon-cutting ceremony of their event.



ASEAN Disaster Management Delegates Visit Legazpi City

Delegates from various ASEAN nations, including Vietnam, Lao, and Brunei Darussalam have visited Legazpi City for the second ASEAN-PRIME Cross Learning Exchange Visit. Disaster managers representing nine ASEAN countries were warmly welcomed at the Session Hall by city officials.

Leading the exchange tour are Regional Director Claudio Yucot of OCD 5 and City DRRMO Engr. Miladee N. Azur. Meanwhile, Legazpi City Vice Mayor Luis Felipe L. Gutierrez, joined by Councilors Hon. Alan O. Rañola, Hon. Charlton S. Lajara, and Hon. Roberto Rafael N. Lucila II, extended a warm welcome

to the visiting delegations on behalf of City Mayor Hisham B. Ismail and the City Government of Legazpi.

The learning exchange facilitates collaboration among participants from the ASEAN Committee on Disaster Management's working groups on prevention, mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. Also in attendance are representatives from the Government of Canada, the ASEAN Secretariat, and the AHA Centre. Their focus is on integrating Protection, Gender, and Inclusion, Climate Change Adaptation, and Environmental Sustainability into disaster management strategies.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



VM Gutierrez warmly welcomes the ASEAN delegates in the City of Legazpi with gusto.



Emergency Preparedness Forum Held for Senior Citizens in Legazpi City

In a proactive effort to ensure the safety and well-being of its senior citizens, an Emergency Preparedness Forum was held at SM Legazpi. The event, graced by Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, aimed to equip elderly residents with essential knowledge and skills to respond effectively to various emergencies.

Mayor Ismail emphasized the importance of protecting vulnerable populations during times of crisis, highlighting the city's commitment to building a disaster-resilient community. The forum featured presentations from disaster management experts, health professionals, and law enforcement officials,

covering topics such as earthquake safety, fire prevention, first aid, and emergency communication.

Senior citizens actively participated in interactive demonstrations, learning practical skills like evacuation procedures, basic first aid techniques, and how to assemble emergency kits. The forum also addressed the specific needs and challenges faced by elderly individuals during emergencies, promoting a more inclusive and age-friendly approach to disaster preparedness.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua



A well-loved Mayor Ismail with these dotting seniors who gamely posed with him and the SM Legazpi City's key management.



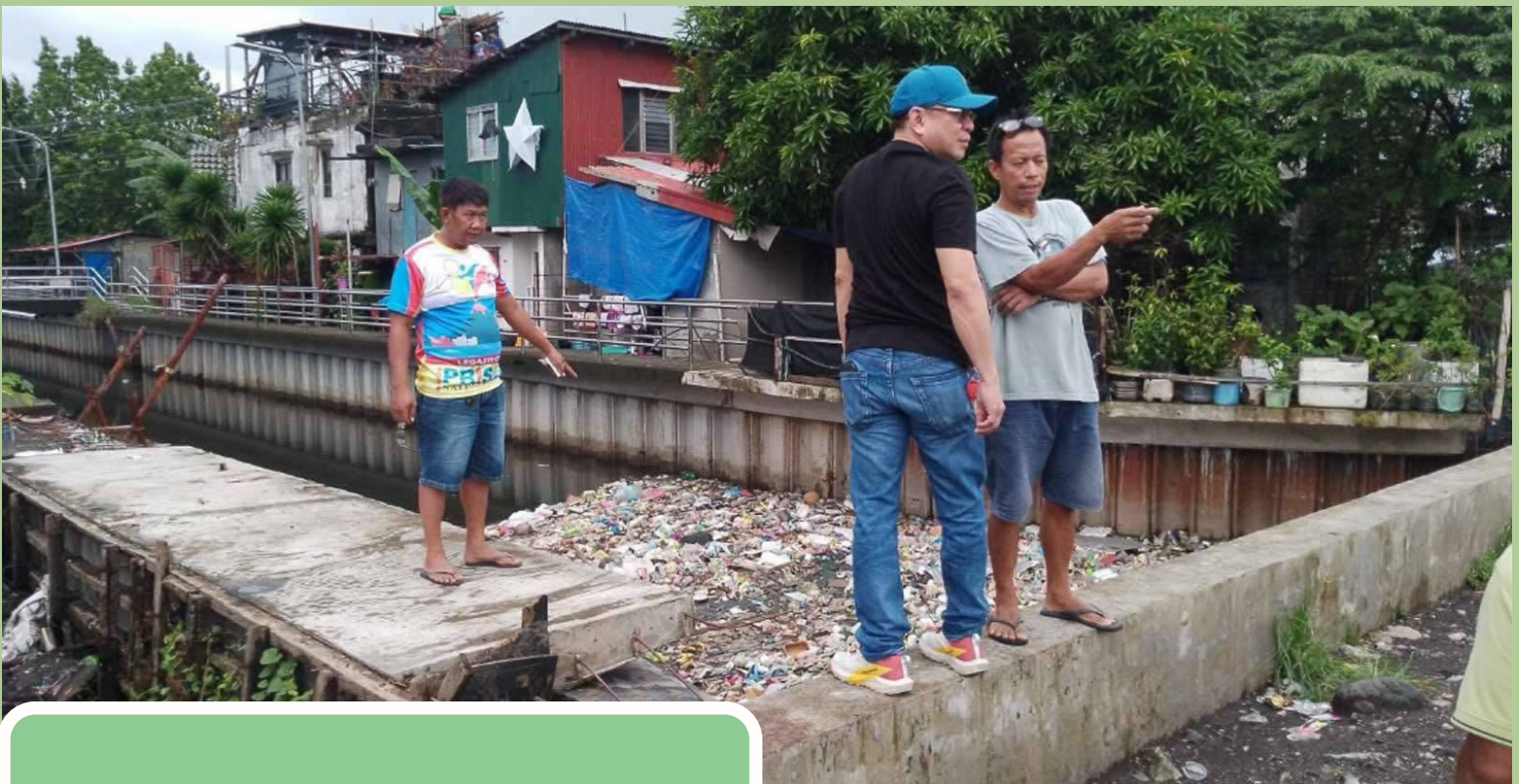
Pag-asa Drive Rehabilitation Project Underway in Legazpi City

