

**Presidential Communications Operations Office**

**Presidential News Desk**

**TALK TO THE PEOPLE OF  
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE**

[27 December 2021]

**PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE:** Well, it has been --- I use the word soul bruising --- past few days. I have seen the devastation, the loss of lives and the destruction of property.

These are the things that really we cannot avoid. We can only respond appropriately and maybe there should be no other typhoon for at least a respite of six months so that we can alleviate the situation.

I've been traveling, napuntahan ko naman lahat at well, 'yung... I would like to explain to the people why we cannot declare the state of calamity kaagad. For the simple reason is there's a hindrance, a legal obstacle to just shoot from the hip right away, which it --- dapat 'yun 'yung sitwasyon. But ito kasing --- it must be --- critical is the three days.

Ang problema there is a law covering the power to declare a state of calamity insofar as the --- my office is concerned because it must be based on the assessment and evaluation and the report of the government on the ground. Ang problema 'yung assessment pati 'yung evaluation or even just to declare, maghintay ng report 'yan before I can... So it should be the assessment of Undersecretary Jalad bago ako makagalaw.

And that is really so many provisions in the law that would hinder government to just act immediately because I said there has to be after --- before the declaration, there has to be an evaluation and the assessment of damage before you can declare a state of calamity.

These are the things, I said, are the stupid laws passed by --- passed by Congress. Sila man ang final word diyan sa whether it should be or it should be not. Ang --- kasi the critical and everybody knows, it's the three days. Maghintay pa ako ng report.

And I cannot rely on Undersecretary Jalad kasi kasagsagan lang 'yan ng ano... And to base an evaluation or assessment of a damage could not be had immediately. That is really silly and that puts a cap on my power, I said, to declare a state of calamity.

Kaya we had to call DBM na kung ganoon patay na lahat ng tao because si Undersecretary Jalad is busy rescuing and retrieving patay na tao. Sino namang ugok na magawa 'yan niya immediately so that there should be a declaration?

That law should be changed. And it behooves upon this Congress, if they want to, or the next President, may I advise: try to repeal the law so that government --- there is already the warning, hindi na kailangan ng assessment because the warning far --- just too far away for us to prepare. And noong nandiyan na, with so much preparation, ganoon... Hindi mo mapigitan 'yang hangin pati tubig eh.

So tinawagan ko ang DBM sinabi ko, *"I'm going ahead with the operation of government."* Meaning to say, hindi na ako maghintay. Kalokohan 'yang maraming batas dito sa mundong ito na --- dito sa Pilipinas in particular, that --- it does not help but rather it placed a burden dito sa mga tao sa gobyerno to act immediately.

Well, of course, we have to thank the military and the police --- have done a good job in all the areas that were hit by Typhoon Odette. They were there but handicapped sila. Ang kanila is to maintain order in all the areas, especially when the food is scarce pati tubig. And with the --- even the so much preparation, hindi nakapadating-dating doon kasi may mga tumba na, niyog, kahoy.

So ever so slow ang movement ng respond ng gobyerno. [*Bong, nasabi ko na ito tayo ngayong...*] So tinawagan niya si --- sabi ko, *"Sabihin mo sa kay ano, pakisabi na lang kay --- sa COA na hindi ko hintayin 'yang batas na 'yan to operate during situation like this."*

Marami talagang batas na nakikita ko na wa --- hindi dapat diyan sa statute books. An emergency is an emergency and it is not dependent na --- because the extent of the damage would really be... It could not even be done in one month. Tapos maghintay ka para mag-declare ka ng ano diyan state of calamity. It's the --- when you are able to draw funds and for the government machinery really to move faster.

Ang nangyari diyan itong isang batas dapat talaga --- I don't know kung nakinig 'yung mga congressman ngayon pati senador. They would leave a good law that can be applied immediately right after or during the destruction and while there is still the wind and the tubig na ano talaga ang tao.

Maalaala ko nga pala, may I just direct si --- sino bang? DSWD siguro, Rol. Makita mo doon sa ibang lugar plastic 'yung over their heads. So I don't know what's the correct translation of trapal? Well, those fabric or is it a plastic? [*Officials: Tarp.*] Tarp, 'yun ba 'yun?

Magbili ka muna i-assess mo 'yung mga tao natutulog sa labas, emergency, so magbili ka ng trapal. The appropriate size for a family of maybe you target good for six people kasi ang trapal would protect the people from the cold sa gabi. Natutulog lang plastic.

