SND Heads NDRRMC Update Briefing on the Effects of Super Typhoon Lawin

Secretary of National Defense Delfin Lorenzana, along with the members of the multi-agency National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council, assessed the effects of STY Lawin on the affected provinces, as well as ongoing relief efforts, today at the NDRRM Operations Center, Camp General Emilio Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

In the update of the Response Cluster, a total of 29,533 families/116,826 persons are inside 1095 evacuation centers. The increase in evacuees included those in the communities near the river systems, specifically in Bataan and Pampanga.

A total of 118 barangays were reported flooded in the Provinces of Pangasinan, Bataan and Pampanga, however, as the weather improves water levels in the said communities continue to subside.

Clearing operations in road sections and bridges rendered not passable are ongoing, as well as restoration of power supply and communication lines.

In the latest report on casualties, the Management of the Dead and Missing Cluster has confirmed a total of 8 fatalities all from the Cordillera Administrative Region. All other reported casualties are being validated by DILG as to whether they are related to STY LAWIN.

There are 6,308 houses damaged in Regions I, II, III and CAR; 1,099 of which were totally damaged and were 5,209 partially damaged. So far, the cost of damages amount to a total of Php657,800,695.49 from Region I, II, III and CAR.

The NDRRM through the Telcos sent information on the areas likely to be affected before the onslaught of STY LAWIN. Warning messages through infoboard and cellbroadcast were sent. Sample message is as follows:

“TCWS3: STY #LawinPH severe danger over La Union, Benguet, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino and Northern Aurora in 18 hours. Moderate to heavy damage. Evacuation is advised”

Underscretary Ricardo B Jalad said that the National Council used various means of communication to warn the public on the impending hazard.

“Before the onslaught of STY LAWIN, the NDRRM Operations Center is on Red Alert and warnings were initially crafted for information of the public. We received feedback from the subscribers via social media, thanking the NDRRMC on the alerts received.” said, Usec Jalad.