

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING HIS VISIT TO VICTIMS OF
TYPHOON “ODETTE” IN CEBU CITY**

(Delivered in Barangay Tisa in Cebu City, Cebu | 23 December 2021)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Pump boat... Department of... [Official: DENR?] Dili na (No, not that). [Official: DOTr and DENR. DOTr, Coast Guard, at saka DENR.] DENR. Si... Iyong sa --- nagbibigay, Department of Agriculture. Kanang bangka, mao na siya Department of Agriculture na. So among ilista lang, dad-on namo ngadto. (The boats will be handled by the Department of Agriculture. So we'll list that down and bring it there.)

Kani, kaning tanang inyong problema ato lang una ning iurog og pila ka adlaw. Tapuson ko lang ning problema sa tawo, kaning pag --- moabot ang hinabang, kaning mga ani. Unya ang akong garantiya ninyo nga walay magutom. Mintras naay gustong mokaon, makakaon gyud. Akoy mag-order ana nga ang luto sa... [Saan si...? Di ba sumama si...?] [Senator Go: DSWD, sir? DSWD.]

(TRANSLATION: These problems that you mentioned, let's wait for a few days before we can start working on them. Our priority now is the immediate needs of the people like the relief assistance and others. I can guarantee that no one will get hungry. For as long as there are people who want to eat, they will be able to eat. I'll order that food will be cooked in the... [Saan si...? Di ba sumama si...?] [Senator Go: DSWD, sir? DSWD.]

Nakita ko 'yung boss mo doon sa ano, naiwan siguro. Sa kani bang pagkaon, ma'am, kinahanglan naa moy lutuan nga tanan makakaon kada adlaw hangtod mahuman ang problema.

(TRANSLATION: Nakita ko 'yung boss mo doon sa ano, naiwan siguro. So for the food, ma'am, you'll need a cooking area where food will be cooked for everyone, everyday until things get back to normal.)

DSWD OFFICIAL: Yes, Mr. President, good evening. Actually, ang buong Region VII ngayon inaayos namin na lahat ng mga local government units who are asking food from us, mabigyan kahit kaunti muna. But, actually, ngayon nag-purchase kami, emergency purchase ng lahat na pagkain.

We --- I have already worked it out with General Daus 'yung lahat ng ating mga military kasi kailangan ang ating mga suppliers that are in process now --- actually in transit na sila --- they will be delivering the goods sa pinaka-nearest area para at least 'yung ating Bohol, 'yung Negros Oriental and Cebu here in Cebu City --- ah in Cebu Province, they will have enough food. In Bohol, we have 375,000 family packs expected; in Negros we have 375,000 family packs expected; and 500,000 for Cebu.

So 'yun in transit everything and I hope that we'll be able to give back to the local government units. As of now, 59 ang nangingi but we are expecting the 132 para maayos natin tanan (lahat) and they will have an equal opportunity to get the food from DSWD.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: You know --- you know what, ganito 'yan, ma'am. Kung mayroong kaunting ano, hindi mo malaman kung saan ang connectivity ---

DSWD OFFICIAL: Yeah.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: --- you just go to the regional commander ng police. Siya 'yung sinabihan ko na mag-manage dito ng mga problema and to refer the particular problems to the appropriate office or offices.

DSWD OFFICIAL: Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Now, in the matter of delivery sa pagkaon ug sa medisina, I said I ordered the Coast Guard and the Navy na dad-on ngari kay raba giingnan nako sila usahay na sa TV ipasalida ang mga armas sa mga barkong gagmay sa Coast Guard. You know, mukuan man ko but we are not ready for kanang heavy armor. It's of no use to us, actually.

(**TRANSLATION:** Now, in the matter of delivery of food and medicines, I said I ordered the Coast Guard and Navy to bring it here because I told them that at one time, the weapons in their small ships were shown on TV. You know, I can do the --- but we are not ready for heavy armor. It's of no use to us, actually.)

