



Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF ISABELA
City of Ilagan

Office of the Governor

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 14

Series of 2021

AN ORDER PLACING THE ENTIRE PROVINCE OF ISABELA UNDER GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (GCQ) FROM MARCH 29, 2021 TO APRIL 15, 2021 AND GCQ BUBBLE SET-UP FROM MARCH 29, 2021 TO APRIL 5, 2021 UNLESS FURTHER EXTENDED, MODIFIED OR WITHDRAWN

WHEREAS, as early as January 2020 the IATF-EID was convened to address the growing viral outbreak in Wuhan, China and on 8 March 2020, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922, declaring a State of Public Health Emergency throughout the entire Philippines, and prompting a whole-of-government approach in addressing the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, to unify the mobilization of government assets in addressing the COVID-19 situation, the National Inter Agency Task Force (NIATF) on COVID-19 was established and the creation of local IATF was resolutely encouraged;

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2020 the National Task Force on COVID 19 issued Memorandum Circular No. 2 S. 2020 titled "Operational Guidelines on the Application of the Zoning Containment Strategy in the Localization of the National Action Plan Against COVID -19 Response";

WHEREAS, in the last Fourteen (14) days, there had been a spike of COVID-19 cases in the province of Isabela which now registers a cumulative total of 6,987 with more or less 1,006 active cases and registering 134 COVID-19 deaths affecting almost all the LGUs in the province;

WHEREAS, the province's COVID-19 Positivity Rate is at 80-85 cases per day which is relatively high and is expected to increase as majority of its component and independent LGUs are implementing massive contact tracing and swab testing;

WHEREAS, the sudden increase in COVID-19 infection is very alarming as hospitals and isolation facilities had reached full capacity and the impending danger of being overwhelmed is very imminent, thus, imposition of a more stricter quarantine level to control movement and convergence of the general population is crucial;

WHEREAS, the declaration of GCQ in the province of Isabela is without prejudice to the declared ECQ classification in Critical Zone Areas;

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 7.5 of the Operating Guidelines consistent with EO No. 112, s.2020 issued by President RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE on April 30, 2020 and in relation to IATF Resolution Nos. 29, 30, 34 and 51 authorizing the Governor to impose, lift or extend Community Quarantine in component cities and municipalities upon the concurrence of the relevant regional counterpart body of the Inter Agency Task Force;

NOW THEREFORE, I, **RODOLFO T. ALBANO III**, Governor of the province of Isabela, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order;

SECTION 1. DECLARATION. THE ENTIRE PROVINCE OF ISABELA IS HEREBY PLACED UNDER GENERAL COMMUNITY QUARANTINE (GCQ) EFFECTIVE MARCH 29, 2021 UNTIL APRIL 15, 2021 AND GCQ BUBBLE SET UP FROM MARCH 29 TO APRIL 5, 2021 UNLESS EXTENDED OR SOONER LIFTED OR WITHDRAWN.

I LIKEWISE ORDER THE STRICT OBSERVANCE OF THE HERE-BELOW ENUMERATED GUIDELINES AND PROTOCOLS AND HEREBY TASK THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE ISABELA POLICE PROVINCIAL OFFICE, THE ISABELA PROVINCIAL HEALTH OFFICE, THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT ISABELA PROVINCIAL OFFICE, THE OTHER MEMBER AGENCIES OF THE PROVINCIAL COVID-19 TASK FORCE, ALL CITY AND MUNICIPAL MAYORS AND THEIR RESPECTIVE LOCAL TASK FORCES AND ALL BARANGAY OFFICIALS AND ALL B.H.E.R.T.S. TO WIT:

SECTION 2. POLICY AND GUIDELINES. All residents are hereby directed to obey, follow and abide strictly with the minimum public health standards and protocols herein set forth such as but not limited to the following;

1. **A SEVEN (7)- DAY PROVINCE-WIDE GCQ BUBBLE SET-UP SHALL BE IMPLEMENTED STARTING FROM MARCH 29, 2021 UP TO APRIL 5, 2021** with the application of the following guidelines;
 - a. ***Only essential travel is allowed in and out of the province of Isabela.***
Public transportation will remain operational for essential travel such as going to the grocery/market or to work. Those who are allowed to leave the Isabela bubble includes food cargoes, essential workers with ID, health and emergency frontline services personnel, government officials and frontline personnel, authorized humanitarian assistance personnel, persons travelling for medical or humanitarian reasons, persons going to the airport for travel abroad, anyone crossing zones for work or business and back home, all returning overseas Filipinos and workers.