Kaya maghahabol pa ako ng... I will be just --- back up lang ako ng national agencies. But babalikan ko 'yung lugar na tinatamaan and Housing has a... Nandito ang sabi ni na magpadala sila ng pera pati... Pero ako, ako na. Nandiyan man 'yung pera siguro magbili ng ano --- mga trapal mas mura.

Kaawa 'yang... If it can be done in --- within 48 hours if you can buy the appropriate size. We cannot really be exacting about it. So just you estimate about a trapal that covers a family of six. The areas where wala pa talagang repair na magawa.

Now, before I forget, I'm going to Siargao and to the places that were damaged. Maraming niyog. Dito sa Siargao, almost tumba lahat 'yung coconut trees. Ang akin, if there's a sense there, magbili na lang muna ako ng chainsaw. I... Mahirap kasi kung mapasa-pasa eh masisira 'yung equipment. So it has to be someone papunta --- ipadala natin doon na mag... Hindi na maka... Bagsak na lahat eh.

So doon na lang natin gawain 'yung materials. You get it from where --- sira lahat. Iyong niyog nagpatong-patong, tumba. Iyon na lang ang gamitin natin. Wala na 'yung kung sino 'yung may-ari ng mga lands that are planted with coconut tapos natumba, ibigay mo na lang sa kapwa tao mo kasi 'yung lumber doon, doon na i...

Sa Siargao kung magtayo ng mini sawmill doon. Madali kaagad. Diyan mismo eh, nandiyan na 'yung kahoy. So it could --- it should come out as a lumber pero coconut and that material is not really advisable to be used. But for temporary, 'yun na lang muna.

We can always ano baka pinturahan natin ng so that --- 'yung itim na para hindi masyadong madami. Kung coconut kasi talagang --- pinturahan mo alkitran to at least slow down the deterioration until iyong Housing makagalaw.

Ang ano talaga nila ngayon is shelter. Food is available. Nandiyan si Rolly and sabi niya sufficient ang supply natin sa pagkain, kaya natin. Ang problema kasi dito, sinabi ko na noon eh. My experience na sa...

Ako lang man siguro, ah si Secretary --- si DPWH, nandito. Alam niya 'yan. Alam niya na unang-unang talagang hingiin tubig, pagkain, shelter, iyong mga mahihirap. Marami 'yan. Iyon ang unahin natin. May pera naman. So magbigay ako ng the usual, I'm giving P5,000 per family. Iyon ang...

Pero it has nothing --- at least itong pera na nakuha ko which I have gathered --- the money that I have gathered so far would be sufficient for the assistance of P5,000 for everybody. Iyong --- the novel ideas, iyong mga niyog, i-ano na natin, magbili na lang tayo maraming... Natumba na. Kung ipagbili, sana ibigay.

But in the meantime, ihabol ninyo 'yung, Rol, 'yung magpa-canvass ka kaagad, Secretary Bautista, ask your people to... Hindi na puwedeng bidding. Pero kung gusto nila ng ano bidding, okay lang, walang problema 'yan. Pero it will really delay the assistance that would be appropriate for the situation. That's the... Iyong...

Nadating ba, Rol, 'yung pagkain? Almost lahat iyong tulong in all areas?

**DSWD SECRETARY ROLANDO BAUTISTA:** Mr. President, actually naka-prepositioned 'yung mga family food packs natin, even water and ating

housing materials. Iyong availability lang po, Mayor, nung ating mga air and water assets kasi puno po sila ngayon.

Kaya once available po, pinu-push natin. Kinakargahan natin ng mga food, water, and other shelter materials, Mayor.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Well, the critics, we are always wrong and they are always right. But that is... Iyon nga 'yung nag-i-issue ng ganoon. Akala nila kasi in their young mind, however old they are, na dito sa ano, hindi ito na martial law na you can just draw the money and start buying.

Itong mga trapal, marami man siguro 'yan. Ikaw na muna ang mag-ano niyan, Secretary Bautista. I leave it up to you to solve the problem. But we will give you the money, and if you have done --- tapos ka na, kindly report to me when you are ready to ship it out. So it's going to be tomorrow, and the next day, and maybe the next day basta malagyan lang.