The City Government of Legazpi, led by Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, has officially launched the Rehabilitation and Improvement of Pag-asa Drive in Brgy. 42 Rawis-Legazpi City, a project that commenced on August 26, 2025. This initiative, originally championed by former Mayor and current Congressman, Atty. Alfredo Garbin Jr., aims to enhance road safety and accessibility while addressing chronic flooding problems in the area.

The project demonstrates a commitment to enhancing infrastructure and improving transportation for residents and motorists alike. By tackling these pressing issues, the city government is demonstrating its dedication to the welfare of the Legazpeño community and fostering lasting progress in Brgy. Rawis and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Ma. Theresa D. Nuñez





Clearing Operation of Tibu River, Oro Site Section

City Engineer Clemente A. Ibo inspected the Tibu River section at barangay Oro Site on July 23, 2025. Unfortunately, the river was once again obstructed by irresponsibly discarded trash into the waterways.

This ongoing issue has led to flooding in the area, impacting not just nearby households but the wider community.

Following the directive of Honorable Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, Engineer Ibo is reaching out to our barangay leaders and residents, particularly those living adjacent to the river. He emphasizes the importance of collaboration to keep our river clean and safe.

To protect our environment, it is essential to take responsible actions that prevent flooding and promote a healthier community.

Ram Erika Jane U. Rito



International Recognition for Two Outstanding Legazpi Athletes

The City Government of Legazpi, under the leadership of Mayor Hisham B. Ismail, proudly welcomes and celebrates two outstanding Legazpeño athletes whose recent international triumphs have brought immense pride to the Philippines and the Bicol Region.

Clarence Sarza, a formidable taekwondo athlete, clinched a bronze medal in the Women’s 46 kg (Kyorugi) category at the Chuncheon Korea Open International Taekwondo Championships in South Korea. Representing the Philippine Taekwondo Team, Clarence’s unwavering discipline, perseverance, and passion embody the spirit of Filipino excellence. Her victory uplifts the sporting community and inspires every Legazpeño to pursue greatness with heart and grit.

Paul Christian Barroga, a seasoned chess player from

Legazpi City, captured the U1700 Championship title at the Asian Amateur Chess Championship 2025 held in Hong Kong. A proud NCAA athlete for Colegio de San Juan de Letran (Seasons 88–92) and a former Palarong Pambansa competitor, Barroga showcased strategic brilliance and composure against top contenders from across Asia. His gold medal win highlights the depth of talent rooted in Bicol and the enduring legacy of Filipino intellect and resilience.

These remarkable achievements reflect the strength, spirit, and determination of Legazpi’s youth—proving that with passion and perseverance, our local champions can shine on the world stage.

We salute you, Clarence and Paul. Your journeys are powerful testaments to what pride, preparation, and purpose can achieve.

Ruffa Mae A. Abiño



Civil Registrar Office in Legazpi Headed by Priscilla L. Galicia wins 2025 Regional Innovation Award

The Legazpi City Civil Registrar Office (CRO), under the leadership of Ms. Priscilla L. Galicia, has been awarded the prestigious 2025 Regional Innovation Award. This recognition celebrates the CRO's outstanding contributions to improving civil registration services through innovative solutions and citizen-centric approaches.

The CRO, headed by Ms. Galicia, implemented several initiatives to streamline processes, enhance accessibility, and improve data accuracy. These included the adoption of digital technologies for record management, online application platforms for civil registration services, and community

outreach programs to promote awareness of the importance of civil registration.

The Regional Innovation Award highlights the CRO's commitment to excellence and its dedication to providing efficient and reliable services to the citizens of Legazpi City. Ms. Galicia and her team have set a benchmark for other civil registrar offices in the region, demonstrating the transformative power of innovation in public service. This award underscores Legazpi City's dedication to modernizing its services and ensuring that all residents have access to essential civil registration services.

