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## Pangilinan asks gov't to scrap 'no vax, no ride' rule; Lacson urges further study

Philippines Daily Inquirer 18/01/2022



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MANILA, Philippines— Senator Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan on Tuesday asked the government to end its "no vaccination, no ride" policy supposedly intended to curb the spread of COVID-19.

"Magiging source lang ng paninikil at pang-aabuso. Hindi solusyon sa COVID-19 ang panggigipit at pananakot," Pangilinan said in a text message as the government began implementing the policy this week.

(It will only lead to oppression and abuse. COVID-19 cannot be solved through harassment and intimidation.)

Instead of completely halting it, presidential aspirant Senator Panfilo Lacson urged the government to take a "second hard look" at this new policy.

"Not stop but take a second hard look at the policy," Lacson said in a separate text message when sought for comment on Pangilinan's call.

"Gather more data and study further the science behind the policy, particularly the effect of full vaccination vs transmissibility, not to mention the human rights aspect on the poor who have no choice but commute to earn their daily meals."

"Speaking for myself, I am fully vaccinated and boosted, but I got infected by the Omicron variant. Many of my friends and relatives, similarly situated, also got the Omicron virus," Lacson added.

READ: Lacson tests positive for COVID-19

Pangilinan believes, however, that this "draconian" policy will all the more punish the poor, who will now be prevented from using public transportation unless they are vaccinated against COVID-19.

READ: Senators oppose 'no vax, no ride' policy; offer other ideas

"Parusa itong no-vax, no-ride policy sa mga mahihirap nating kababayan na gusto lang maghanapbuhay, at walang sariling sasakyan. Dagdag parusa rin sa mga naka-first dose lang kung hindi pa sila papayagang makagamit ng mass transport," the presidential aspirant said in a statement.

(No vaccination, no ride policy penalizes the poor who only want to work and do not own a car. Those who received their first dose and cannot use mass transportation are subjected to an additional burden.)

"Sigurado ako na kung pwede lang silang mag work-from-home ay gagawin nila, pero hindi e. Halata na ang target ng

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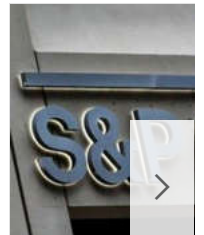
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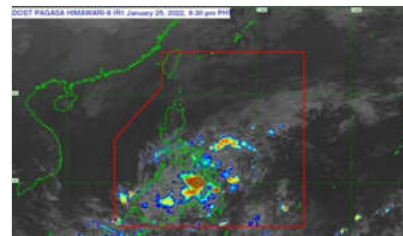
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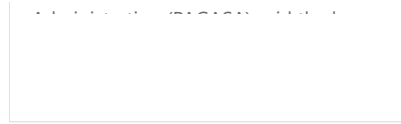
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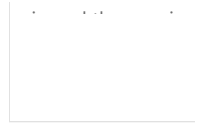
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Only 5% of adult Filipinos to get vaccinated according to the latest OCTA Research. Mass poll showed



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yesterday. Defensor earlier released a statement to media stating that the

conducted Deceml claimed that such a