Ah pagdating doon sa baba, iyong the highest military or police on the ground in that area should supervise the distribution with WD --- sa ano mo sa departamento mo. And maybe --- maybe we should make --- we can make a difference before New Year.

Iyong iba na nakatanggap na. I hope that kayong nakat --- kayo na tumanggap na ng ayuda sa gobyerno, I hope that gamitin na ninyo sa --- ang pera --- however, meager it is to --- we do not expect you to buy the materials.

In the meantime, steady lang muna kayo. Magpadala ako ng mga trapal just to shelter you from the elements of rain, lamig, parang gawain ninyong tent --- tent in the meantime na nagabirada tayo.

So... Ako, I... I... I just... Ano pa ba iyong...? Well, anyway, let us begin with Secretary Lorenzana. Do you have something to report?

**DND SECRETARY DELFIN LORENZANA:** Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, good evening po; and fellow workers of government, good evening.

I'm going to report on the update of the DND-AFP on the HADR operations at the aftermath of Typhoon Odette, Mr. President.

*[Next slide, please.]*

Ito 'yung mga na-deploy na personnel ngayon, Mr. President. May mga --- each region has their own personnel totaling 6,886. Kung kinakailangan pa, Mr. President, we can still deploy people.

*[Next slide, please.]*

Ito naman 'yung mga assets na-deploy. For Region IV-B, VI, VII, VIII, mayroon tayong isang C-130 na lumilipad, isang C-295, one NC-212i, isang Fokker-27, at saka apat na Black Hawk doon sa region na 'yun. Dito sa mga ano na 'to.

Sa Region IV-B, one Nomad, two PN Islanders. These are used for transportation of relief goods sa NDRRMC; DSWD food and non-food items; DICT personnel which we brought them to their destination to bring VSAT communication systems, generator sets and equipment.

*[Next slide, please.]*

It continues --- this is the continuation of the assets deployed in Regions VI, VII, VIII: seven Black Hawks, one Huey, one Bell 412 and one UH-1H; Region XIII, four in CARAGA; Surigao City, four S (Black Hawk), two Bell 412, a total of 16.

*[Next.]*

Continuation of the --- this is the total --- total assets deployed during this calamity, Mr. President, 35 total air assets, and sorties are 147. Total weight of transported goods and equipment is 202,405 pounds; number of stranded tourists evacuated from Siargao to Manila is more than 300.

*[Next slide.]*

Naval assets, ito rin po marami tayong naka-deploy. Itong mga barko na 'to, malalaking barko 'yan sa Region IV-B, Puerto Princesa Palawan, Region VI, VII, and VIII --- another one, two, three, four, five, six --- and Region XIII, there's five vessels being deployed.

And total number of naval assets is 15 and total weight items is 1,400 tons of goods. *[Next slide.]* Other updates, the Armed Forces conducted Rapid Damage Assessment through the concerned Unified Commands. They will also participate in the post damage assessment later on, Mr. President.

There's a Marine Amphibious Ready Unit deployed for clearing operations in Cebu City. And the AFP also deployed mobile kitchen in Cebu. And there is a carpentry team --- AFP Carpentry Team in Southern Leyte to help reconstruct destroyed houses and other facilities.

*[Next slide.]*

Ito po 'yung mga larawan ng mga peak --- nung ano, nung mga --- nung kasagsagan ng bagyo, it was immediately after, how the troops helped the people. *[Next slide.]* Ito 'yung road clearing operations. Iyong ating mga sundalo may mga dala-dala silang chainsaw.

*[Next slide.]*

Ito rin 'yung relief operations. The soldiers bringing relief operations to the areas. *[Next.]* Power restoration equipment, itong dinala din natin doon na galing sa Manila. *[Next.]* Transport of water treatment, itong mobile na treatment plant. Ito dinala natin through ano --- through the C-130.

*[Next.]*

Medical services through the BRP Ang Pangulo, ito ngayon, Mayor, nasa ano na ito nasa Siargao ito to help those people there. Transport of generators and communications equipment. *[Next slide.]* Deployment of medical teams

and mobile kitchen. Ito na 'yung mobile kitchen natin. Transport of stranded tourists and individuals from Siargao to Manila. Logistics support.