Ma. Cristina D. Zantua



Civil Registrar's head & employees proudly presented their Plaque of Recognition to everyone's delight.

APPROVED RESOLUTIONS
Sangguniang Panlungsod
Legazpi City

Res. No.	Title and Proponent
17-0001-2025	RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE INTERNAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE 17TH SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD NG LEGAZPI. Councilor Roberto Rafael N. Lucila II
17-0013-2025	A RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING MR. GAVRIEL JOHANN S. ARCILLA FOR BEING CROWNED AS THE RUBIK'S CUBE PHILIPPINE CHAMPION AND FOR RANKING 12th IN THE WORLD IN THE 3x3x3 BLINDFOLDED CATEGORY. Councilor Charlton S. Lajara
17-006-2025	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MAYOR, HONORABLE HISHAM B. ISMAIL; VICE MAYOR LUIS FELIPE L. GUTIERREZ; OIC-CITY ADMINISTRATOR GRACE R. BACHILLER; EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT IV RONALDO A. GARBIN; CITY TREASURER CARLITA P. DE GUZMAN; ASSISTANT CITY TREASURER CONSTANCE S. OLIVEROS OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF LEGAZPI AS OFFICIAL SIGNATORIES FOR ALL BANK TRANSACTIONS WITH THE LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES(LBP) LEGAZPI CITY BRANCH. Councilor Alan O. Rañola
17-0010-2025	RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING CADET AL JOSEPH C. OLAÑO FOR PLACING THIRD IN THE FINAL ORDER OF MERIT AND RECEIVING THE PRESTIGIOUS SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (SILG) "BALARAW AWARD" BESTOWED BY THE PHILIPPINE PUBLIC SAFETY ACADEMY (PPSA). Councilor Alexander U. Jao
17-0011-2025	A RESOLUTION PROPOSING TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE LEGAZPI CITY FISH PORT VIS-A-VIS THE RISING PRICES OF FISH AND OTHER FISHERY /MARINE PRODUCTS IN THE CITY OF LEGAZPI. Councilor Renato A. Valladolid
17-0012-2025	A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MR. HENRY A RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING MR. HENRY ATIZADO MACEDA FOR BEING ACCLAIMED WITH THE PRESTIGIOUS "KA DOROY" BROADCASTER OF THE YEAR AWARD AT THE 28th KAPISANAN NG MGA BRODKASTER NG PILIPINAS (KBP) GOLDEN DOVE AWARDS HELD ON JUNE 25, 2025. Councilor Joseph Philip L. Lee
17-0015-2025	RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC HOSPITALS TO ADOPT THE INTEGRATED HOSPITAL OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM PLUS (iHOMISI+) OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH. Councilor Vicente F. Baltazar III
17-0028-2025	A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE ALBAY YOUNG FARMERS ORGANIZATIONS INC. FOR WINNING AS ONE OF THE TOP TEN OUTSTANDING ORGANIZATIONS DURING THE 8th VILLAR FOUNDATION YOUTH POVERTY REDUCTION CHALLENGE AND FOR ITS EXEMPLARY CONTRIBUTION TO YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT, AND POVERTY REDUCTION IN LEGAZPI CITY. Councilor Ismael B. Buban IV
10033-2025	RESOLUTION GRANTING SPECIAL PERMIT TO HOMAPON COCKPIT TO HOLD SPECIAL COCKFIGHT ON THE FOLLOWING DATES: AUGUST 12, 13 AND 14, 2025 IN CONNECTION WITH BARANGAY 10-CABUGAO FIESTA CELEBRATION AND AUGUST 15, 18 AND 19, 2025 IN CONNECTION WITH BARANGAY 13-ILAWOD WEST FIESTA CELEBRATION. Councilor Lourence M. Beltran



Vice Mayor HON. LUIS FELIPE L. GUTIERREZ

City Councilors



HON. VICENTE F. BALTAZAR III



HON. LOURENCE M. BELTRAN



HON. ISMAEL B. BUBAN IV



HON. ALEXANDER U. JAO



HON. ROBERTO RAFAEL N. LUCILA II



HON. JOSEPH PHILIP L. LEE



HON. CHARLTON S. LAJARA



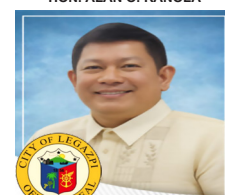
HON. MARIA PAZ SALUD C. IMPERIAL



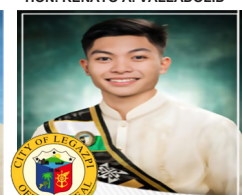
HON. ALAN O. RAÑOLA



HON. RENATO A. VALLADOLID



HON. ATTY. AMORE REX RAÑESES



HON. JOHN NICOLAS C. GARBIN



Bound by duty, driven by vision - Mayor Ismail and Vice Mayor Gutierrez rise together to shape a future worthy of their people.