

Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk

**MEDIA INTERVIEW OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
FOLLOWING THE AWARDING OF THE 2019 MODEL OFW FAMILY OF THE YEAR
AWARD (MOFYA)**

[Heroes Hall, Malacañan Palace | 28 November 2019]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Uy ma'am. Nice --- nice to see you.

Q: Mayor, how are you taking these reports on SEA Games hosting? 'Yung mga napapabalitang aberya and other complaints on the preparations of the SEA Games?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, to me personally, there was a lot of money poured into this activity now and I suppose that with that kind of money, you can run things smoothly. Apparently, siguro mga may palpak.

Ganito 'yan eh. 'Yung mga athletes from other countries dadating ng ganitong oras. And there are people --- their volunteers are paid, tasked to meet them at the airport. That is --- correct diyan. Problem is kung hindi dumating, do not abandon the entire journey. Kasi 'yung iba late ang flight, delayed, whatever.

The traffic in Manila --- hindi maka-landing kaagad 'yang mga eroplano because there are so many planes. Iisa lang ang airport eh. So sometimes they go around in the sky wasting gasoline just to wait for your time slot to make a landing. So kaya 'yung nag-ano doon, nag...

'Yung task na salubungin mo, kung hindi dumating, then you ask what time is it coming in? You should not abandon that particular duty because if they are coming, they are sure to come, hintayin mo o tanungin mo kung kailan dadating. But you do not entirely abandon your work just because they do not arrive on time.

Kaya 'yan ang hindi ko nakikita na ano --- 'yung anomaly. Well, if it is a --- just a small thing, fine. I agree with --- I pity... There are so many things to consider.

Pero 'yung iba... So if there's the money there, what happened to the money? You should give them allowance because if it --- the plane does not come on time, they have to eat and wait there. Sana hintayin mo. Huwag mo sabihin na iwanan mo. Eh ngayon dumating. Saan sila pupunta?

Kaya next time itong mga ganun, the military will handle it. Kasi ang military structural. Pagka ganun walang dumating, sabihin, "O sige ikaw assign diyan."

Itong mga ganito should be handled by military men. Not because... Well, they are better organizers because the entire Armed Forces is one big organization and they are trained to be structural in thinking.

Q: Sir, logistics po, you mean the military should handle the logistics?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Well, because I said from experience, time and again, I have observed that if it is han... Kita mo lahat ng Cabinet members ko ngayon puro military. There's one coming up. Bakante 'yung isang opisina ng PNOC. I'm going to appoint another general there, retiring.

Mas ano ako, kampante ako. Kasi itong mga --- mga military hindi masyado ano sa corruption. 'Pag sinabi mo, "Magtrabaho ka at gawin mo 'yan at anong klaseng ano --- ayusin mo ang Boracay." You give the money, may sobra pa, and the thing is fixed.

So karamihan itong mga civilian, lalo ang volunteers hindi mo makuha 'yan nang ganun. In the first place, sabi ko, "Where's the money?" You should have had a group paid exactly to do what was a fiasco for the dele --- delegations coming in without somebody meeting them.

Q: Sir, the lapses in the SEA Games organization ---preparations, who do you think should be held accountable?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: That is why I said let us investigate. But you know, as a --- if you are a reasonable man, of which I am calling everybody a man --- do not create a firestorm now because we are in the thick of preparation.

Let us investigate after. And I assure you I will investigate. I will task [unclear] but with more auditors.

'Yung nagre --- nag-resign --- nag-retire na sa mga audit, sa opisina.

Q: COA sir?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: COA. Kasi mas madali 'yan sila. May alam eh. But they will be connected with [unclear] and some lawyers para madali.

Q: Sir --- mayor, si House Speaker Cayetano, do you think he has accountability for what's happening?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Yes, he has to answer. But I do not think that corruption is... I do not --- I am sure Cayetano is not involved in corruption. Pero 'yung ibang binigyan ng task, tatlo 'yang body eh. 'Yung POC pati 'yung kay Bambol Tolentino. These are guys... Ramirez has been with me ever since mayor ako. He is from Davao. He used to be the --- 'yung coach ng Ateneo de Davao.

