

# SWS: GMA net satisfaction rating...

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lower as "very bad."

Malacañang remained unperturbed by the latest survey results and is convinced that the accomplishments of the President should tell the story of her administration's performance.

Deputy presidential spokesman Gary Olivar said the Palace hardly notices the popularity rating of the President since it does not have much bearing on how she works and the decisions she makes.

"Mere popularity for the President is not news anymore. We will state that this President governs for performance and prosperity, not for popularity," Olivar said.

He noted that the forthcoming State of the Nation Address of the President would outline all of her administration's accomplishments over the past eight years.

On the other hand, Lorelei Fajardo, another deputy spokesperson for the President,

lamented that Mrs. Arroyo is a victim of "malicious criticism and black propaganda," which had an impact on her ratings in the surveys.

SWS said the President's overall satisfaction rating has remained stable due to lessened dissatisfaction in Mindanao and the Visayas, offset by an increased dissatisfaction in Luzon.

Net satisfaction with the Chief Executive became less negative in Mindanao, at poor net -21 (31 percent satisfied, 53 percent dissatisfied) in June, from a bad -40 (22 percent satisfied, 62 percent dissatisfied) in February.

It also became less negative in the Visayas, at a poor -28 (30 percent satisfied, 57 percent dissatisfied) now, from a bad -33 (28 percent satisfied, 61 percent dissatisfied) previously.

Dissatisfaction, however, intensified in Luzon outside Metro Manila, at a bad -32 (23 percent satisfied, 55 percent dissatisfied) now, from a poor -24 (29 percent satisfied, 54 percent dissatisfied) before.

It slightly worsened in Metro Manila, to a bad -46 (19 percent satisfied, 65 percent dissatisfied) now, from a bad net -44 (21 percent satisfied, 65 percent dissatisfied) previously.

Dissatisfaction with the President eased in class E at a poor -22 (30 percent satisfied, 52 percent dissatisfied) in June, from a bad -42 (20 percent satisfied, 61 percent dissatisfied) in February.

However, dissatisfaction worsened in class ABC, at a poor -28 (27 percent satisfied, 55 percent dissatisfied) now, from a poor -19 before, and in class D or the "masa," at a bad -34 (24 percent satisfied, 58 percent dissatisfied) now, from a bad -31 (28 percent satisfied, 59 percent dissatisfied) previously.

The survey has sampling error margins of plus or minus three percentage points for national percentages, plus or minus six percentage points for Metro Manila, Visayas, and Mindanao, and plus or minus four percentage balance Luzon. ■

# Comelec to issue voter's ID after 2010 polls

by ANNA VALMERO  
Inquirer.net

MANILA – The Commission on Elections (Comelec) will issue identification cards to over 25 million registered voters after the 2010 elections, a poll official said.

"Of the 48 million registered voters since the 2007 elections, 21.27 million IDs have been released while the rest will be given their IDs after the 2010 elections. Given that the voter's ID is not a requirement to vote, the Comelec has stopped printing the IDs so it can focus in preparations for the 2010 polls," Comelec spokesman James Jimenez told Inquirer.net.

Jimenez said the Comelec IT department (ITD), which handles the printing of IDs, was mandated to prioritize the preparations for the upcoming automated elections so voter's ID printing will only resume after the 2010 elections.

According to Ferdinand De

Leon, IT officer at Comelec's ITD system operation division, 23 million of the 48 million registered voters in 2007 had biometrics records with Comelec. But of the number, he said 1.3 million are not yet printed due to lack of special paper for the ID and some voters have corrupted biometrics or wrong encoded data.

Another 25 million voters have not been given IDs because they have no biometrics records—or digital specimens of photo, signature, and thumb marks—which are needed for the printing of the IDs, added De Leon.

"Capturing biometrics during voter's registration was only initiated in 2004 so we expect our old-time voters not to have their biometrics yet. At the same time, we urge all voters who have no biometrics to come forward and have their biometrics recorded. The agency plans to process all voter's information in a data bank so in future elections, biometrics can be used to identify a voter," said Jimenez.

Biometrics can offer a more refined method for cleansing the computerized voter's list (CVL) by locating multiple records of voter's registration throughout the CVL biometrics matching, said De Leon.

Before 2004, Comelec used algorithmic matching to purge the CVL by matching the voter's name and birthday records but De Leon said the method had limitations such that a change in surname for married women or even misspelling in encoded data will make it hard for Comelec to detect multiple records.

De Leon said the Comelec will acquire by August additional 2,000 biometrics data capturing machines for P1 billion to augment the 600 units it acquired in 2003, thus allowing all municipalities nationwide to have at least one DCM unit.

Voters previously issued with IDs but have applied for correction of information such as change in surname for married women, which also affects the digital signature specimen, will be issued IDs again, said De Leon.

The breakdown of issued voter's ID per region are: Cordillera

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