

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**TALK TO THE PEOPLE OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
ON CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)
[28 May 2020]**

PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE: Mga kababayan ko, magandang gabi po sa inyong lahat.

Nandito po kami para ipaalam sa inyo ‘yung mga polisiya na dapat nating sundin at direksyon natin kung saan tayo patungo.

Lahat na ito po ay ginagawa namin believe me because the interest of the nation calls for it, demands for it actually. I have to be productive as President and in order to do that I have to go around and look for myself the situation all throughout the country. That is the job of the President seeing to it that the republic is well guarded and the welfare of the people it’s the highest concern.

Itong klase po nandito si Secretary Briones. She will tell us what is her policy and what are her plans for the studentry --- mga estudyante. She’s here to explain to you and maybe isali ko na ‘yung deadline ng tuition. Iyong tuition ho sana --- I hope that you’d allow a staggered payment or installments lang po sa mga eskwelahan.

And for those who have really nothing to come up to sa bayaran, we have the Land Bank and kindly listen to the rules kasi itong Land Bank bubuksan namin and you can borrow money to finance the education of your children.

Lahat ito pupunta ito sa talagang negative. Meaning to say that we are hard-pressed in our finances but we have to place the premium of education. So that this would be another round of expenses but Land Bank is there to help you.

And dito po ako interesado. I want the development of this endeavor of the Land Bank to help. Gusto kong malaman na matutupad talaga. So maybe I will require a report everyday on how it goes, how it would present itself to the public once it is available.

And you know the NCR will now be placed under the general community quarantine or the GCQ starting June 1. Davao City will remain GCO --- GCQ rather. And the other areas under GCQ... Paano itong ating Task Force... The regions that would remain under GCQ will be Regions II, III, IV-A and Pangasinan, Albay, ‘yan sila until --- until we have reviewed the general situation.

We are not happy to put you in this place but after review maybe we can. But just let me tell you today that of those who are of late infection or those arriving in the country, we have a spike of about 5,000. Secretary --- 500 rather, I’m sorry, 500 lang. And Secretary Duque will expound more on that.

The rest of the country will be placed under modified general community quarantine. Again, the rest of the country will be placed under modified general community quarantine. That is very clear now.

In other areas, it will be again on a piecemeal basis depending on the viability of the place to meet the challenges of COVID. From time to time --- from time to time Secretary Roque would give us the places where there will be changes.

The opening of the airports. I have asked Secretary Tugade and he will have his time later to explain what are his plans. We would like to know sabay-sabay tayo.

Then dito sa assistance ng OFW. We are coordinating with every government agency to help them and sana po hindi na ito maulit. Iyong --- there was this stranded Filipinos not knowing where to go and when. And we decided immediately that they'd be returned to their home provinces. Nangyari po ito halos sa kanila nakauwi na.

But we are expecting the 300,000 something that Secretary Bello has communicated to us and that would be also a problem again. But this time, we should know what to do. It's a matter of calibrating every arrival and maybe sending immediately if possible the overseas workers coming in first. Unless of course they are detained because of they are sick of COVID. When I mean sick, sick talagang kailangan ng ospital.

Dito naman sa... Well, let me appeal to the itong mga landlords, the owner of lahat na: malls, bazaars, big stores whatever na mayroong mga --- anong tawag nito 'yung franchisin (franchise) nila sa --- may mga different stores selling different ---anything. What you have is the --- you own the big building to be rented out. Marami dito sa kanila po ang gusto ninyo na magbayad ng 50 percent even if they are not operating.

Actually I am at a loss really to explain to you how but you know when you collect from somebody who is not earning at all, it's practically flogging a dead horse. Eh kung patay na 'yung kabayo maski gaano mo kahampas diyan hindi na mabubuhay 'yan. And that is what's happening. If they are not earning, where will they get the 50% to pay if not the 100% that you'd want to collect?

So that seems to me a problem but I would like to appeal to the owners of the buildings of the malls and every --- everything, ganito na lang, just pray --- everybody has a God --- just pray that the vaccine --- ang target nila is November --- ah September. September I think China will be able to distribute if I'm not mistaken. And the other countries are catching up. Every --- everybody is at it so they are really trying their very best.

Kaya lang itong China hindi ito hambog. Wala itong ere. But they --- they you know, they work and I'm very sure that they will be the first one --- one of the countries that would be able to come up with a vaccine.

Ang atin nito is 'yung mga rentals sana --- balikan ko --- should be a matter that should be addressed by the DTI, and there can be some sort of an adjudication process to fix this problem.

Ako naman nakikiusap, nagmakaawa dahil nga talagang... If you are not earning, how are you supposed to pay? So maawa naman tayo sa mga kababayan natin. Let us help one another.

If it does not really spell bankruptcy sa inyo, eh 'di tiisin na lang ninyo with nothing except your savings to tide you over. Baka sakali makatulong 'yung appeal ng gobyerno.

Remember that the nation is still --- the entire nation is still under quarantine. Let us move to the so-called "new normal" as we... Let's see what develops ahead. Eh kay --- kung mayroon lang bukas, I will be the first to announce.

But alam mo remember the COVID microbes are still in the air that you breathe, that you pass on to your fellowmen if you are not ready or willing to wear the mask. It is precisely --- this is the protection not for you if you do not want it, but for the protection of the other guy.

And that is why the state has every right to control your movement if you pass on a contagion to the other pop --- to the population.

Kasi kung ikaw lang ang gusto, ayaw mo, and there are people who are like that --- ayaw nila and they believe that they have the antibodies to fight the coronavirus.

So if the virus is there tapos gusto mong labanan, bahala ka. But for you to pass the virus, if you get it from one place and from another person and pass it to the other guy, that's different. That is where the right of the state comes in.

So that to prevent a mass contagion, gusto namin putulin kung saan namin maputol to stop it. That is the reason of the essence of the police power of the state, to come up with measures to protect public interest, public health, public safety, lahat nandiyan na 'yan.