I got him in and until now he is with me. Wala akong ano sa kanya. I don't know if it is outright... How would I...? Lack of foresight. 'Yan. 'Yan sabi ko 'yang ganun, 'yung mga bagay na hindi mo makuha, mahahagip ng military 'yan. Eventualities, 'yung mga ganon.

So the next time na... Had I known, I would have insisted na --- heretofore, I will insist na military to handle it. The planners in the military. Not the military, not the soldier sa infantry. 'Yung planners ng military shall handle it.

Q: Sir, good evening po. Sir, clarification. 'Yung ifo-form niyo po na task force that will be composed of past COA editors --- auditors --- you mentioned [PAOC?] or you meant PACC?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: No, no, no. [PAOF?] If I have to investigate, I will take in...

Q: [PAOF]?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE:... people who have retired from the COA and some lawyers, some prosecutors. 'Yung iba, 'yung mga fraternity brothers ko.

Q: Yes sir. What would be the end goal, sir, of the investigation? I mean...

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: No, no. I am not --- I am not investigating Cayetano and the rest. I'm just trying to find out because I think --- I said the money must not have been properly disbursed kasi...

I know that Cayetano cannot handle everything. He has to delegate this...

Q: Task sir?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: 'Yung ganun. You have a different levels --- echelons you know. There's a supervisor then lahat na for this carried out properly. Kasi may pera. Hindi mo naman kailangan mag-ano eh.

Even if there are volunteers. Just... In the critical thing of meeting and seeing to it that they are properly delivered to their dormitories or hotels or whatever. 'Yun ang nakita ko na hindi maganda.

Q: Sir, 'yun po bang pagha-handle ng PHISGOC 'no which is a private entity ay --- is a misstep?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: No, it's not a private entity actually.

Q: Opo.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: You study it very carefully, puro gobyerno 'yan.

Q: Opo.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: 'Yung kay Bambol, gobyerno 'yan. 'Yung isang kuwan with Cayetano, gobyerno 'yan. 'Yung POC gobyerno 'yan.

So walang ano diyan. Kaya sabi ko hindi masyado --- I do not think of corruption kasi ang mga head niyan puro taga-gobyerno at men of integrity.

Q: So sir, 'yun po kasing comment ni Senator Lacson na 'pag channel ng 1.5 billion pesos into PHISGOC is something similar to a pork barrel scheme. Your comment sir?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: I --- I really cannot... I said I have to investigate.

Q: Yes sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: I... The right to be heard must be afforded to all in keeping with the --- I said Constitutional right to be heard. But of course the existence of that right in that Constitution does not preclude anybody from initiating an investigation, including the President. Eh kung maka-imbestiga ang Congress, lalo na ako.

Q: Hi sir. Good evening sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Kagaya ng... Let me --- let me cite to you a glaring example. I am talking of the original ninja cops who were charged and recommended dismissal.

'Yung unang fiscal sa Department of Justice... 'Pag... Ito si Malco --- itong ano niya --- Malcontento, ito na 'yung pangatlo.

I read the first resolution. Fiscal ako eh. I'm referring to the first incident noong ni-review 'yan. Nabasa ko 'yung indictment. Kung ako ang fiscal noon, talagang ida-drop ko. Tama 'yung tatlong fiscal.

I do not... I do not know of the subsequent --- maybe additional evidence --- were adduced. But 'yung unang --- either... Either hindi nangyari 'yan or the information or indictment was crafted precisely, that cockeyed so that it will be dismissed.

Parang siguro sinadya talaga na ganito ang presentation ng evidence or 'yung accusation para bumagsak talaga 'yung... Kasi talagang nabasa ko. P*** walang...

I will drop it. I tell you, the fiscal is right. The three fiscals are right. Kasi ako, before magbasa nag-ano lang --- nag-validate lang ng... Talagang dismissible. Hindi ako mag-file ng kaso na ganun, mumurahin ka ng judge.