DSWD OFFICIAL: Yes.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: We do not need the... Basin pagsabot ana giyera. Giyera man ni sa Amerikano ug sa China so di ko manghilabot, di pud ko muapil. Ang nakadaot lang if there is a nuclear war, tunaw gyud tang tanan. So it's kingdom come for everybody.

(**TRANSLATION:** We do not need the... It might be misunderstood as a message of war. This is a war between America and China so I won't interfere. But the problem is if there's a nuclear war, we'll melt away, too. So it's kingdom come for everybody.)

DSWD OFFICIAL: Yes, Mr....

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Pero ang kaning ano, do not... Ang akong giingon, kinsay naminaw ron, do not delude yourself nga musugot ko nga akoang Air Force maoy iatubang nako diha sa China Sea. That will not happen kung Presidente pa ko. For as long as I am President, di gyud ko musugot mag apil-apil ta sa giyera kay wala tay matila diha.

(**TRANSLATION:** But for the, do not... My point is, to everyone listening to me now, do not delude yourself that I will allow my Air Force to go to war in the China Sea. That will not happen for as long as I'm President. For as long as I'm President, I will never allow the Philippines to fight any kind of war because we'll gain nothing from that.)

So ang akong giingon, naa man --- muabot na man siguro, as fast as they can, maybe dad-on ninyo sa --- si Presidential Assistant. Siya nay mo-collate sa tanang kolektar, to collate all of the problems and bring it to --- bring it to the attention of si RD. Karon, si RD maoy mag-udyok sa military og asa dapit.

(**TRANSLATION:** So I said that there --- they're coming soon as fast as they can. Maybe you'll bring it to the --- si Presidential Assistant. He'll collate everything --- to collate all of the problems and bring it to the attention of the RD. Now, the RD will be the one to instruct the military where to go.)

He could --- he should know ang deployment sa mga military nga makatabang. So walay problema, nag-order. Mao ra ni akong gianhi. Sila may akong unang giistorya ganina pa. Unya unahon... Mao ning nianhi ko. [Naa pa bay usa, Bong? Wa nay lain?]

(**TRANSLATION:** He could --- he should know the deployment of the military that will help the people. So that won't be a problem because I gave the order already. Now, this is what I came here for. They're actually the first people I talked to earlier. They'll prioritize the... This is why I came here. Are there any more places left to visit, Bong? None?)

Ah mao ra na, ma'am. Basta ang akong kuan is karon, sa pagka karon, ang kwarta ug pagkaon ug ang materyales para sa paghinay-hinay og panday og balay. So kana una unahon nako. Then maybe kung nahuman na na, next week, mao na ning problema nga kaning about sa inyong oil spill, DENR na. Naa na silay murag rubber nga to capture the flo --- 'yung mga spill sa dagat.

(**TRANSLATION:** Ah that's it, ma'am. But what I can promise you for now is money, food, and construction materials so you can slowly repair your homes. I'll address those first. Then maybe once we're done with that, next week, we'll address the oil spill. The DENR will take care of it. They have this kind of rubber equipment that can capture the flo --- 'yung mga spill sa dagat.)

Basta tanan na. Og wa nay laing solution, bring it to the attention of the military para og wa gyud, mudiretso na sila sa ako'g tawag maaksyunan dayon nako. Pero huna-hunaa baya nga this situation is all over Visayas. Pareho gyud ang problema. Balay naguba, way kaon, elektrisidad. And by the way, hasta ang Meralco nga naga-operate diha sa Manila, nagpadala na'g mga tao diri. I'm just... [Si Cusi ba kasama natin?] [Senator Go: Kanina po, nasa Palawan kanina.]