Case of peace and order, magkagulo, the state comes in. Iyong may contagion and everybody's dying, falling, kasali 'yan. Public interest is a --- uncontrolled movement or maski ano. People trying to seize other people's property or things like just being into a state of anarchy, the state has the right to come in and kkrkk --- put a stop on it.

That is the survival of the Republic of the Philippines. This is the --- this is a country of Filipinos who obey the laws. If you do not obey the law, well that's your problem. Bahala ka. Good kung makasibat ka. Kung hindi ka makasibat, eh pasensya ka.

And that goes for everybody. That should be made clear. Hindi kasi ano ng tao na they take for granted violating the law.

Now we start our program. We'll start with Secretary Briones because I think that's the foremost in the minds of people. Go ahead, ma'am. Let the cameras be trained to...

DEPED SECRETARY LEONOR BRIONES: Thank you, Mr. President. My statement will be very short. It's based on a letter which I wrote to you after you made your statement about not allowing the opening of classes during the time of COVID.

And so we are here from the DepEd to assure you that we are one with you in your uncompromising stand on the matter of the health and the safety of our learners and our teachers.

You said, “I will not allow the opening of classes na dikit-dikit ang mga bata. Para sa akin bakuna muna bago --- andiyan ang bakuna, okay na.”

We are saying because there is confusion and anxiety among Filipinos families especially the parents. We are --- we are here to state that we are one with you, Mr. President, in this non-negotiable commitment. It is the first and the most important principle when we worked out our learning community plan with all the details. We stated this also: The first and foremost concern is the health and safety of all learners and our teachers.

Mr. President, there has been a confusion among our people who associate the opening of school with what we describe as “face-to-face” classes.

Well, we are used to learners, we are used to teachers facing each other and we are used to children going to school physically. But we are saying that there will be no face-to-face classes and sessions until we are assured of the safety of our children and our teachers.

However, we also believe, Mr. President, that we can provide learning opportunities to our students without necessarily requiring them to go to school, and this we can do through what is describe as “blended and distant learning.”

Mr. President, this is not a new thing. We have many universities and schools which offer distant learning in many ways. We now call it blended learning because various approaches which are adjusted to the actual situation of the communities will be applied.

But these are all, Mr. President, consistent with your preference that we should not be physically sending our children to school until it is safe to do so.

What is this so-called blending or learning modalities? Because right now there is a bill which is filed in Congress on this. One, for those who don't have connections, who don't have interactive facilities, there will be what we describe as printed material which will be delivered to the homes of the students through the barangays, can be picked up also by their parents at designated places within coordinated schedules. We will be working very closely with the barangays and the local governments.

And the second approach is now very popular, Mr. President, this is the online learning platform and we, in DepEd, we have what we describe as DepEd Commons. Right now, we already have over 7 million subscribers wherein lessons, homework, quizzes, tips to learners and to teachers are all in the DepEd Commons and are accessible even to the parents.

So we have instances, Mr. President, of parents who are abroad and who are monitoring what is happening to their children, they also re --- go to the DepEd Commons and check on how the children are doing. Now in cases, Mr. President, where there is no connectivity and printed materials may not be available immediately, we have the classic long- time approaches, which

have always been used in education, and this would be television. Those homes which do not necessarily have connectivity and --- may have television.

And the most and the best used approach, of course, is radio-based instruction. Kasi ang television mga 1950s, '60s, radios have been around since the 1800s when it was first invented.

And we know the two World Wars were won through radio messages and not necessarily computers and so on. So 'yung printed modules, Mr. President, we have a description of what it entails.

And then also on the matter of online, ito 'yung popular talaga --- it's gaining popularity --- online distance learning with already 7 million subscribers and we assume here that they have access to Internet. And one worry is, how about the students and the teachers? Do they have access to laptops?

We made a survey, Mr. President, of teachers more than about 788,000 of them to find out whether they have laptops or desktops in their homes. More than 80%, nearly 700,000 have laptops or desktops in their homes because teachers acquire these for various uses. They have family members abroad, or friends, et cetera, et cetera. So this is a very, very popular mechanism for dispensing education.

Now for those who don't have access to interconnectivity, then we have television. Right now, Mr. President, 15% of television time --- this is provided by law --- should be dedicated to programs of --- programs designed for children. So there are already existing educational programs on television stations. What we need to do is to utilize these programs to transmit our curricula and we are working out how to do this.

For example, Mr. President, PCOO is volunteering its TV facilities and also IBC-13 which is radio for the utilization of lessons through radio and television. Radio and television for those who don't have access to computer.

Now radio-based instruction is quite popular, Mr. President, because right now municipalities are volunteering. Usually municipalities have their radio stations, cities have radio stations, there are local radio stations and big networks also have radio stations, and many of them have lessons which 'yung tawag niyon is "schools on the air". Mayroong mga religious groups, they give lessons in agriculture, lessons in whatever sciences over the air because alam nila not everybody has access to television or to online computers.

So ito 'yung pinaka-ancient --- pinakamatandang paraan for teaching as an alternative to face-to-face. Now, Mr. President, what we are doing in the regions is --- the regions are different from each other. Some regions have many islands, some regions have many mountains, some regions have interconnectivity and so on and so forth.

So what our regions are now doing is to translate our curriculum from curriculum for lecture --- the teacher lectures the children for long periods of time. It has to be translated one into digital

modes sa platforms natin into television programs because children have to be taught through --- in a different way.

Iba 'yung effect ng television programs because their attention span can be very brief as well. And then also converted into radio scripts. So this is where much of the work is now being concentrated.

What we are saying, Mr. President, is that we fully and completely support your stand that our children should not be exposed to the dangers of COVID-19 physically but we are also offering opportunities for them to continue their studies and their learnings.

