

Isabela City Mayor Cherrylyn Santos-Akbar yesterday renewed her call on her political detractors to set aside politics and instead work together for the betterment of the city, where lawless elements have been trying to disturb its tranquility for unjustifiable reasons.

At the same time, Akbar directed the local police force and the military to fast track the investigation on the series of foiled bomb attacks to find out who are behind these atrocities.

Some improvised explosive devices have been discovered in different areas in Isabela town recently and authorities believed they were the handyworks of the Abu Sayyaf extremist group aimed sabotage and disrupt the city's peace and order.

In her message during the celebration of the 10th Founding Anniversary of Isabela City yesterday, Akbar called on Lamiteños to be very vigilant and immediately report to local authorities the presence of suspicious-looking persons in their respective community.

“Let us set aside politics. The election is over. We should not listen to those individuals whose aim id only to destabilize my administration. Let us all work together for peaceful and progressive city. I appeal to my detractors not to think for themselves alone but rather for the Isabelenos who have been expecting good services from their leaders,” Akbar said.

Meanwhile, the second termer mayor expressed dissatisfaction on the performance of some local government offices in terms of delivery of basic services to the constituents.

The lady mayor directed all her department heads, especially the local health office, to reach out to the poor residents of the 45 barangays and ensure that basic health services are properly delivered to them.

“I want you to bring the government closer to the people. We are here to serve and not to be served,” Akbar said.

While the police and military are trying their best to keep the city's peace and order situation stable, Akbar challenged the barangay officials, particularly from the 18 communities within the city, to make proper planning on how to keep their respective areas clean and free from any illnesses.

Akbar's challenge came after the city's experienced a cholera outbreak that victimized many innocent children recently. — Jimmy Villaflores