(**TRANSLATION:** Everything. If there's no other solution, bring it to the attention of the military so that they can call me directly and I can do something about it immediately. But remember that this situation is all over Visayas. Everyone is facing the same problem. Houses have been destroyed, there's no food, no electricity. And by the way, even Meralco which operates in Manila sent some of their workers here. I'm just... [Si Cusi ba kasama natin?][Senator Go: Kanina po, nasa Palawan kanina.]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Ah. Si Cusi ang Energy Secretary. Siya may --- ako na lang siyang ingnon... Tawga na lang Bong. Ingna mudiretso na siya ngari. Mag-renta lang sila'g eroplano. Di mana mahal kay duol man.

(**TRANSLATION:** Ah. Si Cusi ang Energy Secretary. He's the --- I'll tell him. Please call him, Bong. Tell him to go straight here. He'll need to rent a plane but that won't be too expensive because it's just near.)

Mike, naa kay ikasulti? (Mike, do you have something to say?)

MAYOR RAMA: Kanang mga tawo nga gipadala, Mr. President --- (The workers that were sent here, Mr. President ---)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: You remove your ---

MAYOR RAMA: --- kuwang kaayo. (--- are not enough.)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Ang?

MAYOR RAMA: Tawo nga mutabang pag-restore sa power. Mao na karon before ta nag-istorya karon, nanawag man ko sa VECO. And they really had that very primordial nga concern. Kung makadaghan ta dinhi'g mga linemen, at the same time kato ilang gipangayo nga boom --- Boom ba na kanang...?

(**TRANSLATION:** The workers sent here to help restore our power. Before I came here, I called VECO. And they really had that very primordial concern. So if we could have more linemen and at the same time that thing they were requesting --- is it called "boom?")

Daghan man gud naputol nga mga poste. Unya og dili na siya mabalik nga mga poste, madugay gyud og energize. Madugay og energize, madugay sad ang tubig. Madugay ang tubig, continue maproblema ang fuel.

(**TRANSLATION:** Because so many electric posts were toppled. And if those electric posts aren't put back up, it will take a long time to restore the power. The longer we go without power, the longer time we don't have water. If we don't have water supply, fuel will continue to be a problem.)

So it's a chain reaction, Mr. President, that I wish at the level kung asa ning uban, mupuno og manpower when it comes to linemen, ang equipment nga gikinahanglan madali og rehabilitate ang mga putol nga mga poste. Mao jud na siya, Mr. President.

(**TRANSLATION:** So it's a chain reaction, Mr. President, that I wish at the level where other people are, to have more manpower when it comes to linemen, as well as the equipment that are needed so we can quickly rehabilitate the electric posts that had been destroyed. That's what we need, Mr. President.)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Ani, ani ang liko sa istorya. Wala man gyuy nagtuo, wa man gyuy nagtuo nga mahitabo ni. So dili ta maka-istambay og usa ka kompanya nga tawo diha nga para lang maghuwat mahitabo ning ingon ani. So gamay ra gyud. Ang augmentation ana, maggikan sa gawas. Pangilinan, maybe I can ask Davao Light to send more.

(**TRANSLATION:** This is how the story goes. Nobody expected this to happen, so no company prepared a staff to wait for something like this to happen so they can repair things right away. So workers are really not enough. The augmentation will be from outside. Pangilinan, maybe I can ask Davao Light to send more.)

Ang importante si Cusi kay ang kanang mga naguba. It is not just a matter of connecting it again. You have to take into account the equipment needed to replace na naguba na. Mao na diha. Dili -- magdali, maayo unta og imo lang twirkahan ma...

(**TRANSLATION:** The important thing is Cusi will take care of the damaged electric posts. It is not just a matter of connecting it again. You have to take into account the equipment needed to replace the damaged parts. So that's how it is. You can't fast-track it like as if you just have to fix it with a screw.)

It's not that easy and we do not have that kind of manpower nga naa tay mga empleyado kadaghan para lang maghuwat og naay ingon aning sitwasyon. Wala... It's not computed nga usa ka impasan kanang inyo ngari. Di man sila ka-compute og pilay kinahanglan nilang tawo og naay mahitabo nga ingon ani.