And some people ask: are we prepared? What we are trying to do, Mr. President, are not really new. Hindi naman ito bagong imbento because distance education --- many universities have distance education programs. Many local governments have radio stations. We are utilizing existing ways of communication without necessarily requiring our children to go to school.

So they can still go to school, they can still study, teachers can monitor them as well as their parents.

So ito 'yung ano namin, Mr. President, which we would like to share with you and we seek your approval of our alternative ways of learning which are already existing right now.

And these are being done by many schools but this time mas malaki ang emphasis because we are now shifting to less physical, face-to-face classes, but education will continue, Mr. President. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: I'm impressed with the simplicity of the program, ma'am. And I believe that all that you have said is really feasible. Radio kung walang television and all of these things.

I --- I believe we have a very workable program and I support you.

SEC. BRIONES: Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: And should you require any help from any of the departments, feel free to communicate to them. If it's a question of funding, I will --- sought to speak, scrape the bottom --- the bottom of the barrel...

SEC. BRIONES: Barrel. [laughs]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: ...just to... Well, eh kung wala na tayong pera, edukar na lang --- ilagay na lang sa edukasyon sa mga bata. We will have to forgo many things along the way because of what happened.

But education, I think, if it --- if it is compromised, it should be negligible so that it should go on because the future of this country depends on the --- how we educate our young people nowadays.

I agree with you in this program. I support you. And if there's anything that we can do --- DILG and --- or whatever, we will endeavor to help you.

SEC. BRIONES: Thank you very much, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: So with that, we are through with education. I would just like to announce to the public, as of today, we have a total number of COVID cases of 15,588.

Now the recoveries 92 new ones, with the total of something like 3,598 to date. Ang patay po is 921. So you would see that Philippines has ratio and proportion vis-à-vis with the population, we have a low rate of mortality here in this country. The total active cases is 11,069.

So ang NCR is topnotcher which is 330 or 61 percent. Then we have Region VII, 55; others, 99. Mga repatriate, 'yung dati nadala dito 55. All in all, para sa akin, hindi naman masama ito.

So let's go to the Secretary of... He has some important matters to take up with the public. Secretary Duque, please.

DOH SECRETARY FRANCISCO DUQUE III: Magandang gabi po, Mr. President and fellow members of the Cabinet, at sa lahat po ng ating mga kababayan.

Gaya po ng sinabi ni Pangulo, ang atin pong kaso na nadagdag as of 4 o'clock p.m. today, May 28, 539; at 330 nanggaling po sa NCR; 55 naman galing sa Central Visayas; at 99 mula sa ibang mga rehiyon; at 55 na mga repatriates na ito po 'yung kasama sa mga lumalaking bilang ng atin pong mga OFWs na isinasailalim po natin sa RT-PCR testing.

At karamihan po sa ating mga kaso ay masasabi natin pong mga local. Ang total number of cases po natin ngayon ay 15,588. At kumpara po sa nakaraang araw ay ang trend ng bilang ng mga kaso ay tumaas ngunit dahil po ito sa patuloy din na pagtaas ng bilang ng mga kasong atin pong nava-validate.

Ngayon, ibig ko rin pong bigyang-diin na ang DOH po --- ang submissions ng mga iba't-ibang mga laboratories pero 'yung mga ibang mga laboratories ay late pa rin sa pag-sub --- pagsumite nila ng kanilang Excel sheets.

Iyong iba naman po ay patuloy ang manual validation process, at 'yung mga ibang ibig kong bigyan ng pansin ang mga laboratoryo na nag-automate na po ng kanilang mga sistema. So mabilis po ang pagsumite ng kanila pong mga laboratory results.

Tumaas man po ang ating kaso pero sa pangkalahatan naman ang mild cases po natin ay nasa 90 percent; at 7.3 percent naman ang asymptomatic, 'yung wala pong nararamdaman na sakit; at less than two percent naman po ang severe to critical cases.

At ibig ko rin pong bigyang-diin na sa kasalukuyan po ang ating health systems capacity ay sapat. In fact, we have around mga 60 plus percent reserve capacity in terms of available mechanical ventilators, available intensive care units, and also our isolation beds ano po.

So mayroon po tayong 92 na bilang ng ating mga kababayan na nadagdag sa mga naka-recover. Kaya't sa kabuuan, ito po ay umabot na ng almost mga 3,600 recoveries. Kasama po sa mga nakakarecover ay ang mga pasyenteng na-confine at mga pasyenteng may mga positive mild and symptomatic cases na naka-recover mula sa kanilang self-isolation at home quarantine.

Ngunit malungkot po kami na mayroon po tayong mga 17 na mga kababayan na nadagdag sa bilang ng ating mga pumanaw dahil po sa sakit na COVID-19. At kami po ay nakikiramay sa mga pamilya na naulila bunsod po ng pagpanaw ng atin pong 17 mga kababayan.

Iyon lang po, Mr. President, ang aking update po. Maraming salamat, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Thank you, Secretary Duque for that report. I hope that the public was able to grasp the whole of the dimensions na ibinigay ni Secretary Duque for your information.

Now, I would like to call on Secretary Tugade, if he has something to say about the airports and other --- not only the airports but other means of transportation under your department.

DOTR SECRETARY ARTHUR TUGADE: Yes, Mr. Mayor, magandang gabi po.

Let me predicate what I am going to say and present by saying that while the mandate of the Department of Transportation (Ang Kagawaran ng Transportasyon) is to provide transportation, mobility, and convenience among its population, it is now also vested with the responsibility that the Department of Transportation must help in preventing the spread of the coronavirus.

This having been said, the approach of the Department of Transportation is partial, gradual and calculated, and more importantly by phases. Kaya nga ba't kung ang tatanungin ano 'yung gagawin ng Department of Transportation in transitioning from MECQ to GCQ, allow me to state and addressing immediately the query of the Mayor in saying "ano ang mangyayari sa mga paliparan --- sa mga airport?"