This is another relief operations of our troops. *[Next slide.]* Other relief operations when they brought rice and everything. Evacuation of civilians from the flooded areas or destroyed areas. *[Next.]* Another relief operations in coordination with the PCG, Philippine Coast Guard. *[Next.]*

This is the Christmas Drop for our troops in the KIG, Mr. President. Mayroon tayong siyam na features diyan. So nagdala --- itong chopper na 'to nakasakay ito sa isang barko nating malaki and then kung malapit na sila doon sa islands, dadalhin nila 'yung mga ano tapos ihuhulog lang doon sa islands. So whole nine features received their Christmas food and everything to celebrate the Christmas, Mr. President.

*[Next.]*

Ito 'yung Pag-asa. This is actually Pag-asa, Mr. President, ito, nakita ninyo 'yung lechon na 'yan. Actually, Pag-asa was also devastated by the typhoons and we are also planning to rehabilitate it. *[Next slide.]* Christmas Drop, ito 'yung mga binagsak natin doon sa mga tropa natin sa mga islands.

*[Next.]*

Iyon lang po, Mr. President, ang update ng Armed Forces relief operations.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Thank you, Secretary Lorenzana. Many things outside of your mandate na kakaunti-unti lang but I am very happy to see the Coast Guard deploying their small craft to move around, and of course, the Air Force. Even the Navy is also there. I sent the Pangulo, 'yung yate ng pangulo ng Pilipinas. I never used it actually, so pinadala ko doon sa --- I think it's in Siargao. Siargao, nandoon.

Mabuti pa ibigay ko na lang sa kanila 'yan kasi para may yate-yate sila doon mga tao. I said --- as I said earlier, I am mobilizing all resources of

government at nakita ko ang response natin. We cannot --- except for really the most urgent and immediate iyong response, it can only be completed or the ideal numbers is still rising exponential man ang ano doon.

But ang worry ko ngayon kung umabot na 'yung mga pagkain, tulong, iyong nakita ko doon na nakalabas lang sa kanilang... Hindi man rin sila puwedeng magtira ng --- iilan lang 'yung bahay doon na well residential. Iyong siguro mga mayaman, nakapagtayo sila nang maganda. But 'yung nagnenegosyo lang, 'yun naubusan talaga ng, I said, 'yung resources. Kailangan ang municipal mayors pati 'yung barangay captain.

You know what? I hope that the NPAs will not really tinker into the operation nitong response ng gobyerno. Kasi 'yung sa Sipalay, pagdaan namin ng Kabankalan --- because ang pumuputok early is Kabankalan. Iyon ang naririnig ko. Pagdating kami doon, I've been sa chopper for the initial look at the damage, ang Kabankalan wala talaga. But a few kilometers upwards, nandoon 'yung lugar ng Sipalay.

And what is really very scary was that I was with ---[*Secretary Año, were you there sa --- initially noong tiningnan natin?*] Tingin kami sa itaas, Kabankalan was moved --- ang move there was movement, almost normal. Pero sabi nila sa Sipalay... Kaya naglipad kami doon, wala naman masyadong... Iyon may mga bahay pero hindi kasing rami sa ibang lugar. Akala namin everything was all right.

So pabalik kami, when we landed doon sa ano, pagbalik, sinabi na when I was having a conference with government people, doon ko nalaman na sa Sipalay it was almost a quiet town, it's a city actually, how --- ayaw ko nang --- how it became a city, pero akala namin wala. Ang damage pala nila at hindi kaagad nalaman, those living sa coastal tapos pagbaha, 'yung mga bahay-bahay doon, little did we realize that so many people were carried away and homes were destroyed.

No pero papunta namin wala pa. Even during that day, it was only later that we were informed na sa Sipalay --- Sipa --- Sipalay, maraming na-damage pati tao. So kayong taga-Sipalay, we convey to you our deepest condolences, lalo na 'yung isang pamilya, dalawang pamilya na...

So it's, I said, a soul bruising experience for us all. The only way we can do that is the ---- how fast we can go back to normalcy. The first is really how we do it, I would like to know from the reports so that we can craft the appropriate assistance. May I call on Secretary Año to...?

**DILG SECRETARY EDUARDO AÑO:** Magandang gabi po, Mr. President. *[Please put my slide.]* Fellow public servants at mga kababayan, magandang gabi.

*[Next slide, please.]*

Ipakita lang po dito sa ating pag-monitor sa epekto ng Typhoon Odette, nakita po natin na 4.2 million individuals po ang naapektuhan at hanggang sa ngayon ay mayroon tayong 1,179 na mga evacuation centers na mino-monitor kung saan almost about 570,000 po ang na-displace.