Mabasa ng judge 'yun tapos ikaw ang fiscal, b*-b*** s***** ka. Anong klaseng... Tama 'yung mga fiscal. Droppable talaga.

But it doesn't mean to say na the whole thing has been really bereft of merits. To me actually, nangyari 'yun but the accusation was, I said, crafted. Sinadya talagang patagilid --- cockeyed o entirely a work of an incompetent idiot. Precisely so that the accusation will be dismissed.

Q: Hi, Sir. Good evening po. Sir, ang Samahan ng Weightlifting ng Pilipinas po ay nanawagan po sa inyo na kung pupwede pong gawing libre 'yung ticket po sa mga SEA Game events para mas marami po sa mga kababayang Pinoy ang makapanood at makasuporta sa mga atletang Pinoy. Aaprubahan --- aaprubahan niyo ba 'yun sir? O pwede po ba kayong magbigay ng direktiba na gawing libre na lang po ang manood ng SEA Game events?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Alam mo ever since, I cannot --- ayaw ko na magyabang dito. Ever since ano, nililibre ko lahat. But dito, sabi ng organizers, wala --- wala tayong panggastos sa... 'Yung miscellaneous expenses maybe or a little money to go by.

You --- there's not much money to go around within the first place kung ubos na or if they are doing it because they're trying to save, I agree. Pero kung ako, libre lahat.

Q: So sir...

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Sino lang unang Pilipino mag-linya doon?

Q: No way sir --- there's no way po sir para po --- kahit po 'yung ibang events gawing accessible kahit sa mga estudyante gawing libre po?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Unfortunately... Fortunate --- fortunately I am not the deciding authority there. I have to defer to the organizer. Pero sabi ni Senator Go now, he's whispering to me na pwede except sa volleyball --- [Senator Go: Except volleyball and basketball] --- and basketball, kay indoor eh.

At saka gusto mo man na ilibre lahat, saan mo ilagay? Pero 'yung iba alam mo ang Pilipino, kawawa naman 'yung walang pera. Gusto ko tabla. Kung sino lang 'yung may tiyaga magtindig doon para maghintay 'pag open ng gates. Basta do it with discipline.

Pwede daw ilibre ang...

[Senator Go: Except lang ang volleyball and basketball kasi merong mga --- mga MOA, may mga private na may-ari katulad ng MOA, SM. So meron silang --- sila naghandle ng ticket pero the rest na games --- baka pwede ilibre rin 'yung iba]

Do you have the explanation?

[Senator Go: Pagka government ang venue, pwede raw ilibre. For advice ni President daw]

Okay, gusto ko ibang --- 'yung takbo siguro. Kay 'yung mga takbo, kung 'yung mga Pilipinong gusto rin tumakbo, sumali ka doon. Tumakbo ka rin. [laughter] Para gawin mong lugaw.

Q: Sir, ang Department of Interior and Local Government po ay pumapabor na suspendehin ang klase sa buong Metro Manila.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Yes.

Q: Para maiwasan po 'yung sobrang traffic within the period po ng SEA Games.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Okay. Hindi, masyadong... Ilang araw ba 'yan?

Q: 6 to --- ah no --- 30 to 6.

Q: 30 to 11 po. December 11. November 30 hanggang December 11, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Kaya nga, how many days?

Q: 12 days. Thirty until 11.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: No, that's too long.

Q: Too long?

Q: Are you in favor po?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Kung ako ang estudyante niyan, palakpak lang ako nang palakpak. [laughter] Kung gusto niya Olympic na lang araw-araw. I do not agree. That's too long. That's too long. That is simply too long.

Q: So sir hindi po kayo agree or 'di niyo po suportado 'yung suspension of classes sa Metro Manila ng buong duration ng SEA Games?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Hindi nga pwede kasi mahaba.

Q: Yes sir. Pero may particular lang pong period na gagawin sa ibang...

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Hindi. Maybe sa closing games na, libre na lahat.

Q: Closing games, sir?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Oo. Pati 'yung mga ibang --- mga taga-Nigeria 'yung mga g***** nandito. [laughter] Isa pa 'yang mga p***** i***** 'yan.

