

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE DURING THE
CONFERMENT OF THE ORDER OF NATIONAL SCIENTIST ON DR. EMIL
Q. JAVIER**

[Delivered at the Rizal Hall, Malacañan Palace, Manila | 07 January 2020]

Salamat po. Kindly sit down.

National Scientist awardee Dr. Emil Javier and Mrs. Alma Javier; Science and Technology Secretary Fortunato dela Peña and the other members of the Cabinet; National Academy of Science and Technology President Rhodora Azanza; other distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen.

Again, ladies and gentlemen, I am pleased to confer the Order of National Scientist, the highest national recognition for individual achievement in science and technology, on Dr. Emil Q. Javier.

The whole nation owes its deepest gratitude to Dr. Javier for his promising contributions to the scientific community, particularly in tropical agricultural research and [crop] production. His work has spurred many applications in agronomy, plant breeding, seed production and management of tropical grasses and legumes, among others.

Dr. Javier, your dedication to advance the frontiers of science and knowledge for the common good has played a significant role in alleviating poverty. Your leadership at the Institute of Plant Breeding advanced the production of high-yielding crops and disease-resistant varieties in the Philippines and in Asia, paving the way to better nourishment and an improved quality of life for our people.

Moreover, you have promoted sound agricultural policies and programs, massive utilization of climate and environment-friendly agricultural innovations, and improved governance and management systems to help improve the productivity of Filipino farmers and fisherfolk.

As we bestow this honor on Dr. Javier, we reaffirm the critical role of science and technology in the development of our country. Be assured that my administration will continue to pursue programs and initiatives that will further enable, empower and harness the potential of the scientific community to steer our nation towards greater progress.

May Dr. Javier's perseverance, curiosity and commitment inspire everyone to emulate his innovativeness in the science and other serious studies of our environment. It is my hope that his success will encourage more Filipino scientists across the nation to carry on with their work and help achieve a sustainable and inclusive future for every Filipino.

Congratulations, Dr. Javier at mabuhay ka. Thank you.

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