(**TRANSLATION:** It's not that easy and we do not have that kind of manpower where we have a set of employees just waiting for something like this to happen. Wala, it's not computed that something would wipe out everything here so they can't compute how many workers are needed for situations like this.)

So kana imong giingon, it's an instant supply of the workers. Manguha pa ta'g katong mutrabaho. Mangita ta sa uban. Ako man ganing order ang tanang bottled water sa katong wa maigo, mas nindot paliton tanan and for --- ambot ning inyong tubig ngari.

(**TRANSLATION:** So what you're asking for, it's an instant supply of the workers. We still need to look for additional manpower maybe from the other areas. I even ordered them to purchase all bottled waters from areas that were spared from the typhoon. I am not familiar with the kind of water you have here.)

Ang Davao, ang among tap water is potable, kanang sa faucet. So ako lang ingnon nga kuhaon ko na lang tanang... And all others nga naduol, paliton ang tanang --- para ipadala ra ngari para if water is... [applause] Ah, wa man namakpak tanan sa ato pa, huwag na. [applause]

(**TRANSLATION:** The tap water in Davao is potable, the one from the faucet. So I'll just order them to get all the... And all others that are quite near to buy all of their water so we can bring it here. Ah, not everyone applauded so maybe they don't like it.)

Oh, Mayor.

TALISAY CITY MAYOR GERALD ANTHONY "SAMSAM" VARGAS GULLAS JR.:

Hello, Mayor, maayong gabii. Ako si Mayor Samsam sa Talisay City. Ang... May ni... Actually, ang akoang mga pangutana, Mayor, natubag na man gyud nimo tanan. Pero gusto lang unta ko

mustorya kay ang mga highly-urbanized cities, nanorya man human wala may nakastorya in behalf of the Province of Cebu diri nga pwerte gyung igo-a, Mayor. Usa mi ana, ang Talisay.

(TRANSLATION: Hello, Mayor, good evening. I'm Mayor Samsam of Talisay City. Ang... May ni... Actually, you've already answered all my questions. But I just want to talk to you anyway because mayors from all the other highly-urbanized cities have spoken about their situation but no one has talked in behalf of the Province of Cebu. Our province has been badly hit, Mayor. One of the hardest-hit cities is Talisay.)

Ang sakit --- sakit sa buot ang i-report nimo karon, Mayor, nga sa Talisay, bisag 13,000 among gi-evacuate pag panahon sa bagyo, naa gyud tay usa nga nakalas, Mayor, kay tungod to sa usa ka pamilya na wa gyud mu-evacuate kay wa mutuo unsa ka --- unsa ka kusgan ang bagyo.

(TRANSLATION: It's painful --- although it's painful for me to report this to you now, Mayor, out of the 13,000 residents that we evacuated during the typhoon, we have one casualty. But that was because one family refused to evacuate because they didn't believe that the typhoon would be that strong.)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Mao man nay nahitabo sa tanan halos. Kanang naa sa riverbank. Mao pud to ngadto sa Sipalay. (The same thing happened to almost everyone. Those who live near the riverbanks. That's what happened also in Sipalay.)

MAYOR GULLAS: Naa gyud tay usa, Mayor, na nakalas. Pero ang ako lang gyung buot ipaabot, Mayor, kami sa mga LGU, what we're trying to do gyud karon is try to --- try to tubagon ang mga yangungo sa tao as far as basic necessities is concerned. Kanang potable water, tubig para ligo, bugas para makaon, ug tubig para mainom.

(TRANSLATION: So we have one casualty, Mayor. But what we and the LGU want you to know, Mayor, is what we're trying to do now is to provide what the people are asking for as far as basic necessities is concerned, like potable water, water for bathing, rice to eat, and water to drink.)