Ganito po 'yung polisiya na gusto naming mangyari sa paliparan at airport. Una po, ngayon ho concentrated 'yung international landing and takeoff doon po sa NAIA 1 --- Terminal 1, 2, 3, and 4. Ang gagawin po namin, once we transition from MECQ to GCQ is to expand the international aviation gateways to include Clark, Cebu, and Davao.

Mahalaga hong sasabihin namin na as we expand the international gateways --- aviation gateways, kaakibat ho nito 'yung plano naming magtayo ng mga test laboratories. Mayroon na hong matatapos na laboratory testing sa Clark, mayroon na hong matatapos sa Cebu.

Ito po, 'pag nagawa ito, mahalaga ho ito kasi kung darating ho 'yung mga pasahero from international, sa mga primary gateways na ito, kailangan ho 'yung testing facilities nandodoon.

Kaya nga nagkakapit-bisig ho kami sa Department of Health at saka sa Red Cross na kung saan mapadali 'yung accreditation ng mga laboratories na 'to.

Mahalaga ho na sabihin na while we put up the testing laboratories, there are already accredited hospitals which can do the testing in Clark and in Cebu. Kaya nga ho kung wala pa 'yung accreditation ng Red Cross or ng DOH, puwede na hong gamitin 'yung mga paliparan na 'to.

Hangarin po namin na kung sa pag-umpisa ng transition from MECQ to GCQ, hangarin po namin na every one or two weeks, dagdagan 'yung international gateways para mapasama 'yung Zamboanga, Iloilo, Bacolod, and Bohol.

Mahalaga ho ito kasi this is one way of decongesting what is happening right now at NAIA Terminal 1, 2, 3, and 4 and putting it in the provinces and region. Bear in mind that we are an archipelago and therefore it is imperative that we spread the aviation centrum of operations to other parts of the country, other parts of the region kaya nga ho gagamitin ito.

Ngayon, ito po 'yung international. Kaakibat ho nung international ay 'yung domestic --- 'yung domestic operation. Ia-allow po namin na magkaroon ng domestic air operation doon po sa GCQ to GCQ.

Mahalaga ho ito pagkat gaya nung sinabi ko, tayo ho ay isang archipelago. Kaya nga ba kung magkakaroon tayo ng operasyon sa Mindanao at Visayas, hindi ho natin ili-limit na magmula at magsimula sa Central Luzon 'yan. Mayroon na hong Visayas and Mindanao.

And we will restart what I call, Mr. President, Mayor sir, 'yung tinatawag namin na hub and spoke operation (h-u-b, s-p-o-k-e) na kung saan kung darating 'yung mga malalaking sasakyan sa mga probinsya, magkakaroon ho ng domestic operation 'yan.

In other words, gusto ho natin na magkaroon na ng hubbing operation sa mga probinsya at rehiyon natin nang sa ganun mai-spread 'yung aviation potentials at maitanim 'yung punla para sa tinatawag natin not only of domestic mobility but more importantly and so 'yung domestic tourism.

Ito po, Mayor, ang general approach sa aviation. Kung papayagan po ako ng ating mahal na Alkalde, Presidente, magsabi lang ho ako ng ibang mga pamamaraan at panuntunan na gagawin sa ibang transportation sector kagaya ng tren, nung road, at nung maritime kung papayagan po ng ating Pangulo.

Sasabihin ko ho, kung tayo magta-transition from MECQ to GCQ, on the first day that we transition and it's put into effect, we can already put into operation our train and rails operation. Habang nag-uusap ho tayo ngayon nagsisimula ang ating mga tao sa riles at railways na kung saan sini-simulate nila kung papaano maumpisa 'to.

Sabihin ko na lang ho, namarkahan na 'yung bawat upuan, namarkahan na 'yung bawat alley, namarkahan na 'yung pagbili ng ticket, namarkahan na 'yung queuing. Handa na ho ito. 'Pag sinabing Lunes, handa ho kami sa Lunes.

Bagama't sasabihin ko antimano, huwag i-expect na 'yung operation ho ng tren is 100%. As I said, we have to balance our mandate to provide transportation with our responsibility to help in the spread of the virus.

Therefore, the capacity will also be limited, gradual and calculated. It will be an average of 10 to 12 percent sa LRT at MRT. Doon sa PNR ho ang capacity mga 35 percent.

Ngayon ho para maayos ito, sabihin ko na lang ho part of the --- part of the future efforts here, ito po ang sasabihin ko, matatapos na ho namin 'yung pagpalit ng riles ng tren sa MRT-3 by September of this year.

Ang ho ang ibig sabihin nito? Ang ibig hong sabihin nito na 'pag umandar na 'yung MRT-3 sa kabuuan ng kanyang pagdausdos at maayos na 'yung tren, 'yung average headway ho natin na five minutes mababawasan ho 'yan. 'Yung kilometers per hour travel time na ngayon 30 kilometers per hour, by December ho, Mr. President, target po namin na 'yung speed magiging 60 kilometers per hour kasi nabago na 'yung riles ng tren.

Mababalik po ito sa dati na kung saan sabi natin ito na 'yung MRT-3. Bakit importante 'yung riles? Importante ho 'yung riles at saka tren pagkat --- kasi ho, Mr. President, massive ho ang pasahero nito kumpara sa modernized jeepney, sa Grab, sa taxi. Mas madami ho dito kaya concentrated ho kami diyan.

Ngayon, to augment --- because limited capacity 'yung takbo ng tren, mayroon ho kaming tinatawag na bus augmentation system. 'Yung bus augmentation system, ganito po 'yon in generic terms, ikakasa ho namin 'yung operation ng tren with the bus operation following the same line. Para nang sa ganun ma-achieve natin more or less 'yung tinatawag na volume of passengers that move.

