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## **DOST REGION I, PSTO BENCHMARK AND TOUR ITDI**

Aiming for more collaboration and to benchmark with DOST-ITDI, the delegation from DOST Region I journeyed from the North to the DOST Compound in Bicutan to visit the Institute on May 10, 2023.

The visiting party was composed of the Provincial Directors, namely Mr. Jonathan M. Viernes (La Union), Mr. Benjamin S. Mercado, Jr. (Ilocos Norte), Engr. Jordan L. Abad (Ilocos Sur), and Engr. Arnold C. Santos (Pangasinan). With them were Ms. Adelisa C. Florendo, Officer-In-Charge for Field Operations, and Ms. Lena C. Rosario of the Regional Standards and Testing Laboratory (RSTL).

The group paid a courtesy call to ITDI Director Dr. Annabelle V. Briones, who welcomed them along with Technological Services Division's (TSD) Dr. Lorelle A. Baracol, Head of the Business Development Section, and Ms. Jacqueline F. Dinglasan and Mr. Reginald Roy U. dela Cruz, also of TSD, and Mr. Melquiades B. Canceran of Chemicals and Energy Division (CED). Their discussion focused on the status and future projections on the salt technologies in Region I, putting into perspective as well the recent updates on ITDI's salt projects in the other regions.

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Following the meeting, the TSD staff guided the party to the equipment and facilities of ITDI's Salt Project, Simulation Packaging Testing Laboratory, Green Packaging Laboratory, Nanotechnology Laboratory, and AMCent's Materials Development Laboratory.

The group also visited Environment and Biotechnology Division Chief Engr. Reynaldo L. Esguerra, to talk about EBD's upcoming engagements in Region I, before proceeding to their next destination, the Food and Nutrition Institute.

Thank you for visiting ITDI, DOST Region I and Provincial Directors! Hope to see you soon in the North!

*(RRUdelaCruz // ITDI S&T Media Service)*



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