All special travel exemptions, stickers and special pass and IDs are hereby revoked. Private vehicles with windshield bond paper notification of membership in any office, task force or “do not delay” signs are not to be recognized as exemption from the bubble protocols. Only those documents, stickers and exemptions or travel pass issued by the Governor or his authorized representative shall be allowed passage or exemption. Government vehicles must carry red plates with the driver and passengers showing their respective office IDs. If travelling outside the bubble, must also show duly signed travel order signed and issued by the agency head.

The local task forces headed by their respective **LCEs/Mayors** shall submit thru e-mail their daily report of violations the following day before noon.

- b. ***All mass gatherings are prohibited.*** These include all religious gatherings except social gatherings such as weddings, baptisms, and funerals. On these occasions, only a maximum of 10 family/relatives/sponsors or less are allowed to attend. No pre-wedding or pre-baptism gathering is allowed. Funeral wake must not exceed 5 days reckoned from the date of death and including the day of interment.

In any and all of the mass gatherings allowed, it must be with proper notification and approval of LCEs. Virtual celebrations are encouraged.

During the bubble period, private and even government meetings, seminars and other activities that tend to gather a crowd of more than ten (10) people shall be considered mass gathering, hence, prohibited.

Sports activities such as basketball, Volleyball, etc.. including group biking involving 5 or more people are covered hence, prohibited.

Gambling, recreational or otherwise, like “Pepito”, “Majhong”, “Tung-it” and other forms where there are more than 2 participants/gamers/bettors are prohibited during the bubble period. Jueteng and STL are prohibited and the PNP is directed to implement this to the fullest extent.

The **I SMART** team and the **PSO** together with the **DILG** and the **PNP** are directed to monitor compliance and to submit daily monitoring report to the undersigned the following day before noon.

- c. ***Essential and non-essential services or industries allowed to operate under the IATF MEID Omnibus Guidelines shall be subject to bubble protocols.*** During the bubble, only 30 per cent to a maximum of 50 per cent capacity is allowed. Minimum public health standards will be strictly implemented, especially at pantries and canteens and restaurants.

The **PNP stations**, the **DTI Isabela Provincial Office** and the LCEs shall ensure strict compliance and shall submit a daily compliance report to the office of the undersigned the following day before noon.

- d. ***Restaurants are not allowed to operate dine in.*** Restaurants will now be limited to delivery and takeout. Dine-in is strictly prohibited.

The respective **Licensing heads** of all components LGUs thru their LCEs shall submit compliance report directly to the office of the undersigned the following day before noon.

- e. ***Businesses that are not allowed to operate.*** These include driving schools, traditional cinemas, arcades, libraries, museums, cultural centers, indoor tourist attractions, and cockfighting and cockpit operations.

The **PNP Provincial Director** shall ensure compliance and submit daily report of violations to the office of the undersigned the following day before noon.

- f. ***Imposition of curfew and total liquor ban.*** A unified curfew of 10:00 pm to 4:00 am will be implemented for the entire province except for the following;

- a. Health Workers and Hospital Personnel, both public and private;
- b. Barangay Officials and key officers of the local government units;
- c. Officers and members of PNP and BFP;
- d. APOR who are required to report to work during curfew hours.

The Curfew will continue until the end of GCQ.

Total Liquor Ban will be in effect in the entire duration of the bubble only. Liquor Ban extends to drinking spree inside private compounds and houses. Videoke sessions are strictly prohibited if done during drinking spree.

