IN THE NEAR FUTURE, TAXPAYERS will view the Taxpayer Identification Number, or TIN card, not only as a requirement in government transactions, but as an ID that is just as important as a driver’s license, discount cards and other universally-accepted IDs.

This is a priority endeavor of the BIR under the TIN Implementation Project, which aims to expand the taxpayer base through the expansion of the mandatory use of the TIN to include economic and business transactions in the private sector.

In a meeting chaired by Commissioner Dakila Fonacier and attended by Executive Director Leonilo Coronel of the Bankers Association of the Philippines (BAP), several possible economic and business transactions which may require the use of the TIN were discussed. One of the proposals is the mandatory use of the TIN in banking transactions, such as opening of bank accounts, entering into loan agreements/contracts, purchases of checks and other banking transactions.

The mandatory use of the TIN in other business transactions was also considered, and these include transactions with credit card companies, brokerage firms, insurance companies and airline and shipping companies. The elevation of the TIN card to the status of a “discount card” (like Rewards Plus) was also discussed.

To effect the mandatory use of the TIN in the identified business transactions, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the BAP and the Philippine Retailers Association will be prepared. To serve as the legal basis of the MOAs, a new Executive Order (EO) will also be drafted to expand the coverage of EO No. 98 (mandating all government agencies to require the use of the TIN in government transactions).

TO HELP THE BIR GENERATE more revenues amidst the country’s prevailing economic crisis, several Task Force initiatives were being undertaken under close supervision of top BIR officials.

One such initiative is the identification and prosecution of high-profile tax cases, particularly those involving doctors, basketball players, contractors and industries under the control of the Bureau of Food and Drugs.

A Task Force is also working on the matching of the BIR registration database with the Mayor’s Permit List to determine non-filers and potential registrants. The third party information being provided by the Bureau of Customs and the Securities and BIR implements to p. 3
Iloilo crowns Miss BIR 2000

By Rita Palmiano

Iloilo crowns Miss BIR 2000

2

RR 11, ILOILO CITY – The first time the entire region got together for a Christmas Party, a Search for Miss BIR 2000 was conducted.

With no specific standards or qualifications set for the search, contestants of all sizes, shapes, status and looks joined the contest, to the delight of everyone.

Each of the five district offices and divisions of the region was represented in the contest.

Crowned as Miss BIR 2000 was Ma. Evie Girlie Entrata of RDO 72 – Roxas City, who also won the “Best in Gown” and “Best in Interview” awards.

The other winners are: Gina Nama of RDO 71 – Kalibo, Aklan - first runner-up, “Miss Photogenic” and “Miss Close-Up Smile”; Rachel Jereos of RDO 73 - San Jose, Antique - “Darling of the Crowd”; Theresa Valle of RDO 74 – Iloilo City - “Darling of the Production Staff”; and Alicia Catague of RDO 75 - Zarraga, Iloilo - “Best in Talent.”

Ma. Consuelo Ledesma, Josephine Bogo and Janet Abada, all from the Regional Office, were awarded “Miss Sunsilk,” “Miss Friendship” and “Miss Ponds,” respectively.

Legaspi’s raffle promo winners known

By Estrelisa Sanson

Legaspi’s raffle promo winners known

RR 10, LEGASPI CITY – The first region got together for a Christmas Party, a Search for Miss BIR 2000 was conducted.

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MISS BIR 2000. Crowned Miss BIR 2000 Ma. Evie Girlie Entrata (seated) of RDO 72 - Roxas City poses with the other winners of the contest: (L-R) Rachel Jereos, Ma. Consuelo Ledesma, Alicia Catague (2nd runner-up), Josephine Bogo, Theresa Valle, Gina Nama (1st runner-up) and Janet Abada.

Baguio City has a new lady millionaire

By Boron Martinez

Baguio City has a new lady millionaire

RR 2, BAGUIO CITY – A lady from Camarines Norte became an instant millionaire during the Luzon Area Draw of the “Humingi ng Resibo, Milyun-Milyon Pa Rin ang Panalo” raffle promo held in Burnham Park, Baguio City on December 1.

