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Please be informed of the following corrections, additions and clarification of NIC's last marketing advertisement. -That the program is a Philippine – based BSN program duly accredited by Commission on Higher Education (CHED) -That the program is being offered by New England College through its admission, marketing and technical support center Nightingale International California -That this is not a California and/or U.S. approved /accredited BSN program, rather this program and all curriculum contents are approved by the Philippine Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

# Elections to boost economy by 0.5 percent

by IRIS C. GONZALES  
Philstar.com

THE government is counting on next year's 2010 elections to help pump-prime the economy and help it recover from this year's slowdown.

The national elections in 2010 are expected to boost economic growth by 0.5 percent as consumers are expected to spend more, Finance Undersecretary Gil Beltran said last May 4.

Beltran said that next year's elections are expected to boost certain industries such as the printing and publishing, media and the advertising industries. This, in turn, would help fuel consumer spending in 2010, the Finance official added.

However, this growth is not expected to translate to higher tax

collections because some industries that are usually related to elections do not fully declare taxable income.

Other sources of funds for consumer spending could also come from cash shelled out by politicians seeking to buy votes or cheat in the elections.

The Development Budget Coordination Committee (DBCC) expects the economy, as measured by gross domestic product (GDP) to grow anywhere from 4.3 percent to 4.7 percent in 2010 from this year's revised economic growth projection of 3.1 percent to 4.1 percent.

The DBCC also expects the country's inflation or the rate of increase in consumer prices to

slow down to an average of 2.5 percent, slower than the projected average inflation rate of 3.5 percent.

Exports, meanwhile, are expected to recover in 2010 and grow by 4.9 percent from an expected drop of eight to 10 percent this year.

The peso is expected to hit P46 against the dollar next year.

For this year, the government expects the economy to grow from 3.1 percent to 4.1 percent and the budget deficit to hit P199.2 billion.

Fiscal authorities earlier announced that the government had already abandoned its 2010 balanced budget goal given the global economic crisis.

# Cory surgery successful

by JOAN RAE RAMIREZ  
Philstar.com

IN fulfillment of a promise to her children not to give up on life despite the pain she must endure, former President Corazon Aquino submitted herself to laparoscopic surgery at 11am last May 4 to excise a cancerous tumor from her colon.



Former Pres. Corazon Aquino

The surgery lasted two-and-a-half hours, shorter than expected, and was performed by a team headed by Paris-trained Dr. Catherine Pe and her mentor, Frenchman Dr. Joel Leroy at the Makati Medical Center in Makati City.

"The surgery was a success. They were able to take out the cancer-affected area entirely," Kris Aquino, the former

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