I think ang mga LGU, labi na kami sa probinsiya, basig madala-dala pa na. Pero ang kailangan lang gyud unta namo karon para maharuhay lang unta ang kinabuhi sa mga katawhan namo, Mayor, ug katawhan nato, Mayor, is pareha ra man sa imong gipangtubag na sad ganina, Mayor. Murag kailangan na gyud sila tawon og hinabang para maka-slowly rebuild na sila sa ilahang mga panimalay. Kay ang sitwasyon man gud sa Talisay, Mayor, naa na sila sa evacuation site. Murag 90,000 man tingali ang naa sa evacuation site namo karon.

(TRANSLATION: I think the LGUs, especially us in the provinces, can still get by. But what we need now primarily to make the people more comfortable, Mayor, are the things you mentioned earlier, Mayor. They really need help so they can slowly rebuild their houses. The situation in Talisay, Mayor, there are about 90,000 individuals in the evacuation sites.)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Okay.

MAYOR GULLAS: So during the day, Mayor, kanang naa sa evacuation site, wala na sa evacuation site. Manguli na sa ilang lugar. Hinay-hinay na sila'g panglimpyo didto. Hinay-hinay na sila'g build sa ilang balay para lang mubalik sa evacuation site para matulog ug para makakaon usab.

(**TRANSLATION:** So during the day, Mayor, the evacuees leave the evacuation site. They go home and start cleaning their houses. They are slowly rebuilding their houses, then they will just go back to the evacuation site to sleep or eat again.)

So kanang imong giingon nag --- actually, natubag na man gyud nimo akong pangutana, Mayor, ang hinabang gyud intawon sa mga katawhan. Kay basic necessities among paninguhaon sa LGU as far as the Talisay is concerned na among atimanon.

(**TRANSLATION:** So what you said about --- actually, you've already answered my questions, Mayor, regarding the relief for the people. So the LGUs need basic necessities now as far as Talisay is concerned.)

Pero hinabang sa mga katawhan para makabalay, murag natubag ma na nimo, Mayor, ug hinaot unta, kana dako kaayo na'g tabang sa siyudad sa Talisay, Mayor.

(**TRANSLATION:** But assistance to rebuild their houses, you've already answered it, Mayor, and that would be of great help to the City of Talisay.)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Kanang (the) 100 million per province ---

MAYOR GULLAS: Dako na kaayo. (It's a very huge amount.)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: --- dili man tanang naigo. Para lang gyud na solely focused on the damage, kanang nangaigo nga mga balay, para lang na diha. Walay lain.

(**TRANSLATION:** --- not everyone was hit by the typhoon. This money is solely focused on the damage, those people with damaged houses, it's for that purpose only, nothing else.)

MAYOR GULLAS: Salamat, Mayor.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: So as ang Housing nag-ingon tanang construction nila naundang hasta ang pagbuhat og mga condo para sa mga gobyerno, para sa tawo, giundang unya dad-on diri, dad-on sa uban kay ang --- universal ang kuan eh.

(**TRANSLATION:** So the Housing said they've temporarily stopped all construction of housing units and condo units for government workers and civilians, so they'll bring the construction materials here because all affected regions have the same needs, it's universal.)

MAYOR GULLAS: Yes, Mayor.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Universal ang problem. Tanan pareho gyud, walay tubig. Galing ang uban, mas grabe ang igo. Ang akong gikagul-an, mao tong akong gibalikan nga katong naa sa parehas anang Sipalay. Didto man mi sa Kabankalan. Ang unang buto gyud sa kuan mga na-damage, Kabankalan.

(**TRANSLATION:** Universal ang problem. They all need the same things like water. But some areas sustained more damages than most. What I was worried about the most was the areas like Sipalay that's why I went back there. We were in Kabankalan. The first city that was hit by the typhoon was Kabankalan.)