Chona Candido of Camarines Norte bagged the P1 Million grand prize, while Ludivina Esmundo of Zaragoza, Nueva Ecija and Michael Tumlad of Sta. Cruz, Laguna won the P750,000 and P500,000 second and third prizes, respectively.

RR 2 Regional Director Marcelino Ramos spearheaded the Area Draw. Other Luzon Regional Directors who came to support the event were: Dante Canullas of RR 1-Calasiao, Pangasinan; Celestina Gonzales of RR 3-Tuguegarao, Cagayan; Ruben Buenaventura of RR 9-San Pablo City and Rene Agus of RR 10-Legaspi City.

Director Ramos expressed his appreciation to everyone who supported the Bureau’s raffle promo, particularly the Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Baguio City Chapter.

Regional Draw. Director Rene Agus of RR 10 calls on shoppers to drop their receipt-entries for the “Humingi ng Resibo, Milyun-Milyon Pa Rin ang Panalo” raffle promo before drawing the major prizes.

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RR 10, Legaspi City – Regional Director Rene Agus led the regional draw of the “Humingi ng Resibo, Milyun-Milyon Pa Rin ang Panalo” raffle promo held at the Liberty Commercial Center in Legaspi City.

First prize winner Amy Red of Legaspi City won P100,000, while Fe Tayas of Camarines Sur and Rosemarie Naeza of Camarines Norte got the P50,000 and P30,000 second and third prize, respectively.

Also present during the draw were Asst. Regional Director Carmen Orpiada; all the Revenue District Officers and Division Chiefs of the region; and the Raffle Committee who determined the qualified entries.
**ITS RELEASE STRATEGY**

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<td></td>
<td>1.1 Systems-generated AR Cases; Installment Plan</td>
<td>Sept. 29, ’00</td>
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<tr>
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<td>6.0 Decentralized issuance at RDOs; Conversion of TCC to Refunds; Refunds issuance (system-generated TRN); Refunds reconciliation; Manual Audit</td>
<td>Jan. 31, ’01</td>
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**BIR implements from p. 1**

Exchange Commission are also being utilized to identify potential registrants.

In the area of tax enforcement, a Task Force is also working on the suspension of business operations and closure of business establishments found to have violated the provisions of the Tax Code. Establishments registered with the Philippine Economic Zone Authority are also being investigated.

Finally, a Task Force was also created to gather data and statistics, as well as study and evaluate the tax potentials of certain industries, namely: telecommunication; pre-paid card providers; manufacturers of semi-conductor devices and other electronic components; banks, financing and pre-need companies; and airlines and shipping companies. *(By Elen Capili)*

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO......
Six top officials took oath of office

By Raul Agcaoili

UPON THE recommendation of Commissioner Dakila Fonacier, six (6) BIR officials were either promoted to a higher position, or finally confirmed to their designated positions, when they took their oath of office before Finance Secretary Jose Pardo on January 4.

Virginia Trinidad, Nora Tamayo and Norma Lipana were sworn in as BIR Assistant Commissioners for the Large Taxpayers Service, Assessment Service and Financial and Administrative Service, respectively.

Sworn in as Head Revenue Executive Assistants are Erlinda Simple of the Taxpayer Assistance Service; Domingo Alvarez of the Inspection Service; and Aida Simborio of the Commissioner’s Office (acting concurrently as Chief of the Taxpayers Information and Education Division).

BIR implements new ITS release strategy

By Minnie Quintos

THE RELEASE OF THE Integrated Tax System (ITS) back-end capabilities will now be done in phases.

With a phased approach in the release of the functionalities per capability, the personnel in the pilot sites will be in a better position to manage and perform the new tasks expected of them as a result of computerization.

Last January 31, the following functionalities per specified capability were rolled-out in RR 8 – Makati: 1) under issuance of TCC/TDM capability – decentralized issuance of TDM at RDOs; new manual claims; converted TCC; and manual audit; 2) under Income and Withholding Tax Verification capability – automatic upload of alphalist; data entry of non-automated alphalist; and agent alphalist vs. agent monthly withholding tax; and 3) under Issuance of Refunds capability – decentralized issuance at RDOs; conversion of TCC to refunds; refunds issuance (system-generated TRN); refunds reconciliation; and manual audit.

The details of the Release Strategy are presented in page 3.