Pero naka-focus na lang po tayo ngayon sa anim na regions, 14 na provinces, at 222 cities and municipalities na kung saan po ang ating mga response pati na rin po ang mga ayuda ay ating ibibigay. At makikita po natin sa mga ibang related incidents na dala po ng bagyo, mayroon pa pong 21 flooded areas, mayroon pa pong mga tulay at kalsada na sira, at mga seaports at airports na hindi pa po nagiging functional.

*[Next slide.]*

Simula pa po ng Day 1 ng ating bagyo, actually po kahit before dumating ang bagyo ay ang ating mga unipormadong hanay --- ang Philippine National Police, Bureau of Fire Protection, BJMP along with the Armed Forces of the Philippines at Philippine Coast Guard --- ay talagang nagsimula na po ng kanilang tinatawag na rescue operations, kasama na po ang search and rescue.

Ang atin pong Philippine National Police, aside sa mga territorial forces ay mayroon pong 4,000 PNP personnel para sa search and rescue at reactionary standby support force.

At ang atin pong Bureau of Fire Protection naman po *[next slide]* ay mayroong 10,500 personnel na naka-commit, kasama na rin po 'yung mga fire trucks, rescue trucks at iba pang mga kagamitan para po makatulong sa clearing operations at sila rin po ay nagbigay ng medical assistance, water

rationing, clearing operation at nagpatakbo din ng mga open kitchens at feeding programs sa mga hard-hit areas. Ang ating Philippine National Police naman rin po, in partnership with the AFP, ay nagco-conduct ng Christmas Drop 2021 hanggang matapos po ang buwan na ito.

*[Next slide. Next slide. Iyan.]*

Sa inyo pong pag-uutos, Mr. President, na makapagbigay tayo ng cash assistance sa ating mga naapektuhang kababayan, ang DILG, DSWD at DND po ay nag-meeting na po noong December 24 at nabuo na po namin ang Joint Memo Circular para po sa magiging gabay sa pagbibigay ng ating ayuda na humigit-kumulang po ay P4 million po ang ipamimigay natin. At ayon po sa ating DBM, ito po ay mare-release bukas sa ating mga LGUs, at ito po ang magiging gabay natin para siguraduhin po na ang mga apektadong kababayan ay makakatanggap ng cash assistance.

At ang ating Armed Forces at Philippine National Police po, ayon din sa inyong pag-uutos ay tutulong upang maipabot 'yung mga ayuda na 'to sa mga malalayong lugar lalo na po 'yung mga lugar na na-isolate at hanggang ngayon po ay hindi natin maabot sapagkat grabe po 'yung epekto ng ating bagyo.

At siguraduhin po namin, Mr. President, na ito ay makakarating sa ating mga kababayan. Mayroon din po tayong grievance mechanism and monitoring para kung saan puwedeng magreklamo po 'yung mga kababayan na hindi makakatanggap.

At ako rin po ay siguraduhin natin na ang perang ito ay maa-account natin at siguraduhin natin kung mayroon pong aabuso o magbubulsa ay ating iimbestigahan at sasampahan ng kaso. So sa amin pong estimate po ay within the week po makapagsisimula tayong magbigay ng cash assistance at tatapusin namin ito ng hindi po aabot ng 15 araw.

Mr. President, dahil po tayo ay magce-celebrate ng New Year, nais ko lang din pong ipaalala sa ating mga kababayan na ang paggamit po ng firecrackers ay hindi po pinapayagan. Kaya dito po sa Executive Order No. 28, ipinapakita po natin na ang mga publiko ay dapat sumunod at ang ating mga lokal na pamahalaan, sapagkat magpapatupad po tayo ng law enforcement through Executive Order No. 28 na naglalayong regulahin, kontrolin ang pagbebenta at paggamit ng mga paputok o fireworks or

firecrackers. At ang ating mga PNP, Bureau of Fire Protection at LGUs ay inaasahan nating magpapatupad nang mahigpit ng regulasyon na ito.

Ang ating LGUs ay puwedeng mag-designate ng community fireworks display o area na kinakailangan ay may pahintulot ang ating PNP at mayroong designated safety officer.

Mas mabuti pa po sa ating mga kababayan na talagang tahimik na lamang i-celebrate ang ating New Year para na rin iwas COVID at iwas disgrasya sa paputok.