Q: So maybe sir --- ah sorry. Clarify lang po. Sa closing ceremony sir? Gagawing libre ang...

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: 'Yung iba siguro. Sabi nga ni Bong the --- ang pinag-aralan ngayon is libre lahat except the volleyball and basketball kasi hindi tayo may-ari ng venue. MOA. So it's a privately-owned ground there.

Q: Okay sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: 'Yung iba baka libre na siguro kasi maawa ako sa --- sabi ko sa mga Pilipino na 'di maka-ano just because walang pera.

Q: Thank you sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Sino ba? Ma'am.

Q: Good evening, Mayor. Simula po noong sinibak niyo si Vice President Robredo, sabi niya po hindi pa raw siya tapos sa laban at meron pa nga raw siyang mga information na maaring i-reveal laban sa drug war ng inyong administrasyon. Any comment?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: You seem to be threatening na may information ka, ilabas mo. Ano man 'yang mga --- 'yung mga statements na merong mga ganun na, "Marami pa akong information na --- bantay kayo." So in the so many days that... How long was she there?

Q: 19.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: She made an a***** of herself. Always talking. Ang ayaw ko doon the first thing she did was to go to the Embassy of the United States of America then to the U.N. and to the E.U. Kung ano-ano.

Then 'yung ang --- ang sabi niya, kasi babae okay na lang. Sabi ko, I apologize kasi I cannot prove na hindi niya... Eh bakit mag sabi 'yung u*** na p***** i**** prosecutor, "I'm packed and ready to go."

Eh 'di may nag-imbata talaga. But since I cannot prove it because ginamit niya ang cellphone, I have to go into --- it's impossible. Sabi ko, "Sige, pagbigyan kita. I will admit na..."

Pero lahat na ano, kinausap mo. Instead of talking to the law enforcement, instead of talking to the barangay captains, instead of talking to --- itong mga tao handling the rehabilitation.

Sabi ko she made an a***** of herself. "I will talk to the..." Kung sino-sino na... Except ang dineny (deny) niya 'yung prosecutor.

Medyo abogado rin. I cannot prove it. Pero bakit nag-tweet that, "I'm packed. I'm ready to go and arrest Duterte." P***** i** barilin ko 'yan sa harap niya. Papuntahin mo 'yan dito. Arestuhin mo ako? Hiyain mo ako nang ganun? Ah, impiyerno ang labas natin.

Q: Mayor, may...

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Hiyain mo ako nang ganun? Eh ano? This is not the first time na may pinatay ako ng aso.

Q: Mayor, may napili na raw po ba kayong Chief PNP na bago?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Wala pa.

Q: Mahirap sir?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Isa pa itong mga pulis. Hintay kayo diyan. There are so many things that the police has to improve on. Unless I think that I see the very best guy there, you show me. Show me, tell me. Kayong mga pulis tell me who's the best to handle the command.

Q: Mayor, are you...

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Bigyan mo lang ako tao --- just give me an honest man. Period. And for all of the Cabinet members including the military men who are about to enter the civilian service. Ang tanong, lahat ng mga justices diyan. What is your marching order? Well just be honest. That's all.

Q: Good evening, Mayor.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Yes.

Q: 'Yung issue po sa NGCP sir, may mga nagre-raise po kasi ng concern specifically si former Associate Chief Justice, Justice Carpio na 'yung inab --- 'yung ability raw ng China na mag-control sa power ano ng Pilipinas. May security concern raw doon sir. Magpapa-order ho ba kayo ng investigation dito sir sa issue?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Hindi ako maniwala diyan kay Carpio. Wala mang matino 'yang sinabi na. Ano ang sinabi nakatulong na sa Pilipinas? 'Yung ano nila? Mga decision nila? Susmaryosep. Wala ako diyan kay Carpio. Taga-Davao 'yan pero...

Q: [off mic]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: May mga security issues that can be handled by the military. [Cannot?] be a problem. Ako, 'yung tower? Pasabugin ko lang 'yun. Putulin ko 'yung kable, tapos na.

