

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE DURING THE INAUGURATION OF
143 SOCIAL AND TOURISM PORTS AND
ZAMBOANGA CITY SEAPORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

[Delivered at the Temporary Passenger Terminal Building of the Philippine Ports Authority in Zamboanga City | 02 December 2021]

Salamat. Kindly sit down.

Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade; Senator Bong Go; [Deputy] Speaker and Zamboanga del Sur 1st District Representative Divina Grace Yu; Zamboanga City 1st District Representative Cesar Jimenez; Zamboanga del Sur Governor Victor Yu; Zamboanga City Mayor [Maria] Isabelle Climaco; Philippine Ports Authority [General] Manager Jay Daniel Santiago; Philippine Coast Guard Commandant Admiral Leopoldo Laroya; fellow workers in government; mga kababayan.

Before I would begin to read the prepared speech, eh dadalawang pages lang naman 'to at hindi ko trabaho ito 'yung... I am happy that almost all of the projects are completed, utilized, and the others are about to be finished, ongoing, and I hope that by the end of my term, which is just about seven months away, makumpleto lahat.

That was also my paradigm when I was city mayor of Davao. Sinabi ko sa kanila na I want all projects completed when I go out of the office.

Dito Art Tugade approximated the expectations na matapos lahat or almost lahat. So masaya ako kasi if there is one worker of government na talagang nasa puso ang trabaho, one of them is Arthur Tugade. *[applause]*

You know I --- natatawa ako because we are lawyers. As a matter of fact, we are not builders neither architects nor engineers. Si Art was my classmate sa law school. He was our valedictorian.

But by the time that he was ready to maybe --- ripe for everything in Clark, one day napunta ako, napadaan ako at sinabi ko, "Art, kung manalo ako, puwede mo ba akong tulungan?" So I got him into the Department and --- na nakikita naman ninyo ngayon. So you need not really be, I said, a builder of infrastructures. It's in the heart. It's in the drive, motivation of a person.

Hindi ako nagkamali and he talks extemporaneous and does not know how to finish his speech every time. *[laughter]* Pero he was the captain of the debating team of the San Beda College. Doon kami galing, Beng.

It is my pleasure to join you on the simultaneous inauguration of the Zamboanga Port Expansion Project and the 143 other completed social and tourism ports across the country.

I acknowledge the strong efforts of the Department of Transportation and the Philippine Ports Authority in leading the construction, rehabilitation and expansion of our ports, which will certainly improve the connectivity and mobility of our people.

These are indeed milestones under the government's Build, Build, Build Program.

The completion of these projects will boost inclusive growth for various industries in our provinces, especially for the shipping, fishing and tourism sectors.

Also, with more employment to be generated for various localities, we can now look forward to a stronger economy and improved lives for our people under the new normal.

I am also glad to join the inspection of the Zamboanga International Airport Development Project. Again, I thank the DOTr, along with the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines and other public and private partners, for a commendable job in the improvement of the Zamboanga Airport. *[applause]*

I am excited to see a revitalized socio-economic activity that this newly enhanced project will support, not only for Zamboanga, but also for the rest of Mindanao.

As my term nears its end, let me emphasize — even with all the difficulties posed by the pandemic — this administration will continue to implement vital infrastructure projects to improve the lives of the Filipinos.

We remain committed in pursuing sustainable development projects that will benefit all our kababayans even beyond 2022.

Again, I thank and congratulate everyone involved in these projects --- successful projects. I end by saying...

May isa pa, you know, before I say my goodbye, the profuse ano everywhere mapunta ako itong mga project na ito --- kasi ipinangako ko ito sa tao. When I was running and during the elections kung matandaan ninyo, I only promised five: I said I will try to --- try to eliminate or finish all shabu --- shabu industries. Paningin ko hindi ko man talaga natapos because every minute there is a stupid guy around to do again the...

And I said I'd also take care of 'yung law and order. Tama ka, Beng, there is a heavy concentration of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the PNP here in Mindanao, especially in this area. Because I believe that no development or progress can ever, ever happen if there is no law and order. Iyan talaga ang totoo, 'yan ang nakita ko sa siyudad ko.