Iyan lamang po, Mr. President. Maraming salamat po.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Thank you, Secretary Año. May I call on the Health Secretary to --- ?

**DOH SECRETARY FRANCISCO DUQUE III:** Magandang gabi po, Ginoong Pangulo, Mr. President; ES Medialdea; Senator Bong Go; ang akin pong mga kapwa miyembro ng Gabinete; at higit po sa lahat sa atin pong mga kababayan.

Muli, magbabahagi po ako ng updates mula po sa Department of Health ukol sa Bagyong Odette, ang atin pong tugon dito, kasama din po ang ating kasalukuyang COVID-19 response.

*[Next slide.]*

Base sa pinakahuling ulat po ay nakapagtala tayo ng halos 141 nasirang health facilities sa Regions IV-B, VI, VII at CARAGA. At tinatayang aabot sa P195.4 million ang halaga ng pinsalang dulot ng Bagyong Odette. Kabilang po dito ang 50 ospital; ang isang Center for Health Development ng Region VII; ang 45 Barangay Health Stations; 41 Rural Health Units; dalawang Provincial DOH Offices; isang City Health Office; at isa pong Temporary Treatment and Monitoring Facility.

*[Next slide.]*

Nakapagtala rin po tayo ng clustering ng water-borne diseases sa mga apektadong rehiyon at kasalukuyan tayong nakapagtala ng 80 kaso ng acute gastroenteritis or AGE na naka-admit sa Dinagat District Hospital; 54 na kaso ng diarrhea na naka-admit sa Siargao District Hospital; at 16 na kaso ng diarrhea sa Cebu na kasalukuyang kinukumpirma ng atin pong Region VII Center for Health Development Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit.

Patuloy po ang ating pagmo-monitor sa clustering ng mga water-borne diseases na ito pati na rin po ang pagpapadala ng mga kinakailangang gamot at iba pang logistical support upang matugunan ang kanilang pangangailangang pangkalusugan.

*[Next slide.]*

Patuloy rin po ang ating pag-aabot ng logistic --- *[Slide prior to that, please. Slide prior to that, Secretariat. Hindi, prior, prior. Ayan, ayan, okay.]* --- patuloy rin po ang ating pag-aabot ng logistical support para sa nasalantang mga rehiyon at umabot na po, as of December 27, sa P22.1 million ang halaga ng logistical support mula po sa DOH; P8.8 million naman worth of drugs, medicines, medical supplies, health kits, kasama na rin po ang mga PPEs ang atin pong naibaba mula DOH Central Office sa Regions IV-B, VI, VII, X, at CARAGA. At humigit-kumulang P13.3 million naman ang naibaba mula CHD IV-B, VII, and CARAGA sa kanilang mga apektadong lalawigan.

Nakapaglaan na tayo ng abot sa P300 million na pondo para sa pagpapaayos ng mga damaged health facilities; P100 million each para sa CARAGA at Central Visayas ang ating naibaba na sa regional offices nitong December 24. Samantalang P30 million sa MIMAROPA at P70 million para sa Eastern Visayas ang naibaba ngayong araw.

At muli para sa atin pong Typhoon Odette response, mayroong 32 response teams ang naka-deploy sa iba't ibang rehiyon mula sa mga Centers for Health Development, local government units, at non-government organizations.

Specifically, mayroon po tayong naka-deploy na 11 response teams sa CARAGA; pito sa Region VIII; at lima sa Region VII upang magbigay ng medical assistance at magsagawa rin ng rapid health assessment and surveillance; at siyam na response teams upang magsagawa ng rapid nutrition assessment.

Dumako naman po tayo --- [*next slide*] --- sa atin pong usual COVID-19 updates. At ngayon ika-27 ng Disyembre ngayong taon, nakapagtala tayo ng karagdagang 318 na bagong kaso. At sa 318 na naidagdag sa ating mga kaso, 130 ay mula sa NCR; 51 sa Region IV-A; 28 sa Region III; 16 sa Region XI; 15 sa Region VI; at 78 naman po sa mga natitirang mga rehiyon.

At para naman sa ating mga aktibong kaso, ang bilang ngayong ika-27 ng Disyembre ay nasa 9,579 or 0.34 percent ng ating mga kabuuang kaso. Mababa pa rin po ito at patuloy na bumababa ang atin pong mga aktibong kaso.