In the duration of the bubble period, the **Provincial President of the Liga ng mga Barangays** shall collect and collate reports from municipal and city Liga heads and submit to the undersigned a summary of daily violations the following day before noon.

- f. ***Additional restrictions in the entire duration of the bubble.*** Those under the age of 18 below and those over the age of 65 will not be allowed to leave their house. However, senior citizens over the age of 65 may step out for non-contact sports and outdoor exercises but ONLY within the confines of their yard. Additionally, pregnant women and those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, and health risks will not be allowed to leave the house.

Those covered by these additional restrictions however are allowed to go out to secure essential goods and services, other necessities and for emergency purposes only.

Persons with Disabilities (PWD) may leave their house for therapy, medication, non-contact sports, and outdoor exercises.

All police stations thru their respective **COPs** shall submit a daily written report to the **PD of the PNP** who is tasked to collect and collate and submit the summary to the office of the undersigned the following day before 12 noon.

Agencies, offices, departments and head of government agencies and instrumentalities who are required to submit reports to the Office of the undersigned during the bubble period are reminded to faithfully comply with the report submission and deadlines or be administratively sanctioned for such violation.

2. Minimum public health standards shall be complied with at all times for the duration of the GCQ. The PNP and LGUs shall ensure strict compliance at ALL times for the duration of the GCQ. Wearing of Face Mask and Face Shield is mandatory. Violators will be penalized pursuant to Provincial Ordinance No. 2020-05-2 Series of 2020 "An Ordinance Mandating the Simultaneous Wearing of Face Mask and Face Shield in the Province of Isabela, and Increasing the Penalty for Violation Thereof Thereby Amending Section 3 and 4 of Ordinance No. 2020-10-04, as Amended by Ordinance No. 2020-15-1"
3. Re-establishment of provincial and municipal and city boundary checkpoints to be manned by **PNP Personnel and MHO personnel only**, to the exclusion of others, wearing proper uniforms with IDs shall monitor compliance with travel restrictions of non- residents and non- essential travel particularly during the Isabela Bubble. Establishment of barangay operations center and mobile monitoring units manned by barangay officials not by ordinary individuals to check on wearing of face mask and face shield and **movement of non-APORS within their AOR** during the Isabela Bubble and entire duration of the GCQ.

The controlling statute in the implementation of the minimum public health standards shall be Sangguniang Panlalawigan Ordinance No. 2020-25-2 series of 2020.

4. The movement of all persons in areas placed under GCQ shall be limited to accessing essential goods and services, and for work in the offices or industries permitted to operate hereunder. Provided, that movement for leisure purposes shall not be allowed.
5. Any person below eighteen (18) years old, those who are sixty-five (65) years old and above, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women, including any person who resides with the aforementioned, shall be required to remain in their residences at all times, except when indispensable under the circumstances for obtaining essential goods and services or for work in permitted industries and offices. (As amended by Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 79, October 15, 2020)
6. Work in all government offices, *except those involved in safety, health as social services*, shall be at 50% or skeleton operations or under such alternative work arrangements as agencies may deem proper in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations issued by the Civil Service Commission (CSC). Provided that for offices requiring employees to report physically, commissioned shuttle services as well as point-to-point transport services may be provided.
7. Accredited diplomatic missions and international organizations may operate at fifty percent (50%) capacity. Alternative work arrangements such as flexible work arrangements, compressed work week, telework, and telecommuting is strongly encouraged.
8. NON-RESIDENTS of the province, such as but not limited to contract workers, temporary or transient residents or locally stranded individuals from other provinces or regions *who have arrived in the province during the Bubble period* are required to IMMEDIATELY proceed to the nearest Rural Health Units and undergo immediate RT-PCR testing and in the meantime undergo a MANDATORY 14 days quarantine in local quarantine facilities. Those tested positive shall be brought to the nearest available COVID-19 Facility Hospital for proper treatment. The PNP-IPPO, LCEs and Punong Barangays are ordered to strictly implement this guideline under pain of appropriate penalties;

PATIENT MANAGEMENT, ISOLATION AND TREATMENT GUIDELINES

1. As a general rule- HOME QUARANTINE IS NO LONGER ALLOWED. However, if all members of the household are RT PCR positive, Home Quarantine is allowed PROVIDED none of the household members are with co-morbidities or are considered vulnerable, in which case, the one with co-morbidities or considered vulnerable shall be brought to any of the level 1 or 2 hospitals.