So nilupad mi, kami, didto mi sa Kabankalan. Tan-aw mi, nag-chopper ko. Wa man ko ni-land, wa na ko mu-landing kay wala man ko kita'g mga balay. Naay gamay, dili gyud hapla. But pataas ka pa, naa may lagoon diha sa taas. Pataas ka pa, katong mga balay. Wa nila maihap og pila ka balay ang... Basta tong mga tao, kadaghanan ana pobre. Mao nay nakasakit sa buot.

(**TRANSLATION:** So we flew to Kabankalan immediately. We were conducting an aerial inspection onboard a chopper. I didn't land because I couldn't see any houses. Some were still a bit intact, though. But as you go higher by the lagoon, the houses there are... They couldn't count how many houses were destroyed. But majority of the people there are poor, and that's what hurts me the most.)

MAYOR GULLAS: Mao gyud. (That's true.)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Kay ang tawo dili maka... You know, ani ni for any mayor for that matter. Ang mga tawo, mangi-squat na duol sa dagat kay kanang sa duol sa dagat, naa nay easement ---

(**TRANSLATION:** Because the people can't... You know, all mayors would feel like this. The people would squat near the beach because there's easement ---

MAYOR GULLAS: Yes.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: --- nga sa gobyerno gyud na. Ang problema kay daghan tang Pilipino unya kadaghanan pobre, mao nay ilang... Anha sila diha daplin sa dagat, diri sa highway, kita'g kang magbuhat ka'g dalan, pagkaugma daghan na kaayo'g balay. Wala man gud silay intawon maadtuhan. Mao na diha. So that's... Mao nay among gibuhad nga... Maayo gani ang NHA, ang Housing, ni-offer og tag-100 million worth of building materials.

(**TRANSLATION:** --- that is government property. The problem is that there are so many Filipinos and majority are poor. So they go near the beach, near the highway. You can see that if you build new roads, the next day so many houses have been put up beside it. It's because they have nowhere to go to. That's the problem there. So that's the... That's why we made a... It's a good thing that the Housing offered 100 million worth of building materials.)

MAYOR GULLAS: Salamat, Mayor. Salamat, Mayor. [applause]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: So mao nay sunod nga... Tapuson ko lang ning semanaha ni. Maabot ang kwarta, ako ta mong paminawon sa inyong problema ang pag...

(**TRANSLATION:** So that will be the next... Let's just finish this week and when the money arrives, I'll address your other concerns.)

Kani, ang kwarta lang ni akong gianhi kay naguol ko ang mga tao sa sige'g huwat, muingon sila nga huwat og hangin. Mao nang nia ko para igarantiya lang ninyo sa inyo na everything is working.

(**TRANSLATION:** I came here to give you money because I was very worried that the people here would say they're just waiting for nothing. So that's why I came here to assure you that everything is working.)

Makadaot lang pareho sa bukid didto sa Siargao. Unsaon nila pag-abot og didto dayon nga --- og way pagkaon? Eh ang tanang lubi naa sa --- nagbabag eh. Unya way naka --- way prepara. Wa lagi ta maghandom nga ingon ani ang mahitabo.

(**TRANSLATION:** But the problem is with other areas like Siargao. How will we be able to bring them food? All their coconut trees got knocked down and are blocking the road. Nobody was prepared for this. Nobody expected that something like this would happen.)

Otherwise, og nahibaw ta nga ingon ani, mas daghang trabahante sa gobyerno nag-andam na og chainsaw. But we do not have that kind of --- wa mi magtuo nga basig kamo nga ana ka ferocious ang bagyo.

(**TRANSLATION:** Otherwise, if we knew the situation would be this bad, government could have prepared more chainsaws. But we do not have that kind of --- we didn't expect how ferocious the typhoon would be, not even you.)

So mao na lang nay next nakong buhaton. Buhat --- kaning una ang pagkaon lang ni ug --- just to survive, just to assure you that you will have food anytime. Dili na maputol and with the money inyong makuha, maghinay-hinay pud mo. Pero ang building materials, muabot na. Ang mu-distribute siguro ang Housing pud.

