OFW in cruise ship positive for virus

BY GERARD NAVAL

A FILIPINO crew member of a cruise ship carrying 3,700 people, 538 of them Filipinos, anchored off the coast of Yokohama, Japan, has tested positive for the 2019 novel coronavirus (nCoV), according to the Philippine Embassy in Tokyo.

The embassy said the OFW is one of the 10 persons aboard the Diamond Princess cruise ship found positive of the virus. More cases were possible, according to the Japanese health ministry.

None of the 10 infected people had severe symptoms, public broadcaster NHK reported.

"The cruise ship was quarantined when one of the passengers tested positive for the novel coronavirus," the embassy said.

The crew member is the first reported case of a Filipino having been infected with the nCoV.

In a separate statement, the company that owns the cruise ship reported the Filipino is one of their crew members.

"These 10 persons, who have been notified, will be taken ashore by Japanese Coast Guard wa-