

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**PRESS CONFERENCE OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE**

[Roman Catholic Cemetery, Davao City | 31 October 2019]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Can we start? What is the question?

Q: Good evening po, Mayor.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Yes?

Q: Rodirey po of PTV Davao. Unang-una po, tungkol po sa biyahe ninyo po for Bangkok tomorrow. So can we have some details po kung ano po 'yung trip natin po?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, I will be taking off for Bangkok tomorrow night. So dito ako manggaling. It's about mga --- you add another --- almost mga three rin. So, three plus hours. Mga... 'Yun. Bukas ako aalis.

Q: Good evening po Mr. President. I'm Carolyn Bonquin from CNN Philippines. My first question is, balita ko po nag-sustain din ng damage 'yung bahay ninyo. Doon pa rin po ba kayo nag-stay right now?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, there are cracks even during --- as early as about three earthquakes ago. Every time it happens, may bagong crack. Pero crack lang naman. It's --- makita mo na ang ano linya.

But anyway, sabi ng PSG, they are insisting that it will be inspected. Maybe tomorrow.

Q: Tomorrow po.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Taga-DPWH pati... 'Yung structural engineers diyan sa city government.

Q: Pero doon pa rin po kayo magpapalipas ng gabi Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: O, eh wala man akong ibang papalipasan. 'Yun lang man.

Q: Follow --- follow up lang po. Isa pa pong question. Nabanggit din po kanina na inaalok niyo po ng isa pang Cabinet position si Vice President Leni bilang drug czar.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: No, ganito 'yan eh. If I would take her in as the drug czar, I will have to first make her a Cabinet member. Then I will give her the marching orders and the specific functions. All in connection with drugs, kanya.

Q: But the offer will be put in writing po?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Hindi na kailangan. I will swear her --- I will swear her as a Cabinet member. First, balik siya so that she will have the authority.

Eh alam mo ang Cabinet members are alter ego lang ng Presidente 'yan. So kung may gawain ang Cabinet member, it is as if it is mine. So to make it legal, just a little fiat.

Hindi na kailangan na mag-ano pa ako sa Congress. I will just make her the --- a Cabinet member. Tapos, all drug cases and all things, matters in connection with drugs iyo na 'yan hanggang katapusan ng term ko.

Q: Thank you po.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Para mabuti.

Next.

Q: Sir, good evening po. Claire Cornelio, ABS-CBN. Sir, kumusta po kayo? Saan po kayo kanina nung naramdaman niyo po 'yung lindol?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Sa ano --- sa bahay natutulog. Tapos nung umpisa --- hindi ako nagising sa lindol. Nagising ako sa mga --- 'yung PSG, mga babae. At the same time, nurse sila but under the --- sa ano, security.

Dalawa sila ginising ako. Sabi ko, "Bakit?" "Sir, lumilindol." Sabi ko, "Lindol lang naman 'yan." Pero nag-upo sila nung medyo lumakas. Sabi ko, "Pareho man tayo dito. Wala man cover. Magdasal ka na lang, buti pa."

Ako papun --- pati... Gusto nila tumindig ako, lumabas. Sabi ko, "Ay, para lindol lang. Wala 'yan."

Q: Sir, follow up ko lang po. Sir, ano --- meron po ba kayong direct instruction sa lahat ng LGU na apektado ng lindol? At the same time po Mr. President, ano po 'yung mensahe niyo sa mga tao ngayon na, alam ko na nababahala at natatakot sa kanilang sitwasyon ngayon sir?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, one is that nobody but nobody can prevent an earthquake to happen. There's no --- there's no accurate prediction diyan. Walang ano diyan, whether it would come or not.

Ang akin for those who are staying in buildings, structures that are not fit for human habitation, tingnan nilang mabuti because lalo na 'yung mga may semento.

If there are so many cracks and the cracks are really big and almost --- tawag... Let me look for the term. An indication that it is already really an old structure or a structure which was built not in accordance with law. Kaya na-ano ito --- madidisgrasya. Lalo na kung magtipid ka sa semento, patay.

'Yung dito sa --- 'yung... Kay Consunji 'yan eh, kung maalaala ko. Sila 'yung ano. But according to some, sabi nila na ang poste daw ang liliit.

I... I have to see it to judge whether or not talagang it would not --- it is not --- it was not built rather to --- strong enough to withstand earthquakes.

At least ang earthquake about 7. Ang ano ko 7 eh. I was a student then in Manila. 'Yung --- 'yung Ruby Tower, I remember malakas talaga 'yun. Kasi 'yung ulo ko... I was carried by the force sa ano. Bumunggo 'yung ulo ko sa headboard. Ibig sabihin, malakas talaga.

Q: Okay. Sir, any instruction, direct instruction po sa LGU at saka 'yung different agencies po?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, it is time for the LGUs to inspect all --- all buildings. Umpisahan na nila ngayon. It's a --- the earthquake season has come. I don't know if it will occur again between now and tomorrow.

Ang problema nito wala ako dito, sa Bangkok ako. So I do not want disasters to happen when I am not around. Not --- not just for anything. Ano lang, just to be here and do what you can do for your countrymen.

