

Estrada says Binay "most qualified" among presidential candidates

FORMER President Joseph Estrada told radio station DZRH last Friday, March 20, that Makati Mayor Jejomar C. Binay is "the most qualified" among the roster of potential presidential candidates for 2010. The former president had earlier introduced Binay as the "next president of the Philippines" in a speech he made in Compostela, Cebu. Estrada was joined in the Cebu sortie by Sen. Loren Legarda, Mrs. Gina de Venecia, Grace Poe, lawyer Adel Tamano, and Binay.

Estrada said he admired Binay for having successfully rebuilt Makati from a bankrupt municipality in 1986 to a modern city with admirable programs and services in education, health and for the elderly. He also said the mayor is a good executive, which is what the country would need.

"Mayor Binay is the most qualified among the list of presidential candidates in 2010," he said.

Binay thanked Estrada for his statement, and said it is important for the opposition to sit down

and discuss its plans for the 2010 elections.

"I am honored by the statement of president Erap. The most important thing for the opposition to do right now is to sit down and discuss our plans for 2010, and a summit of all genuine opposition parties should be considered," he said.

Estrada's statement came as respondents in a survey conducted by the University of the Philippines consider Makati's economic development and social programs under the administration of Binay as "desirable."

In the UP survey, respondents identified Makati as Binay's symbol and economic empowerment his advocacy. They found both symbol and advocacy as "desirable."

Binay welcomed the results of the survey.

"I find it encouraging that our people acknowledge the importance of a good track record as an executive, and recognize what we have done," he said.

"If you consider the problems

that Mrs. Arroyo will leave behind if and when she leaves office in 2010, we would need someone with executive capability, someone with experience in the public sector and in actual day-to-day governance," he said.

Binay was among the top ten personalities whom the respondents listed as possible candidates for the 2010 elections. The respondents were also asked to rate each personality's slogan, symbol and advocacy as either "desirable" or "undesirable."

The symbols and advocacies of some personalities, although making it to the top, were ranked as undesirable by the respondents.

The survey was conducted among 681 respondents in Metro Manila, Rizal, Laguna, Cavite, Batangas, Quezon, Bulacan, and Pampanga.

It was undertaken by students of Communication Research 165 from November to December 2008. Aside from the one-on-one interviews, 10 focus group discussions were conducted.

International Labor Organization: 90 million new jobs needed

by MAYEN JAYMALIN
Philstar.com

NEARLY 90 million jobs are needed to absorb the new entrants in the labor market and cut short the ongoing global financial and job crisis, the International Labor Organization (ILO) reported last March 26.

In a report titled the *Financial and Economic Crisis: A Decent Work Response*, the ILO said close to 90 million new jobs are needed up to 2010 to avoid a prolonged jobs gap.

ILO Director-General Juan Somavia said governments also need to implement a "global jobs pact" to prevent the severe job crisis that could lead to a massive increase in unemployment and poverty.

"If stimulus efforts are delayed, the jobs crisis will be prolonged and employment may only start to recover by 2011," Somavia said.

In earlier financial crises, Somavia said the labor market recovered only 4 to 5 years after the economic recovery.

At this time, Somavia said, the international coordination to tackle the crisis is weak.

A study by the ILO among 32 member countries showed that stimulus plans stand on average at 1.7 percent.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) earlier

called for stimulus plans in the order of 2 percent of GDP (gross domestic product) in response to the crisis.

The ILO survey also found that the stimulus packages lean heavily toward financial bailouts and tax cuts instead of job creation and social protection and noted that on average, fiscal stimulus packages for the real economy are five times smaller than financial bailout packages.

"Only half of the countries examined have announced labor market initiatives and among those, the resources allocated to these measures are relatively limited," said Raymond Torres, Director of the ILO's Institute of Labor Studies.

The report also said that infrastructure programs do not adequately take into account the need to reinforce the existing capacity of businesses and skills supply—so that part of the infrastructure spending may result in higher prices, rather than higher production and jobs; some tax cuts will end in higher savings rather than higher demand, output and jobs; and little is done to help youth and other vulnerable groups.


Jobs in Lebanon
Meantime, thousands of jobs await Filipino

► PAGE A17

Pilipino po tayo!

LAW OFFICES OF KENNETH U. REYES, P.C.

ATTORNEY-AT-LAW



Kenneth U. Reyes, Esq.