Any person who has undergone RT PCR testing but the results is pending release, must undergo isolation in a Temporary Treatment Monitoring Facility or LGU based isolation facility.

2. Asymptomatic persons who tested positive in RT- PCR must be brought to the LGU Isolation Facility and stay there for the required number of days.
3. Symptomatic cases considered to be mild and moderate shall be confined at hospitals owned and operated by the provincial government and other LGU operated hospitals.
4. Patients who have severe symptoms shall be endorsed and confined at Cagayan Valley Medical Center (CVMC), Southern Isabela Medical Center (SIMC) and other Level 2 Hospitals in the province following proper DOH approved indorsement procedures.

Due to the spike of COVID-19 cases in the province, all hospitals operated by the provincial government are hereby ordered to immediately increase to 50% their COVID-19 dedicated isolation and treatment bed capacity. Private hospitals are likewise strongly encouraged to increase their bed capacity to 30%.

The IPHO is required to provide this office with a report every other day thru the Office of the Provincial Administrator for proper monitoring of compliance.

PERMITTED ESTABLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES UNDER GCQ

1. All permitted establishments and activities under the recent Omnibus Guidelines shall be allowed to operate or be undertaken at full operational capacity. In addition, the following sectors or industries shall be allowed to operate at an operational capacity provided herein:

a. Category I Industries - Power, energy, water, and other utilities, agriculture, fishery, and forestry industries, food manufacturing and food supply chain businesses, including food retail establishments such as supermarkets, grocery stores, and food preparation establishments insofar as take-out and delivery services, food delivery services, health-related establishments, the logistics sector, information technology and telecommunication companies, the media, at full operational capacity;

b. Category II Industries - Mining and other manufacturing, and electronic commerce companies, as well as other delivery, repair and maintenance, and housing and office services, at anywhere between fifty percent (50%) up to full operational capacity, and without prejudice to work-from-home and other alternative work arrangements; and

c. Category III Industries - Financial services, legal and accounting, and auditing services, professional, scientific, technical, and other non-leisure services, barbershops and salons and other non-leisure wholesale and retail establishments, from skeleton workforce to fifty percent (50%) operational capacity, and without prejudice to work-from-home and other alternative work arrangements. The foregoing lists of sectors and industries per category are illustrative. Specific industries under each category are reflected in a separate document issued by the DTI which shall contain the updated guidelines to implement gradual increase of operational and venue capacity including operating hours, without diminution of the current capacities and hours previously allowed. This is without prejudice to the authority of the DTI to recategorize Category IV industries. (As amended by Paragraph B(2)(c) of IATF Resolution No. 41, May 29, 2020, Paragraph B(1) of IATF Resolution No. 49, June 25, 2020, Paragraph E of IATF Resolution No. 51, July 02, 2020, Paragraph C of IATF Resolution No. 56, July 16, 2020, and by Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 79, October 15, 2020).

2. Limited operations in malls and shopping centers shall be allowed, except for leisure establishments and services inside the malls which shall continue to be closed. Provided, that establishments and services allowed to operate in malls and shopping centers may only operate at a capacity consistent with Section 2(4) of the Omnibus Guidelines. Provided, further, those below fifteen (15) years old, those who are over sixty-five (65) years of age and those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women, *including any person who resides with the aforementioned*, may not enter malls and shopping centers except when indispensable under the circumstances for obtaining essential goods and services or for work in establishments located therein until otherwise modified through subsequent issuances of the IATF. Provided, finally, that operations of malls and shopping centers are subject to the guidelines of the DTI. (As amended by Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 79, October 15, 2020)

Provided, further, that operations of malls and shopping centers are subject to the guidelines of the DTI.