(**TRANSLATION:** So that will be the next thing that I will do. The first thing we provided is food for you to just survive, just to assure you that you will have food anytime. We won't stop providing food for you and with the money that you will receive, you can slowly get back up on your feet. The building materials are on their way. I think the Housing will be the one to distribute that, too.)

MAYOR CHAN: Mayor, Mr. President, clarification lang kay nag-mention ka na maghatag ka'g housing materials sa province worth 100 million. Mangutana lang mi like Lapu-Lapu City, wala mi ma-under sa Province of Cebu --- sa Cebu City ug kuan Mandaue.

(**TRANSLATION:** Mayor, Mr. President, just for clarification because you mentioned you'll give 100 million worth of housing materials for each province. How about for Lapu-Lapu City? Since we're not under the Province of Cebu --- Cebu City and Mandaue.)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Kana, inato nga pagkaistorya kay mag-istorya mi usahay didto sa bukid, magtan-aw mi og unsay damage. Mao na nga off the cuff ba, kanang kalit lang nga knee-jerk reaction. Mao nang giingon kada probinsiya. But it does not mean nga --- di man ninyo mahurot ang...

(**TRANSLATION:** That's a rough estimate that we came up with while we were assessing the damage in the mountains. It's like an off the cuff or knee-jerk reaction, that's why we said it would be allotted per province. But it does not mean that --- you can't use all that up anyway.)

So katong nangaigo, apil na to. Ang ilang tan-aw nga province, murag it is a parang --- murag compact ba o contiguous nga area. Pero tanang naigo, matagaa'g tabang. [applause]

(**TRANSLATION:** So other areas affected are also included. The provinces that they are saying are like compact or contiguous area. But all affected areas will receive the same assistance.)

Kinsa pa? Kanang taga diha, naa moy reklamo? Kadtong gibiyaan og bana kay atong --- pangitaon ta na inyong bana.

(**TRANSLATION:** Who else? Do you have other complaints? For those who were left by their husbands, we'll look for those guys.)

CORDOVA MAYOR MARY THERESE "TECHE" SITOY-CHO: Maayong gabii, Mayor, President. From Cordova ko, si Teche Sitoy-Cho. Ang among problema gyud, Mayor, ang mga mananagat, nawad-an gyud og mga sakayan ug wa na gyud intawoy panginabuhian. So asa ko mangayo og tabang ani?

(**TRANSLATION:** Good evening, Mayor, President. I'm Teche Sitoy-Cho from Cordova. Our problem, Mayor, is our fishermen. Their boats have been wrecked and so they lost their livelihood. Where will I ask for help?)

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Ang dagha'g baruto ang Department of Agriculture.

(**TRANSLATION:** The Department of Agriculture has plenty of boats.)

MAYOR SITOY-CHO: Okay, Mayor.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Kanang fishing nganha, dili tong high seas. Teritoryo na sa tanang sa mga proyekto. So kanang mga bangka, mamalit pa siguro ta. Dili diha, wa lagi ta kakuan pero I know nga naa silay supply sa mga bangka. Kanang kadaghanan ani, ang programa ana didto sa Jolo ug --- pacification drive nga para lang sa areglo, tagaan sila'g mga baruto.

(**TRANSLATION:** It's for the small fishermen there, and not for the high seas. That would be another project. So we may have to buy some boats. Not from there, though. We haven't yet --- but I know they have a supply of boats. There's a similar program in Jolo that provides many boats. It's a pacification drive. They are given boats as a form of settlement.)

MAYOR SITOY-CHO: Okay.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Mao pud nay madawat ninyo. How many are --- many...? Pila kabuok na available, mao nay wa --- di na mo mangutana kay ang mga Cabinet members gud unta muuban pero some others cannot make it tungod sa sakyanan. Usahay... By land lang sila eh. Ako ray ga-chopper-chopper kay Presidente man, so I can hop from one place to another. Pero kanang akong mga retinue nga --- kuan lang na sila, by kuan pa na ang... They are traveling at this time from...

