



26 December 2023

MEMORANDUM
No. 166, s. 2023

FOR : PCG, BFAR, DILG, DENR-NAMRIA
RDRRMC MIMAROPA

SUBJECT : ADVISORY ON PRC ROCKET LAUNCH

Source: Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA)

The People's Republic of China is scheduled to launch the Long March 3B from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture, Sichuan sometime between 1100H-1150H on 26 December 2023. Parts of this LONG MARCH 3B rocket are expected to drop within the identified drop zone which is approximately 68 NM away from Rozul Reef and 116 NM away from Ayungin Shoal.

The risk of untoward incidents and damage from falling rocket debris within Philippine territory is relatively low. However, the following actions are recommended related to Marine Access out of an abundance of caution between 1100H-1150H on 26 December 2023:

- a) **PCG, BFAR, DILG, and DENR-NAMRIA** are advised to consider temporary restrictions and the issuance of Notice to Mariners, Coastal Navigational Warnings or NAVAREA XI warnings, as applicable, in the identified drop zones to ensure the safety of the public on the waters near the drop zones.
- b) Concerned **Regional DRRMCs** are required to continue monitoring and submit updates on this event.

The estimated drop zone coordinates are as follows

DROP ZONE 1
12 28 00N 115 22 00E
12 54 00N 115 58 00E
12 10 00N 116 31 00E
11 44 00N 115 55 00E
12 28 00N 115 22 00E

PhilSA cautions everyone against retrieving or coming in close proximity to these materials to minimize risk from remnants of toxic substances such as rocket fuel. Personnel protective equipment (PPE) is recommended when contact with the debris is necessary.

The public is advised to immediately inform local authorities of any suspected debris sighted at sea or land.

For guidance and strict compliance.

For the Executive Director, NDRRMC:



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