

## **DOLE Commemorates 124<sup>th</sup> Philippine Independence Day**

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) joined the nation in celebrating the 124<sup>th</sup> Philippine Independence Day with the theme *“Kalayaan 2022: Pagsuong sa Hamon ng Panibagong Bukas”*. On 12 June 2022, the DOLE organized a simultaneous Trabaho, Negosyo, Kabuhayan (TNK) Job and Business Fairs nationwide, with the main event held at the Bulacan Capitol Gymnasium, in Malolos Bulacan.

During the Kalayaan job fair, thousands of job seekers took advantage of more than 100,000 local and overseas employment opportunities from about 800 participating employers in 25 sites nationwide. According to the Bureau of Local Employment’s report, there are 2,405 jobseekers hired on the spot while 9,537 applicants were considered near-hires.

Apart from the nationwide job fairs, Secretary Silvestre H. Bello III facilitated the awarding of 500 units of bicycles and 563 Negokarts under the Freebis and NegoKart Program, respectively, to qualified workers in the informal sector. Meanwhile, 1,286 Tulong Panghanapbuhay sa Ating Disadvantaged/Displaced Workers (TUPAD) Program beneficiaries from Bulacan received their salaries amounting to P4,200.

Representatives from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), and the provincial government of Bulacan graced the DOLE’s Independence Day event.

END/HGMA