3. All public and private construction projects shall be allowed, but with strict compliance to the construction safety guidelines issued by the DPWH for the implementation of infrastructure projects during the COVID-19 pandemic.
4. Amusement, gaming, and fitness establishments, as well as those in the kids industries, and all Category IV industries may not operate. Industries in Category IV are reflected in the DTI issuance mentioned above. The DTI, in

consultation with the Department of Finance, Department of the Interior and Local Government, and the Department of Tourism is hereby authorized to gradually recategorize industries from Category IV to Category III as may be deemed necessary. The resumption of, or gradual increase in operating capacity, and continued operations of Category III industries shall be subject to their proprietors' compliance with the proper health protocols set by the DTI. Further, their compliance shall be assessed through a post-audit mechanism which shall be led by the DTI, DOH, LGU Health Office and/or other deputized organizations. (As amended by Paragraph C of IATF Resolution No. 56, July 16, 2020)

5. Only hotels or accommodation establishments with valid DOT Accreditation shall be allowed to accommodate guests and clients for legitimate purposes under a state of public health emergency. The operations of such hotels and accommodation establishments, as well as ancillary establishments within their premises such as restaurants, cafés, gyms, spas, function halls, and the like, shall be subject to guidelines issued by the DOT and the IATF. (As amended by Paragraph A(2) of IATF Resolution No. 43, June 03, 2020, Paragraph D of IATF Resolution No. 48, June 22, 2020, Paragraph B(2) of IATF Resolution No. 49, June 25, 2020, C(3) of IATF Resolution No. 70, September 10, 2020, Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 79, October 15, 2020, and further amended by Paragraph C(2)(4) of IATF Resolution No. 95, January 15, 2021)
6. Mass gatherings such as but not limited to, movie screenings, concerts, sporting events, and other entertainment activities, community assemblies, and non-essential work gatherings shall be prohibited. Gatherings that are for the provision of critical government services and authorized humanitarian activities while adhering to the prescribed minimum health standards shall be allowed subject to minimum health protocols in addition to the venue capacity limitations imposed herein. Religious gatherings in areas under General Community Quarantine shall be allowed up to fifty percent (50%) of the seating capacity. Provided that, religious gathering shall be limited to the conduct of religious worship and/or service; No procession in relation to a religious activity is allowed. Provided further, that there is no objection from the local government unit where the religious gathering may take place. The religious denominations should strictly observe their submitted protocols and the minimum public health standards, particularly the social distancing measures and non-pharmaceutical interventions such as the obligatory wearing of face masks and immediate availability of hand hygiene necessities in the premises. (As amended by Paragraph B of IATF Resolution No. 80, October 22, 2020, and Paragraph A of IATF Resolution No. 99, February 11, 2021)
7. Outdoor non-contact sports and other forms of exercise such as but not limited to walking, jogging, running, biking, golf, swimming, tennis, badminton, equestrian, range shooting, diving, and skateboarding are allowed but cannot be done in groups. Provided, that the minimum public health standards such as the wearing of masks and the maintenance of social distancing protocols, and no sharing of equipment where applicable, are observed. Provided,

further, that operations of the relevant clubhouses or similar establishments, if any, shall be limited to basic operations and restaurants and cafés therein are hereby allowed to operate at thirty percent (30%) venue capacity provided that it allows for social distancing protocols and that such establishments are compliant with the proper protocols prescribed by the DTI. In this regard, the operation of these dine-in establishments is hereby allowed up to 9:00 PM. Spectators in all non-contact sports and exercises shall be prohibited. (As amended by Paragraph A(3)(a) of IATF Resolution No. 43, June 03, 2020 and further amended by Paragraph D of IATF Resolution No. 48, June 22, 2020, Paragraph B(3) of IATF Resolution No. 49, June 25, 2020, and Paragraph B of IATF Resolution No. 56, July 16, 2020.)

