

“Radiating positivity, creating connectivity”

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SPECIAL EDITION

PRESIDENTIABLE ISKO GIVES OVER P9 MILLION TO MAMBALING FIRE VICTIMS

By: **ELIAS O. BAQUERO**

MANILA City Mayor Isko Moreno Domagoso gave P10,000 each to all fire-stricken families in Sitio Lawis, Barangay Mambaling, Cebu City last November 28, 2021.

About 944 families whose houses were totally burned down received

P10,000 each or a total of over P9 million.

Domagoso, a Visayan, whose parents hail from Region 6 (Western Visayas) and Region 8 (Eastern Visayas), went to visit residents displaced by a fire that razed more than 600 homes in this densely populated Mambaling last November 26.

Most residents were evacuated to Alaska Mambaling Elementary School and Mambaling barangay hall and gymnasium.

In his speech, Domagoso said that he learned of the Mambaling fire while he was in Quezon Province. He told the Cebuanos that he decided to come to Cebu to distribute the cash assistance as Mambaling is close to his heart because this Cebu City barangay resembles that of Tondo, a gritty and densely populated place in Manila where he grew up.

Domagoso was accompanied by his team and Cebu 3rd District Rep. Pablo John “PJ”

Garcia, who also joined the Manila mayor during his listening tour around the province back in mid-November.

Garcia, secretary general of One Cebu Party, is the brother of Cebu Governor Gwendolyn Garcia, the mother of Liloan, Cebu Mayor Cristina Garcia Frasco.

Asked by the media about his insights on Cebu’s support for his presidential bid, Domagoso said he will need Cebu’s help in pushing his presidential campaign forward.

He said he is still hoping for the support of One Cebu, a local political party led by Governor Garcia.

“I am asking for all kinds of support especially kung ako’y matutulongan at mapupusuan ng One Cebu,” said Domagoso, a former actor.

He said that it is a known fact that the Cebuanos are always united in support of a presidential candidate.

“So, siyempre, ang dalangin ko that someday matutulongan ako ng One Cebu ni Governor Gwen at Congressman PJ,” he added.

In November 2021, Rep. PJ said the party (One Cebu) is

‘seriously considering endorsing’ Domagoso’s presidential bid.

“As I said in Barili and Dumanjug, I think he’s the first presidentiable who really took the time to go to the sectors who were really hit by the health pandemic, to really hear the real stories, to come up with appropriate solutions,” said Garcia in a separate interview.

As of this writing, One Cebu has not yet made any official endorsement for a presidential candidate in the May 2022 general elections.

With its party membership covering district representatives, local chief executives, local legislators, and barangay officials from across Cebu, the party is considered as the most powerful political party in the Province.

Citing the disadvantages that come with his humble background, Domagoso said he will exert all effort to gain the confidence of the Cebuano voters.

“Kasi kailangan ko ng lahat ng tulong. Ang isang setback ko, wala naman akong tatay na president,” he said.

According to Domagoso, he will balance the eradication of Covid-19 pandemic and uplifting the lives of the Filipinos once he will be elected as the next President.

In the international issues, Domagoso said he will initiate a concrete solution to the West Philippine Sea (WPS) which is claimed by China, and improving trade relations with other countries to bring down the cost of fuel for vehicles and coal for power plants.

Domagoso said he will exert effort to reduce the Philippine’s foreign debt which was 49 percent against the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the presidency of Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, 39 percent during the administration of the late Benigno “Noy” Aquino III, and 56 percent in the current leadership of President Rodrigo Duterte.

Domagoso agreed with the observation of economic experts that the present huge foreign debt will be paid not only by the present dispensation but by the still unborn Filipinos. **CBW**

