- License plate

LTO INTENSIFIES 'NO PLATE, NO TRAVEL' POLICY VS. TRICYCLES

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MANILA — The Land Transportation Office (LTO) has intensified its campaign against colorum and unregistered public utility tricycles nationwide, with the implementation of the agency's "no plate, no travel" policy in Quezon City.

LTO law enforcement services Executive Director Francis Ray Almora, led the operation yesterday in a tricycle terminal in Barangay Bago Bantay.

According to Almora, it is important that a tricycle is registered not only for the safety of its driver, but also for its passengers.

"Marami pong hindi nakarehistro or unregistered o kaya walang prangkisa. Pagka hindi rehistrado 'yung tricycle, wala po siyang insurance. Kaya 'yung ating mga pasahero walang makukuha in case of a road crash," Almora explained.

The total apprehensions of LTO in collaboration with the Quezon City local government unit (LGU) have reached 52. Of these numbers, 36 were unregistered and 28 units were impounded.

According to Dexter

Cardenas, head of Quezon City's Traffic and Transport Management Department, there are about 25,000 registered tricycle units in the city.

"Dito sa QC is roughly 25,000 'yung registered tricycle units and, of course, meron 'yung mga hindi registered — 'yun 'yung target ng operation, colorum tricycles. Of the requested registered [tricycles units], roughly around 2,600 units [ay without license plates]," Cardenas told ABSCBN News.

Cardenas advised tricycle operators and drivers to coordinate with the LGU's to facilitate the release of their license plates from LTO.

In a statement, LTO chief Assistant Secretary Vigor D. Mendoza II said the implementation of the policy was consulted with and was agreed upon, not only by the Quezon City government, but also by the leaders and members of various Tricycle Operators and Drivers Association (TODA).

"Ito po ay welcome sa ating mga kaibigan sa mga TODA ng Quezon City dahil hindi lang naipaliwanag natin ng maayos ang kahalagahan ng polisiyang ito, kundi sila mismo ay nagrereklamo sa mga colorum na mga tricycles na inaagaw ang kita na dapat ay para sa kanila," Mendoza said in a statement.

Based on the policy stipulated in the memorandum signed by Mendoza, all tricycles must display valid and authorized licensed plates at all times while plying the road.

The license plates, according to Mendoza, must be clearly visible and properly attached to the tricycle units.

Mendoza said LTO will deploy strategic areas in Quezon City a sufficient number of its personnel in coordination with the Quezon City LGU to implement the "no plate, no travel" policy.

The "no plate, no travel" policy was agreed to be implemented by the Quezon City government and TODAs after the LTO was able to address the backlog of license plates for all tricycles being used as public transportation in Quezon City through the distribution of almost 3,000 license plates several weeks ago. (ABS-CBN News)