Law Offices of
Kenneth U. Reyes, P.C.
3699 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 700
Los Angeles, CA 90010

<p>IMMIGRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US Citizenship • Green Card <p><i>Marriage Petitions, Realive Petitions Employer Petitions, PERM</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visa <p><i>H-1B Temporary Worker Investor's VISA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deportation Defense <p>PERSONAL INJURY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serious Auto Accidents • Rear Enders • Injuries from defective products • Serious injuries from premises accidents • Fractures & brain injuries from accidents 	<p>FAMILY LAW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divorce • Property Division • Child Custody and Visitation • Child and Spousal Support • Domestic Violence Restraining Order • Legal Separation <p>CIVIL LITIGATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Disputes • Real Estate Disputes • Breach of Contract • Partnership Dissolution • Business Dissolution
---	---

We Pay Special Attention to Your Case
Call for an Appointment
(213) 388.1611
website: www.kenreyeslaw.com
email: kureyeslaw@aol.com



"Family Owned...Thoughtful Service"
FD716

Excellent Service with complete reception facilities!



Joyce Orpilla
Filipino Family Service Coordinator
CA Insurance License #0801481
Cell: 310-245-2577

"Tawag lang po at handa akong tumulong sa inyo!"

25001 Narbonne Avenue, Lomita, CA 90717
Phone: (310) 326-6343 • Fax: (310) 326-8452 • Toll Free: (866) 400-6343

ARCADIA Chapel of Remembrance Funeral Home 626-467-8148 / FD4747 900 South First Avenue, Arcadia, CA	CALIMESA Desert Lawn Funeral Home and Memorial Park 909-795-2411 / FD41819 11231 Desert Lane Drive, Calimesa, CA	FONTANA Regal Funeral Chapel 951-822-8883 / FD6621 8277 Juniper Avenue, Fontana, CA	REDLANDS Emmerson - Bartlett Memorial Chapel 909-793-2311 / FD6698 763 Brookside Avenue, Redlands, CA
SIMI VALLEY Reardon Simi Valley Funeral Home 805-326-6677 2636 Spycamore Dr., Simi Valley, CA	VICTORVILLE Desert View Funeral Home and Memorial Park 760-244-9807 / FD41573 11478 Amargosa Road, Victorville, CA	YUCAIPA Emmerson - Bartlett Memorial Chapel 909-797-1181 / FD6622 31268 Tecolote Blvd., Yucaipa, CA	

1ST INNOVATIVE FINANCE GROUP



STOP FORECLOSURE

- PURCHASE AND REFINANCE WITH BEST RATES OFFERED
- HELP WITH LOAN MODIFICATION
- PROLONG YOUR LOAN TERMS
- ADVISE ON FUTURE CREDIT CONSEQUENCES

SPECIAL

WE NEGOTIATE WITH LENDER SHORT SALE EXPERT

KEN GO
20 YRS EXPERIENCE
CALL **888-822-5363**

- FHA 3% down loan
- Help raise credit score within 3 days
- Call now for free consultation

BIGGEST DISCOUNT SALE

for SCRUB and LAB COATS



DICKIES / BABY PHAT / BARCO / CHEROKEE / WHITE SWAN
KOI / FASHION SEAL / GRAY'S ANATOMY

• LITTMAN STETHOSCOPE and NURSE-MATE SHOES ON SALE!

HOLLYWOOD UNIFORMS Tel. (323) 661.7649
1303 N. Vermont Ave., L.A., CA
Hours: 9:00 am - 6:30 pm (Mon-Sat)
www.uniforms4u.com

WORLD'S MOST COMFORTABLE SHOES

★★★★★

- PLS. CALL FOR PRICES. WE OFFER LOWEST PRICE POSSIBLE
- 2ND PAIR YOU GET \$15 OFF
- 3RD PAIR YOU GET \$20 OFF




AMERICA'S FAVORITE SAS COMFORT SHOES

COMPLETE SELECTION

- The only SAS Shoe Store in Hollywood and Glendale
- FREE Shipping if you Order by Phone

PRICES ARE ALWAYS BEST in
HOLLYWOOD COMFORT SHOES
Tel. (323) 661.1012
1301 N. Vermont Ave., L.A., CA
Hours: 9:00 am - 6:30 pm (Mon-Sat)