8. The road, rail, maritime, and aviation sectors of public transportation shall operate at a reduced operational and vehicle capacity in accordance with guidelines issued by the DOTr. Provided, that in all public transports, a strict one (1) meter distance between passengers shall be observed and appropriate engineering controls shall be in place.

Private transportation such as company shuttles and personal vehicles utilized by persons APORs are allowed subject to the guidelines provided by DOTr. The use of bicycles and other non-motorized transportation is also encouraged.

9. Visits to open-air memorial parks and cemeteries shall be limited to not more than ten (10) persons per group. The number of groups allowed at any given time shall be left to the discretion of the management of such memorial parks and cemeteries taking into consideration minimum public health standards and social distancing. (IATF Resolution No. 49, June 25, 2020)

INDUSTRIES, ESTABLISHMENTS AND OFFICES: SKELETAL WORKFORCE

1. Agencies and instrumentalities of the government, including GOCCs, as well as LGUs may operate with a skeleton workforce in combination with other alternative work arrangements as approved by the head of agency unless a different operational capacity is required in agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, border control, and other critical services. All Senior Citizens and those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women, including any person who resides with the aforementioned, *may no longer report to the office*. All those who exhibit symptoms are required to seek immediate medical intervention and therefore need not come to office anymore.
2. Accredited diplomatic missions and international organizations shall be advised to operate under a skeleton workforce, without prejudice to alternative work arrangements as the said missions or organizations may deem proper.

ACTIVITIES THAT ARE NOT ALLOWED

Face to face or in- person classes are still not allowed and other transactions involving face to face, house to house and in the street bet collection for lotteries conducted for/by the PCSO must be done at the official PCSO betting stations or outlets/booths, pursuant to DILG Memorandum dated January 7, 2021, EO No. 01 Series of 2021 issued by the Governor and the latest IATF-MEID Omnibus Guidelines.

Cafeteria chit chats and group dining inside offices is discouraged. The face-to-face interaction for more than five (5) minutes limit must be strictly complied with. It shall be mandatory for every office/department to designate at least one safety and health officer to ensure and monitor compliance with the minimum public health standards and the immediately foregoing protocols.

If office budget so allows, a monthly RT PCR testing in workplaces is advised and in instances where one officemate has been tested positive thru RT PCR, all officemates, especially those considered close contacts, are to undergo RT PCR as well.

SECTION 3. PENALTIES. Violations of any provision of this order shall be subject to penalties pursuant to our local ordinances and those violations not so provided with penalties under existing ordinances shall be penalized as follows:

If the offender is a public officer – CSC Rules and Regulations and imposable penalties shall apply. Appropriate Administrative cases shall also be filed.

If the offender is a private individual – mandatory community service of 8 hours a day for the next 5 days.

For acts of omission, inaction, non-compliance by virtue of non-emergency absence and/or refusal to comply with the reporting and other assigned task by public official/officers, the same shall be a cause for administrative indictment for insubordination and gross negligence on top of preventive suspension pending resolution of the administrative case.

SECTION 4. INCORPORATION CLAUSE. All laws, legal orders, rules and regulations that have been issued and/ or will be issued by the duly constituted authorities of the Republic of the Philippines, particularly the IATF-MEID, pertaining to public health and COVID-19 are hereby incorporated herein and made integral part hereof. In case of conflict, such laws, legal orders, rules and regulations including the Omnibus Guidelines as amended shall take precedence over the provisions of this Executive Order.

SECTION 5. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. Should any provision of this Order be declared invalid, the other provisions unaffected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting

SECTION 6. REPEALING CLAUSE. All issuances, orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof that are inconsistent with any provision of this Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVITY. This Executive Order shall take effect immediately.

Issued this 29th day of MARCH, 2021 in the City of Ilagan,
Isabela.


RODOLFO T. ALBANO III
Governor