Ngayon ho magi-introduce ho kami ng bagong pamamaraan. Ito hong bus augmentation system ay magkakaroon ng tinatawag na dedicated lane sa EDSA, mid-lane. Ibig sabihin may tatakbo ho diyan na bus. Sa umpisa ho kasi sinabi po natin gradual, calculated and partial, ito ho baka gamitin ho muna namin diyan, Mr. President, mga 300 to 500 buses. Sasamahan ho 'yan.

'Pag nagawa ho ito, i-increase po namin 'yan. Maalala niyo ho 'yung LRT na nasiraan ng tatlong istasyon na hindi pa mag-o-operate ngayon? Lalagyan ho namin ng bus operation 'yon para 'yung 10 stations ng LRT will be put in operation with the combination of rail and bus. Mayroon hong bus augmentation system, babaguhin ho namin ang EDSA.

Sasabihin ko na rin ho 'yung gagawin nating landscape sa EDSA. Ultimately magkakaroon po tayo ng tinatawag na bike lane na kung saan nakikipagkapit-bisig kami sa MMDA and the Department of Public Works para maumpisahan at buhayin ulit 'yung tinatawag na bicycle lane.

'Pag ito ho na-prove sa aming eksperimento na kaya, gagawin ho namin 'yung istrakturang permanent. Sabihin ko lang ho na 'yung bicycle lane will not be limited to EDSA, it will be limited to parts of the country if it works.

Ngayon ho, ang component ho ng road sector kung o-operate-in mo ‘yung road sector ano naman ang mag-o-operate sa kalsada? Nasabi ko na ho ‘yung bus augmentation system. Mag-o-operate ho ‘yung P2P, point-to-point, wala hong stop ‘yan. Ibig sabihin itong P2P sasama sa dedicated lane, sa agos ng dedicated lane. Nandiya-diyang po ‘yung tinatawag natin na ‘yung Grab at saka taxi puwede hong mag-operate ‘yan.

Sabihin ko na lang ho, Mr. President, alam niyo ho ba na uumpisahan natin part of the new normal magkakaroon ho tayo ng digitalized operation sa taxi, sa bus, na kung saan mayroong cashless transaction. Again, to help prevent the spread of the disease.

Ito na ho ‘yung mga card system. Ginagawa ho at gagawin ho namin sa taxi at saka mga modernized jeepney at sa bus ‘yan. Part of the digitalization program without oversimplifying but just to show to our people who are listening and watching, mayroon ho tayong digitalization program.

Alam niyo ho ba, ‘yung lisensya ngayon pupunta ka sa LTO doon mo kukunin? Ngayon, minsan ‘yung address nila problema ho ‘yan hindi totoo.

Nagkakaroon ho kami ng online issuance and application. In addition to that, ‘yung mga lisensya at plaka, ‘yung renewal ng plaka at lisensya hindi ka na ho pupunta, plano namin, sa LTO offices. Ide-deliver ho ‘yon ng courier.

This is one way also of making sure that the addresses doon sa mga na-issue ng lisensya ay totoo. Kasi ang nangyayari ho ngayon ‘pag nagkakaroon ho tayo ng problema sa kalsada at hahanapin mo ‘yung address, wala ho doon. So mayroon hong mga programang ganun.

Sasabihin ko na rin ho, part of the digitalization na ginawa na namin even before the COVID is the robotics. Mayroon na po tayong robot sa LTO. Sila ho ‘yung gumagawa ng plaka. So ito ho mga gagawin natin.

Ngayon ho kung mararapatin, Mr. President, let me say a little bit about maritime. Dalawa ho ‘yung programa na ginagawa for the first time during the term of President Duterte, Mayor Duterte.

Una ho, electronic ticketing system. By December, puwede ko nang umpisahan ‘yan because now it’s on a test run. Ano hong ibig sabihin nito? May ticket na ho kapag sumakay ka ng mga kuwan natin, mga maritime vessels. Mawawala ho diyan ‘yung scalping, mawawala rin ho diyan ‘yung overloading kasi ticketed na.

Iyong ticketing ---- online ticketing gagawin din ho ‘yan sa tren. At ginagawa of course ‘yan sa aviation, gagawin ho sa maritime. So magkakaroon ho tayo ng online ticketing for the first time. Mabubuo ho natin ‘yan by December.

Para sa ating mga kababayan, nandidito ho ‘yung sinabi kong “Palamigan ng Bayan”. With the problem on COVID at ‘yung sitwasyon at lack ng storage ngayon, ‘yung magsasaka, ‘yung mga mangingisda, nasisira ho ‘yung kanilang tanim at pangisda kasi walang storage.

Ang ginagawa po namin, Mr. Mayor sir, is inilunsad ho namin ‘yung Palamigan ng Bayan. Ito ho ‘yung cold reefer na kung saan pinapadala namin ito sa mga komunidad, na municipality na mayroong nangingisda at mayroong nagtatanim. Para matulungan ‘yung kanilang pangingsda at ang kanilang pagtatanim, binibigyan ho namin sila.

Naka-distribute na ho kami 11 reefer containers. Plano ko ho pagdating ng Hunyo --- I know it’s a tough order to my people but I’m pushing them --- gusto ko dalawang container a month para mapalawig ‘yan, then we can help the magsasaka and the mangingsda.

Sabihin ko na rin ho, Mr. President, sa maritime. Nakatapos na ho kami at ni-report namin sa IATF kahapon ito na natapos na kami ng puerto at gusto nilang inaugurate-in pa. Sabi ko wala nang inaugurate-inaugurate, operate-in mo na lang. Mahigit 10 na ho ‘yan, operate-in mo na lang. Wala na tayong opera --- inauguration-inauguration...

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: I hate ceremonies.

SEC. TUGADE: Oo, basta operate-in mo na lang. Kasama ho diyan ‘yung pagtatapos nung puerto sa Pag-asa. Handa na hong mag-turnover ‘yung Provincial Government of Palawan na i-turnover sa amin ‘yon sa June --- June 12.

