## Business registration in 7 days, 1 step?

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The Philippine Business Hub (PBH), an online platform being used in registering businesses was formally launched at the Quezon City Hall Monday by various government agencies, including the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA), the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), and the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC)

The Quezon City government led the launch of PBH — formerly known as the Central Business Portal — in an event that was also participated in by the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT).

PBH was established to cut short to only seven days the registration of businesses using only one step, from the previous 33 days and 13 steps. The portal can be accessed through business.gov.ph.

It was started on January 2021 with 703 corporations and 6,729 sole proprietors registering.

As part of the PBH's new look, the Philippine Business Regulations Information System (PBRIS) was integrated into the platform.

PBRIS, an ARTA-led initiative, is an online platform that provides accessible information on the Philippine Regulatory Management System and the laws and regulations relevant to the public.

More information on the PBH and the different types of businesses it caters to are also available on the PBH website.

During his sixth and final State of the Nation Address in July 2021, President Duterte called on incoming administration to continue using the PBH.

ARTA Officer-in-Charge and Undersecretary Ernesto Perez presented the timeline of the creation of the PBH and how several government agencies came together to make it possible.

"I don't think it's impossible because we have laid down the groundwork and we are doing things right. It's not an impossible dream," he said of the target oneday registration process.

"Starting something completely new may be the most difficult task, but ARTA, together with our partner agencies, is doing what we can to make it swift and more efficient for the people," he added.

Meanwhile, DICT Acting Secretary Manny Caintic also thanked ARTA for breaking down silo systems between government agencies to work on the PBH.

He also clarified that the end goal for the PBH is not just to register businesses, but to be the sole platform that people go to for the whole life cycle of a business.