(**TRANSLATION:** That's what you'll receive as well. How many are...? We can't ask how many boats are available because not all Cabinet members were able to make it here due to difficulty in transportation because they travel by land. I'm the only one who rides in a chopper because I'm the President, so I can hop from one place to another. But my retinue just travel by land. They are traveling at this time from...)

MAYOR SITOY-CHO: Salamat, Mayor, President. Merry Christmas.

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Merry Christmas pud (also), ma'am. [applause]

Ma'am, una ta mo --- una ta mag-sugod, klaruhon nako sa inyo ha. Kay kani ra ba, 'pag maghatag ka, murag mugawas ang --- ang gawas ani namulitika ka. Ang --- di na man ko makadagan. Wa may mudagan ngari og eleksyon. Pero kadaot, i-misconstrue o i-misinterpret og tuyo sa mga taong wa nay mahimo og di tigsaway nga namulitika mi ngari. Way kandidato ngari. Kaning...

(**TRANSLATION:** Ma'am, before we begin, I just want to clarify things. When you give money, it looks like you are campaigning. But I can't run for a position anymore and nobody here is running either. But it might be misconstrued or misinterpreted intentionally by people who have nothing else to do but criticize government. There are no political candidates here.)

The very purpose og nganong naay seremonya'g hatag because ang COA would look for the validation. So pagkuan namo, apil na ni. Makit-an nila ang picture. In Cebu, diri, nanghatag, gihatag gyud namo. So para sigurado lang nga dili ta masabtan ninyo nganong may seremonya pa tungod kay gikinahanglan na sa COA pag-liquidate sa kwarta nga gastuhon. That's the purpose of it all.

(**TRANSLATION:** The very purpose of why there has to be a ceremonial distribution is because the COA will look for the validation. So this is included and they can see it in the photos that we really distributed the money here in Cebu. So just to make sure that we won't --- just so you'll understand why there's a ceremonial distribution. It's because COA needs proof when they liquidate the expenses. That's the purpose of it all.)

[ceremonial distribution of family food packs and cash assistance]

PRESIDENT DUTERTE: Kanang una ko mulakaw, naa koy ibilin nga istorya. Ako ba, taga-Danao man mi, nilangyaw mi sa Mindanao unya nawala ang among pagka-Bisaya kay sagol na man. Pero kamong taga-Cebu, gitagaan ko ninyo'g mayorya tong eleksyon. Di na ko kadagan pero gusto lang ko una ko mutalikod, gusto lang ko magpasalamat ninyo gikan gyud sa akong kasing-kasing ang pagtabang nako ninyo. [applause]

(**TRANSLATION:** Before I go, I'll tell you something. I'm from Danao. We migrated to Mindanao so we forgot the Cebuano dialect because in Davao, the language is mixed. But majority of the Cebuanos voted for me so I want to thank you. The help that I gave you now is from the bottom of my heart.)

So in about four months' time, six months, ah mauna nako'g gawas sa anang Malacañan. Gusto lang kong --- kahalakon ko pero kusog --- grabe ang inyong mayorya gihatag sa ako. Mao toy nakadugang sa 6 million nako nga boto. Ang Cebu ang daan. So dako kaayo ko'g utang kabubut-on ninyo. Basin pa og dili ko maka-kuan, ang akong mga anak basin, sila nay mubayad sa utang kabubut-on. [applause]

(**TRANSLATION:** So in about four months' time, six months, I'll leave Malacañan. I just want to --- it makes me want to cry but --- so many people voted for me in Cebu. That added six million to my votes. Cebu helped me win. So I owe you a huge debt of gratitude. If I don't get to pay it, maybe my children will.)

Pero ako, daghang salamat. Daghan kaayo'g salamat. [applause]

(**TRANSLATION:** But then I want to thank you. Thank you very much.)

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