Kaya ako --- let me just --- give me about three minutes. Iyong bunganga ko bastos tapos 'yung iba hindi nila nagustuhan. Now, itong International Court of --- Criminal Courts, gusto akong ipakulong ng mga g***. Hindi lang ako makamura dito kasi nandiyan si Beng. Behave ako.

You know, I am a Filipino. If there is somebody who will prosecute me, it should be the Philippine Prosecution Service where I was a member. Prosecutor ho ako for nine years before becoming vice mayor and mayor. Kung magharap lang naman ako ng tribunal, it should be before a Philippine court. And kung ipakulong ako, gusto ko Pilipino na huwes ang magpakulong sa akin kung may nakita siya na mali.

At kung magpakulong ako, hindi ako mag --- hindi ako magpakulong sa maski saan. Sabi nila 'yung mga kulungan nila parang hotel. Eh dito ako sa Muntinlupa at ipatapos ko 'yung mga

tattoo ko dito sa kamay. Mayroon ako dito eh. May bulaklak ako dito sa... Iyan ang ginagamit ko pagka maglandi ako sa --- when I start to flirt, pina --- pinagyayabang ko 'yung tattoo ko.

You know and --- ganito 'yan, do not destroy my country, magbaha ka ng drugs. Do not kill or destroy the life of our children kasi ako pati 'yan si Art, we are glad and thankful that galing kami sa mahirap kasi sa Bisaya pa, *makab-ot namo*, we can fathom. Isang tingin lang, alam ko na kung ano ang gusto ng tao, and I can smell a rat a mile away.

Kaya siguro 'yung drive ni Art, it's because nangako kami, eh 'di tinapos namin. Kaya 'yang mga droga, nangako ako, p*****, tatapusin talaga kita. I said do not destroy my country. And who can find a fault in that statement? Ako basta bayan na, ibang usapan na 'yan. I need not really be civil about it, talking about it.

Iyan ang ano ko. Sabi ko nga, lahat naman halos pati 'yung mga... You know, half of my Cabinet are all mi --- retired military officers, puro galing sa baba rin 'yan sa buhay. Kaya maganda ang samahan namin and I'm always mindful of what I promise, lilima lang: drugs, ako problema talaga noon, pinagpapatay 'yung mga tao diyan sa daan, holdup dito, holdup doon; law and order, I will never tolerate, I will never tolerate 'yung mga terrorism pati ano. I hope that I will not be put to test during my term. Ayaw ko talaga and I am reminded of Marawi. Sabi ko we will not stop until all of them are eliminated. Hindi talaga ako papayag ng style ng ganoon. And that is why I'm also here to talk about ELCAC in another crowd.

Itong mga komunista, wala nang ginawa for 40 --- no, 53 years, walang nang ginawa kung hindi sirain ang buhay ng Pilipino. Kaya galit ako sa kanila. I tried talking to them. Over the objections of the military and the police, nagkuha ako ng mga komunista nilagay ko sa Cabinet, although we had a falling out later on. Kasama 'yan sila Tugade.

Because I wanted to show sincerity na sige mag-usap tayo dito. Tatlong Gabinete puro komunista. Eh walang ginawa 'yung pera sa opisina nila napupunta doon sa kabila. Eh 'di tinanggal ko lahat. Sabi ko, I tried. Kaya sabi ko sa military noon medyo 'pag pa-release ko, ayaw nila 'yung Tiamzon spouses. Pina-release ko, ngayon hindi na namin makita. Just to show good faith.

Iyan ang dahilan, sabi ko sa kanila sa military pati pulis, "*give me a chance to solve this problem,*" and I failed because ayaw nila. Itong mga komunista 'yung ayaw. When you start talking about a coalition government, that is stupid. How can you participate in a government all are chosen by the people; and the people who are not elected, they are appointed by the duly constituted authorities?

So 'yan ang gusto kong idagdag 'yan. Ayaw nila, eh 'di huwag. Eh 'di away tayo. But I said my term is nearing its end. I can say with --- with a little bit of pride na halos lahat na ipinangako ko natupad ko. Dito na lang sa [*applause*] peace and order.

But you know, for as long as there are men in this planet, there will always be misdeeds and wrongdoings committed by human being. Be that as it may, sinabi ko I tried my best and hindi ko naman sabihin na ano pero mukhang nakumpleto ko halos lahat nang ipinangako ko sa taong-bayan. Salamat. [*applause*]

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