Sabi ko kung maaari accept-in ko na lang sa papel ‘yan. Huwag na tayo mag-inaugurate. Umpisahan na lang natin.

Maraming salamat po, Mayor.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: It was a very terrific presentation, Secretary Tugade. I would like to ask Secretary Galvez to make the report first. What’s the latest on your front, sir?

PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER ON PEACE PROCESS AND NTF COVID-19 CHIEF IMPLEMENTER CARLITO GALVEZ JR.:

Sir, you have directed me to visit all the different regions to... As a compliance to your directive and see the real situations on the ground, I have already visited Zamboanga City, Davao City, CARAGA Region, Bohol, Cebu City region, the Laguna Region, to build the --- the quarantine facility there.

Also I visited Baguio City, sir, to see the --- the good things that Mayor Magalong is doing. I also visited Region XII, and also I visited the malls so that we could see if they are really following the protocols.

Sir, they are very thankful to you, sir, and also to Senator Bong Go because we have given them more or less 200,000 rapid test kits and also we put up the machine laboratory.

When we went to --- to Zamboanga City, sir, we left more or less 1,100 kits. And now they have two laboratories already. And also in Davao, we have already procured --- with the help of the different companies, San Miguel Corporation and also Ayala Corporation --- they have a --- they

are trying to automate the Southern Philippines Medical Center. And it can increase the capacity of the Southern Philippines Medical Center into more or less 2,000 --- 2,000 tests per day.

And the machinist --- the machinist will be flown from Zamboanga City to Davao City maybe this coming Saturday, sir, to fix the machines.

And then also the CARAGA Region they are very thankful because also we provided them 2,500 test kits for every --- for every province.

And also Bohol, we saw that Bohol will be one of our candidates for the new normal because they have --- they are --- they are still COVID-free. And considering that most of their --- their businesses came from --- from ano --- from tourism. We are planning that we will have preparations for local tourism this coming June and July and then they may be opening up. If the situation --- situations improve, sir, they will open up tourist --- tourism again in Bohol. And they are very thankful that --- that we have given them hope that Bohol will be our model for the new --- new normal.

And also in Baguio City sir, we visited Baguio City. And the Baguio City, sir, is very sprawling right now. They have opened up all the business except for --- for mass transportation and also hotel and restaurant. But I talked to General Magalong last night, and if --- if the IATF will approve that they will be at --- in GCQ, they will open up some of its restaurants for dine-in and also they will open up local tourism in Baguio City.

And then during my visit on the malls, we saw that the people is really, really, very ano --- very mindful of your ano --- the pronouncement of the President.

As of this moment what we saw to the malls, we thought that there are many people there but more or less 10 --- 10 to 20 percent of the mall capacity is ano --- parang ano pa rin sir --- parang takot pa rin ang tao, sir, na magpunta ng malls.

So majority nakita namin, sir, mga 20 to 30 opening pa lang, sir, ng mga malls. Ang marami lang mga tao is 'yung sa mga supermarket. But those who open nakikita namin sir ano sir medyo mayroon pa ring tinatawag nating precautions.

But I believe the ano --- the --- when I talked to the administrator of the malls, they are very, very happy that the President, the government has given them the hope that there will be an opening. And considering that NCR will be GCQ, they are ano --- they are very happy.

Sir, I also visited Cebu City. We met with Secretary Dino and they are good --- doing good. Though the figures that we saw is medyo tumataas po 'yung ano --- 'yung kanilang cases.

But we saw that it is in Cebu that they conducted expanded testing. They conducted 32,000 testing --- and with ano --- with the rapid test, and also more or less 16 to 20,000 PCR tests. And they said that they are prepared for the ano --- the GCQ considering that when I --- when we --- we met all the businessmen there and they are very happy that we visited them and they are preparing for reopening of business because they already lost a lot in a --- during the ECQ.

Mr. President, for all those LGUs and businessmen that we have visited they are very, very thankful that the government is giving them the ano --- the --- the support especially when we go there we brought PPEs, protective personal equipment, for the health workers. And also we provided test kits including rapid test kits and also we brought all along with us, with the PCR --- PCR equipment.

That's all, Mr. President and I would like to convey the ano --- the gratitude of our local government officials and businessmen for the visit, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: And also the gratitude of the nation for your untiring services, General Galvez.

Dito sa Pilipinas hindi tayo nagkulang ng ano --- for example, Benjie sa Baguio. He's a very good administrator. Being a military man, he has that --- I said, the --- how to craft a government that is really fit for your --- in your jurisdiction.

Maraming mga leaders na ganoon. But mayroon namang iba --- and I don't blame them actually. They say that... I do not have any quarrel with Richard Gomez. He was the one who said that he's not going to accept anybody from entering, or for that matter, leaving the place.

Okay man lang 'yan. It's part of maybe the vigilance that a person nurtures in his heart of how to do it. But you know there are also constitutional issues that are involved and those are sacred ones.

And for those who are not really pronounced to be infected positive, there's no reason why you should not accept them especially those who are returning to their homes from doing a work abroad.

Kawawa naman kasi. So 'yung constitutional right, there's no --- there's no really a reason why you should not accept them with open arms. I think this has been understood by everybody. And --- unless, well for one, if you are positive, you can stay with the place where government has to provide for the hospitalization.

I want to make it clear that as much as possible the ordinary citizen, the Filipino, does not have to spend money. If he is sick, he can seek hospitalization and charge everything to government. Wala tayong... Now, if he happens to be in that place and he cannot move out and maybe he's not welcome to the place, he can stay where --- where he finds himself.

And this I would like to convey to the mayor: help anyone. Not --- not even Filipinos, foreigners, who are in your place and who go to you or who goes to the municipal building, the seat of governance of your municipality to seek help.

You should expedite the hospitalization. Tulungan ninyo 'yung mga Pilipino tutal I will pay. I will pay for the expenses. Walang problema 'yan.