Ang ating recoveries naman ay umabot na sa 2.7 million thereabouts at ang ating recovery rate ay nasa 97.86 percent. Ganoon din po, tumataas ang ating recovery rate. Habang ang bilang ng mga namatay o pumanaw ay nasa 51,211 cumulative at ang atin pong case fatality rate ay nananatili sa 1.8 percent.

Ang ating positivity rate naman ay kasalukuyang nasa 1.4 percent nitong December 19 to 25. Mas mataas po ito kumpara sa 0.9 percent na naitala noong December 12 to 18. At nakakakita na rin po tayo, Mr. President, nang pagbaba ng demand for testing at daily RT-PCR testing output na kasalukuyang nasa 26,356 tests kada araw.

Pero banggitin ko lang po na ito pong nakaraang December 25 at December 26 ay talagang mas mababa pa po ang ating testing output, Mr. President, dahil nga ay marami pong mga laboratoryo na nagsara at sa ibabaw noon ay mababa na rin naman po talaga 'yung demand for testing nito pong mga nakaraang linggo.

At muli, nananatiling nasa low risk naman ang atin pong national utilization rates: 17 percent para sa bed utilization rate, 18 percent para sa ICU beds, at 10 percent para sa mechanical ventilators.

So bilang panghuling pagbubuod, Mr. President, patuloy naming sinusubaybayan ang mga kaganapan sa Visayas and Mindanao upang makapaghatid ng mga kinakailangang tulong at serbisyong pangkalusugan para sa mga nasalanta ng Bagyong Odette.

Pangalawa, tulad ng aming nabanggit, nakasalalay sa ating mga aksyon sa mga susunod na linggo ang pagde-delay ng pagkalat ng Omicron variant sa atin pong bansa and we must take preventive actions lalong-lalo na nakakakita na tayo nang bahagyang pagtaas sa ating mga kaso.

Una, kinakailangan nating siguraduhin na ang lahat nang papasok sa bansa ay susunod sa ating quarantine at testing protocols upang mapigilan natin ang pagkalat ng Omicron variant sa atin pong mga komunidad.

Pangalawa, inuudyok namin ang mga testing laboratories na magsumite sa lalong madaling panahon ng mga positibong samples for whole genome sequencing, bahagi po ng ating aktibong biosurveillance para matukoy po natin kung mayroon na bang local transmission or local cases ng Omicron variant at lalong-lalo na sa mga lugar kung saan nakakakita na tayo nang pagtaas ng mga kaso.

Ikatlo, nananawagan din kami sa mga lokal na pamahalaan na mabilis na isagawa ang active case-finding, ang atin pong contact tracing up to the third generation, close contacts, at referral to isolation or quarantine facilities upang masugpo natin ang mga kadena ng hawaan.

At huli, ang Kagawaran ng Kalusugan, sa pamumuno ng ating One Hospital Command Center or ang ating tinaguriang Patient Navigation and Referral Center ay makikipagtulungan sa ating mga ospital upang magkaroon tayo nang sapat na health systems capacity kasama ang mga COVID-19 beds, ang mga mechanical ventilators, ang oxygen supply, ang telemedicine providers, ang mga antiviral drugs katulad po ng mga Paxlovid at saka ito pong Molnupiravir, ang Tocilizumab, ang Baricitinib, at ang Remdesivir at

mga iba pang mga gamot para makapagsalba po ng mga buhay ng mga naapektuhan ng severe to critical COVID cases, at iba pa pong mga tulong medikal bilang po paghahanda.

So dito lang po ako magwawakas, Mr. President. Maraming salamat po sa pagkakataon at handa na po akong sumagot sa inyo pong mga katanungan.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Salamat po, Secretary Duque.

Art, Secretary of Transportation.

**DOTR SECRETARY ARTHUR TUGADE:** Salamat ho, Mr. President, sa oportunidad na ibinibigay ninyo upang ilahad namin sa inyo at sa sambayanan ang mga bagay-bagay na ginagawa ng Kagawaran ng Transportasyon dito ho sa panahon ng Odette, before, during, and after.

Umpisahan po natin `yung estado ng damage dito sa tinatawag nating paliparan at airports. Mr. President, number of affected airports dito sa pagdating ni Odette ay 24. Hinimay at hinati ho namin itong 24 airport na `to into three classes: airports that have sustained minor damages; airports that have sustained major damages; and airport that have sustained critical damages.