Q: Thank you sir.

Q: Good evening sir. Gem Avanceña po, TV 5. Sir, going back po doon sa kay VP Leni. Kasi marami pong mga nagki-criticize. One of those is Carpio

po who's asking na --- ito po `yung question niya, "If Duterte can't solve problem --- drug problem in six months, why give VP Leni six months?" May ganun po siyang question.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Bakit ko bigyan si Leni ng six months?

Q: Yes daw po.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Eh ibigay ko `yung lahat ng --- the remaining term, the remaining days of my term. Kung gusto niya.

Q: And meron din pong statement si VP Leni. Parang something like bakit daw po ipapasa sa kanya if hindi daw po failure `yung drug war?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Eh siya `yung madaldal eh. Dito pati sa labas. O, baka may alam siya na mas mabuting... If she knows a better method of dealing with the problem, then baka may ano talaga.

If you criticize, you must have the answer. If you question, you must have the answer. Huwag kang magdala ng problema sa akin.

"Presidente, ganito, ganito, ganito, ganito." Tanungin kita, "O sige, anong bu --- mabuting gawin natin?" Kaya `yan ang tanong ko sa kanya ngayon. Eh madaldal ka doon, nagdadaldal ka pa sa labas eh, about...

Ano... Ang hindi ko malaman kung namulitika ka. Pero kung namulitika, alam ko sabihin sa Pilipino, "P***** i** ka. Huwag kayong magboto diyan kay Leni. Kawawa kayo."

Imagine when I said to the --- I made --- issued a statement na ang pulis can accept gifts without looking at the books. And --- lawyer, sabi kaagad niya it is immoral, it is unconstitutional, it's unlawful.

You know, all the while na they were yakking and some --- another senator. I for --- I can forgive Lacson because he's not a lawyer. Hindi ko akalain na...

You know, I was mouthing the very law itself. Tokens given in gratitude, in small am --- token eh. Tok --- it's a token. It's almost without... It's not really a valuable thing.

Magpadala ng lechon which is the usual case dito nung mayor ako. Magpadala ng lechon. "Sir, magpadala daw ng pagkain." "Sige, kainin ninyo. Okay lang `yan."

Tapos here comes a lawyer criticizing about sa police. Wala nang mag --- ito si Leni wala na magandang sinabi para sa pulisya. Wala silang ano. Wala silang connect talaga. Lahat ng gagawain ng military pati police ma --- either masama, hindi tama.

So `yan ang problema ko kay Leni. Kung `yan ang maging presidente, hindi alam `yung batas, na ang pulis pala ay pwede magtanggap according to the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Law. Nandiyang sa batas, mismo `yung punishing itong mang --- maghinggi nang malaki. `Yung maghinggi muna bago magtrabaho. Diyan `yung [matamaan?]. Pero kung tapos na ang trabaho...

You know, the Philippines or the Filipino is always conscious of gratitude. That is a trait which is very sa ano, sa --- deeply rooted sa ating mga... May utang na loob ka kasi may kidnapping, nahuli `yung kidnapper pati `yung bata which is dito ilang beses na.

So kung mag --- may mga maghinggi, magbigay ng ano, magbigay ng para pagkain, blowout, o `di sige. Tapos to --- diretso, sabihin na ganito, ganito. Huwag kayong magkumpansa diyan kay ano. Disgrasya ka. `Yan ang mag-presidente, patay.

Q: Thank you po.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Sigurado. Walang alam. Abogado na wala namang alam.

Yes.

Q: Mr. President, maayong gabii. Sir, naa ba kay na kuan na consider na... (Good evening. Have you considered someone to be...)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Police?

Q: Ang next PNP chief and unsa imong mandate sa iyaha? (The next PNP chief. What will be your mandate for him?) Intensify ba ang --- more intensified ang drug war or what is the other mandate sir?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Nangita lang ko'g kuan (I'm still searching for a) police --- private. Naga-survey pa ako kung saan mahanap `yan. Mahinap --- mahirap talaga mag-ano. Mag --- mahirap maghanap ng tao na ibigay mo `yung malaking responsibilidad. Very hard. Eh tayo naman, we go by the record. Eh kung sinabi mahusay...

Hindi naman sila na --- wala namang sinabi sa akin na 'yung pangyayari sa Pampanga o ano. Eh hindi ko man alam lahat ng krimen sa Pilipinas before I became President.

When I was mayor, I was only concerned of the crimes happening here in the city of Davao. And maybe in the --- mga --- 'yung kapitbahay ko na mga probinsya, siyudad.

Q: Sir, the same pa rin po ba ang mandato ninyo sa next PNP chief as far as drug war is concerned? Or more intensified po sir?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Pagka tinanggap ni Leni... If anything that has to do with drugs and criminality, you ask her. Siya ang ilagay ko. Tingnan natin. Hindi na ako makialam.

Sabihin mo sa kanya tanggapin niya. Sisikat siya diyan. Hindi ko nakayanan, baka kaya niya.

Thank you.

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