Q: Sir, going back to...

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: You know... Teka muna na-ano 'yung --- 'yung chewing gum. Ma'am, kunin mo muna o. Ikaw muna mag... You chew it for me. [laughter] Maanghang.

This is not a [brief?] for China. Wala man tayong issues to worry about going to war with China. And if I'm going to war with China even and the main complaint would be 'yung diyang sa Spratly. Kung mag-giyera tayo, in one hour tapos ang ating Armed Forces.

And their jets can arrive here in seven minutes. I do not have that capability. I cannot fight China because I do not have the armaments. And China has talked to us, through me. Kulang pa ang Pilipino ng trust. But I trust them. I take their word for it.

At saka yung ano --- why the military has other means of transmitting a secret? Ibigay lang nila sulat. If it is really an important matter then I tell the military do not send it through the electronic world. Just write out it in a pad of paper and allow somebody to... 'Di ilipad mo.

Masyadong --- masyado kasing... Carpio is trying to --- he is so enamored with China. Ang disgrasya pa, ang mukha niya Intsik talaga. [laughter] Look at Carpio. Ako, ako may dugo akong Intsik, lolo ko. Pero tingnan mo konti lang. Carpio tingnan mo. He... Binabandera niya pagka-Pilipino niya. Tingnan mo mukha niya. Parang kapatid sila ni Mao Tse-tung. [laughter]

Q: Sir, just going back to the question on Chief PNP post. Sir, are we doing extensive background checks on the recommended names that's why it's taking us too long?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Wait, that --- obviously the one. Pero ang akin is if they have the... Even a single case of corruption, wala ka na. You're out. I would rather not appoint anybody for that matter. Ako na ang hawak. Ako na ang hawak nun. I will be the one directing the... Guidance and direction lang naman ako eh.

Q: How will you arrive at that decision po Mr. President that you will be the one handling the PNP instead of choosing and appointing a PNP Chief?

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: You're talking of arrival. That would be a long journey. Matagal pa siguro 'yan. But that is in the event that I could not find somebody I can trust.

I'm saying na --- I'm not saying that [Garcia?] there is the one to be appointed or somebody else or it would be somebody else's ability that could...

Pero naghanap pa ako hanggang... But verily, itong pulis maraming problema. Pati generals, ang mga p***** i** nila kasali sa droga.

'Yan ang ayaw ko diyan. Pati generals, kaya itong --- hindi lumabas 'yan hanggang hindi ako naging Presidente.

Sabi ko tapusin ko ito within six months. I did not know that 'pag mag --- nag-start na ako ng campaign ko against drug, that I was facing government itself. From the Customs, from the police. Lahat-lahat 'yan. Immigration.

And it takes time. Customs? Hindi --- I think the Ombudsman... Upon my complaint. 'Yung 63 na halos diyan tag-32 years, tag-20 years. They were all fired.

Alam mo bakit? Ito, bato-bato sa langit ang tamaan dapat magalit. [laughter] Magalit ka talaga. Maski maliit pa kami, sa subdivision namin, maski saan for that matter. Ang pinaka-magandang mga bahay, pinaka-magandang mga kotse na --- mga moderno, mga taga-Customs, taga-BIR.

Kaya sabihin ko, I'm challenging Congress now. Relay it to them now, that if they want to stop corruption sa BIR, we adopt the gross instead of the net. Kasi ang gross wala ng examiner. Pakita mo lang 'yung resibo mo kagaya --- kagaya sa added value tax. Pakita mo lang o, nagbayad ka. Wala na.

Kasi itong net, 'yung may deduction, doon lalaro ang mga examiner. Kaya 'yan, 'yan silang yumayaman.

Kaya ako challenge ko, Congress and everybody, you want to end corruption in --- in the BIR? We adopt the gross. Period. Tapos ang corruption overnight.

Ako, bahala na ako sa Customs. Patayin ko na lang 'yung mga y*** na 'yan. [laughter] Ito dito muna tayo sa BIR.

Salamat pud.

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Source: PCOO-PND (Presidential News Desk)