You just sign a whatever document there. I will pay for the hospitalization of any Filipino who finds himself in a strange place and he has nowhere to go.

That is really an order of the national government to the local governments. Help, do not deny, and you must expedite the hospitalization until he is cured. No problem about payment. I will pay. Just bill me and I will pay.

Now, we'd like to hear for --- sa ating next speaker. I'd like to ask General Año to...

DILG SECRETARY EDUARDO AÑO: Maraming salamat po, Mr. President. First of all, kung mayroong isang positive po na nadala ang COVID crisis na 'to ay sa larangan ng peace and order.

Mula po noong panahon bago mag-lock down. Mula January 5 hanggang March 16, 11,004 criminal cases po ang lumitaw --- or crimes. Pero mula po noong nag-lockdown tayo from March 17 to May 27, bumaba po 'yung ating crimes ng 4,479; 60 percent po ang naibaba sa tinatawag nating mga crimes --- sa eight focus crimes.

So ito po ay magandang development sa larangan ng peace and order. Pati rin po sa Bureau of Fire Protection, ang ulat nila kung ikokompara po 'yung period mula January hanggang May, sa period po ngayong 2020: from 11,236 fire incidents, bumaba po ng 10,698. Five percent po.

At sa mga namatay sa sunog: from 283 to 162; 43 percent down din po ang ating mga casualties mula sa fire. At sa ating mga violators naman po ng quarantine: 184,000 po; 467 ang nagkaroon ng mga violations at 54 percent po ay naaresto.

Ang iba naman dito, katulad ng nine percent ay binigyan lang ng warning at ang 37 percent naman ay pinagmulta. Tuloy-tuloy rin po ang pagbabantay natin sa lahat ng peace and order.

Sa atin po namang repatriation ng OFWs, ang lahat po ng ating LGUs ay tumatanggap po --- tumatanggap na po ng mga OFWs katulad po ng inyong instruction. Kung noong una po ay mayroong alanganin sapagkat hindi sila sigurado kung ito ay puwede pang makapanghawa, so nagkaroon po kami ng kasunduan sa lahat ng LGUs, mayors, at governors na lahat po ito ay tatanggapin at puwede na lang silang mag-impose ng additional home quarantine.

At kung talagang ang bahay ay masikip, puwede po sa isolation facilities sa mga barangays para abot-tanaw na rin 'yung ating mga OFWs ng kanilang mga pamilya. So sa inyo pong kautusan ay matatapos po natin hanggang Sabado na mai-uwi lahat.

Ang natitira na lamang po ay 11,889. Pero ang karamihan po nito ay naka-book na 'yung kanilang mga biyahe hanggang Sabado at ang naiwan na lang ay 6,468 na kaya po nating matapos ito hanggang weekend.

Sa atin pong pagbabago mula MGCQ papuntang GCQ areas at iba naman pong LGUs ay magiging MGCQ, handang-handa na rin po 'yung ating mga LGUs sa pagpapatupad kasama 'yung ating mga kapulisan.

Magkakaroon din po kami ng mga pagbabago katulad ng modified checkpoints ang ating ipatutupad. Mayroon po tayong mga mobile at spot checkpoints at ito ay nandito sa mga strategic location para hindi magkabuhol-buhol ang trapiko.

At magiging mahigpit pa rin tayo sa mga provincial borders. Within the province po ay hindi na kailangan 'yung ini-issue na mga barangay quarantine pass. Travel pass na lang po para sa pagdaan niya from one LGU --- I mean from one province to another o kaya ay from one region to another ay makikita po natin na may kabuluhan talaga ang nagbibiyaha at hindi siya nagbibiyaha lang para sa leisure lang.

Patuloy din po 'yung pag-inspection natin kasama ang DTI at DOLE sa iba't-ibang mga business establishment para masigurado na ipinatutupad 'yung ating tinatawag na minimum health standards lalong-lalo na po 'yung pagsusuot ng face mask, 'yung physical distancing, at 'yung pagsunod po na may limit ang kapasidad sa pagtanggap ng mga customer sa loob ng mga shop at mga mall.

Sa atin naman pong SAP distribution, nakahanda na rin po tayo sa second tranche at hinihintay lang po natin ang pagbaba ng mga pondo galing sa DSWD sapagkat ang gagamitin nila ngayon ay automated payment base po sa mga SAP form na nai-submit noong unang first tranche.

Mas mabilis po ito sapagkat 'pag automated payment, maiiwasan na rin 'yung pagkukumpol-kumpolan. At doon sa lugar na malalayo naman po ay manual pa rin pero katulong na po ang Armed Forces at saka Philippine National Police.

Iyong limang milyong additional po ay kinukumpleto natin 'yung mga pangalan. Sa ngayon po ay nasa 3,818,608 names na po 'yung nakukuha natin at ito ang mga priority na makatanggap sa second tranche.

So handang-handa po ang ating LGUs at ang ating mga kapulisan para sa pagpapatupad ng bagong --- inyong idineklara na mga classification.

Bilang tulong din po sa ating DOTr --- 'yung binanggit po ni Secretary Tugade na gusto natin na ang bicycle po ang maging isang pangunahing pamamaraan ng transportasyon.

Kaya nagpababa rin po ako ng memo sa ating mga LGUs na 'yung lahat ng mga major thoroughfares ay magdugtong-dugtong, magkaroon ng bicycle lanes para ito po ay ating ikampanya na gamitin ng ating mga kababayan bilang pangunahing transportasyon lalo na kung malalapit lang naman 'yung mga opisina ng pinapasukan at mga lugar na pinupuntahan.

Iyon lang po, Mr. President. At ready na po kami para sa pagpapatupad ng bagong mga deklarasyon ninyo sa classification ng iba't-ibang lugar sa Pilipinas. Thank you po.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Yes, thank you, General Año.

Alam ninyo, if you heard him correctly, he was talking about enforcement and the role of the police. I repeat, there is no martial law in the Philippines. Far from it.

We are exercising the power of the state to protect public health. That is all there is to it.

Now, because sometimes enforcement can be a very tedious process in explaining to the ordinary citizen, please understand that these are things which we have to do because it is needed to be implemented.

Iyon lang po. Walang ano. Walang --- huwag kayong matakot na there will be no arrest, detention, or anything. It's purely, if at all, if there's any intervention or interdiction, done by the law enforcement agencies.

Pati ho 'yung military, their role is just to implement the law. They are called upon to assist the civil government. Iyan lang ang trabaho nila at makita ninyo we are progressing at a very fast rate because we were able to put in place the rules to be followed when COVID came in like a storm from the outside.

Now, for our last speaker, I'd like to just give the floor to General Lorenzana.

DND SECRETARY DELFIN LORENZANA: Maraming salamat. Maraming salamat, Ginoong Presidente.

Ito po ay dagdag lang sa mga ulat nila General Galvez at saka General Año tungkol dito sa mga ginagawa natin sa mga OFWs.

Iyon pong utos ninyong magpauwi tayo ng mga 24,000 OFWs na nasa Manila ay natupad po. Tsaka nalampasan pa po natin 'yung bilang na 'yon, ang ating napauwi ay 26,590.

As of last night, mayroon pang mga OFWs diyan, kasama na 'yung mga bagong dating na 7,569.

Ngayong araw na ito, umalis na --- umuwi na 'yung 3,597. Mayroon pang natitirang 3,972 na puwede na makakauwi nitong linggong ito.

Mr. President, 'yung ating mga sistema ay naayos na natin. Medyo nagkabuhol-buhol lang noong una dahil marami tayong mga nasalubong na problema. Pero naayos na po natin ito dahil pinag-isa-isa natin. Nakipag-ugnayan kami sa DOTr, sa DILG, at saka sa DOLE dahil lahat po ng mga ahensya na 'yan ay may pakialam sa OFWs.

Ngayong --- mula ngayon hanggang katapusan ng Hunyo sabi ni Secretary Bello ay may darating na 40,000 na OFWs.

We can assure you that okay na 'yan, maaayos na natin 'yan. And we have target --- ang target po namin ay hindi magtatagal ng apat na araw 'yung mga OFW rito at makakauwi na sila.

Ngayon kung matutuloy 'yung balak ni Secretary Tugade na bubuksan niya 'yung mga ibang international gateway ay puwede na nating idiretso 'yung mga ano doon --- mga OFWs na darating at saka seafarers, 'yon pong nagtatrabaho sa barko at doon na sila mag-testing.

At least malapit na sila sa mga pamilya nila hindi na sila malulungkot kung sila'y nadadalaw ng pamilya nila kung naka-quarantine man sila.

Pero ang kuwan po rito, ang balak po rito ay 'pag dumating po 'yung OFW, ite-testing sa PCR at mag-quarantine sila ng tatlong araw, paglabas po ng resulta ng test, kung sila ay negative, iuuwi na po. Iyon lang positive ang maiiwan.

Kung ganun po ang gagawin natin ay mapapadali po 'yung trabaho ng lahat at mapapadali rin 'yung pag-uwi ng mga OFWs sa kanilang mga bahay. Iyon lang po, Presidente.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Salamat, General Lorenzana.

Alam mo as you see --- if you listen very carefully sa mga pinag-usapan namin dito, it's all geared towards a governance na to take care of the citizens, republic. Lahat ho namin ginagawa.

At huwag ho kayong maniwala. Ako na 'yung nagsasabi sa inyo. Iyong mga test-test na 'yung sabi nila 'yung --- they unfairly dragged the name of Secretary Duque --- hindi ho tototo 'yon. Ang nagbili noon ang Budget pati 'yung Office of the President mismo.

Sinadya ko 'yon para madali. Tinanggal ko nga doon kasi overworked na ang Health Department. Ginawa ko 'yon para mabilis. Itong mga bidder na ito, who offered a lower price, never, never participated in the bidding.

At ngayon 'yung matapos na, 'yon ang nagreklamo offering a lower price hoping that we would ignore the bidding and go for their price. Ito 'yung mga g*** na ito, when they were first approached, mahal. Ngayon may bidding, hindi sila sumali, then suddenly after that --- and may I inform Senator Drilon and Ping Lacson and everybody --- ganun ang nangyari.

We will have a report coming your way and that is the stand of the Office of the President. Kami ho ang nag-utos niyan na dito na sa Budget para pag-release ng pera madali, diretso na.

It so happened that we have some --- talagang mga b***s*** na tao, at kayo maniniwala kaagad. You better wait for the official report at least for respeto. A little respect coming from the Office of the President kasi sinadya ko 'yan.

Right at the beginning, you must have heard, sinabi ko, "itong pera na ito at binigay ng Congress, huwag na huwag ninyong gamitin," I said, I even used the word, "do not f*** with it," kasi sabi ko emergency ito.

Itong mga bidding for a --- for as long as we are in a democracy at sinasabi ko na nga ho sa inyo, tanggalin ninyo 'yang lowest bid. The lowest bid is the culprit of all corruption be it national o local. Tanggalin ninyo 'yan, maghanap kayo ng ibang paraan.

Kasi 'yang bidding na 'yan, people go around just to make money without really the things that they want to --- to participate in a bid which is non-existent insofar as they are concerned. They

are using 'yung mga cornering of contracts tapos go into a bidding. And we can explain that carefully.

Itong si Senator Drilon sabi niya, "I want where the money went." Well, you will have the explanation and better believe it because 'yon ang totoo. Hindi naman kami nambobola.

We, I said, we do not --- sinabi ko, do not f*** with the people's money with more reason that we will not f*** with the money that are given us.

Thank you.

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