Doon po sa airport na have sustained minor damages, 15 po ang talagang tinamaan na paliparan. Kasama ho dito `yung Busuanga, Puerto Princesa, Bicol, Caticlan, Kalibo, Roxas, Bohol, Panglao, Tacloban, Ormoc, Laguindingan, Cotabato, Davao, General Santos, Butuan, at Iloilo.

Ito hong paliparan na `to na nag-sustain ng minor damages, continues ho `yung operation nito immediately nung humapo ho ang Bagyong Odette.

Iyong pangalawang klasipikasyon ho, `yung airports na sustained major damages. Napapabilang ho dito `yung San Vicente; Dumaguete; Camiguin; Siquijor; Antique; Maasin; Surigao; Mactan, Cebu. Ito hong mga airport na

`to naka-sustained ng major damages at bagama't major damages ho, Mr. President, we are happy to tell you that they have started operations December 24.

Iisa na lang hong airport ang wala sa klasipikasyon. Itong airport na ito ay `yung tinatawag natin na critically damaged. Isa po ang airport na critically damaged ito po `yung airport sa Siargao na kung saan sa inyong pagdalaw, Mr. President, nakita niyo naman `yung damage na na-sustain ng paliparan na `to.

Mr. President, I've been told by CAAP that by tomorrow, maski na ho critically damaged `yung paliparan na `to, Siargao will be commercially operable. In other words, Mr. President, lahat ho ng paliparan na naapektuhan ng Typhoon Odette by tomorrow will be commercially operational maski na po ginagawa at inaayos `yung mga repair na ginagawa sa mga paliparan.

Sa mga susunod na slides, Mr. President, makikita niyo ho `yung litrato nung mga critically-damaged airports na talaga namang maaawa ka at manlulumo ka sa nangyari. Makikita rin ho `yung mga rehabilitation measures na ginagawa ng Kagawaran. Nandidiyan din ho ang sinasabi naming estimated damages upang makumpleto `yung repair.

Mr. President, ito ho ay estimate, kung kinakailangan hong madagdagan `yung gastusin na `to, mayroon hong pamaraan ang ginagawa ng Kagawaran upang sa ganoon mapondohan `yung pangangailangan. Pinakamalaki ho dito `yung pangangailangan ng Siargao, 14 million ho, ito lang ho ay estimate na puwede namang lumaki rin.

At habang ginagawa ho natin `yung restoration at construction ng mga paliparan, hindi ho napabayaan ng CAAP at ng DOTr `yung relief operations. Ito ho ay nagbibigay ng mga pamaraan sa mga pasahero, sa mga mananakay, upang sa ganoon maging kombinyente `yung kanilang paghihintay at pagbibiyahe.

Hindi lang ho diyan, nagkaroon din ho ng relief operation na ginagawa ng CAAP para sa sambayanan. Ito ho `yung sa aviation, sa paliparan. Silipin po natin kung ano ang nangyari sa tinatawag na maritime sector.

Mas malaki ho `yung tama ng maritime sector dito kay Odette. Total affected ports – 160 ports ang affected. Pero doon sa 160 ports, Mr. President, 126 ho ang fully operational, 25 ang partially operational, at siyam ay critically damaged. Ibig sabihin ho, ang nasira `yung tinatawag natin na rampa, `yung dock, `yung pier, hindi ho magiging operational.

Nagkaroon ho kami ng pamaraan at estimate budgeting upang sa ganoon mapabilis namin 'yung pagkumpuni nitong critically damaged, non-operational port. Makikita ho na kung gagawin namin ang pamaraan upang mapadali 'yung konstruksiyon, dalawa ho 'yung guiding principle namin: una ho, we will not sacrifice the quality of port; number two, we will not sacrifice the reasonability of cost and budgetary estimate.

Makikita ho sa mga susunod na slide kung ano ang nangyari sa Maasin, sa Port of San Ricardo at nakikita niyo naman na talagang --- talaga hong critically damaged. Critically damaged din ho 'yung Port of Getafe, Tapal at Talibon na talaga namang naperwisyo ang ating mga kababayan.

Remember, ang Pilipinas ho ay archipelago, malaking impact ho kung nasira 'yung puerto. Kaya nga ba't 'yung pagtama sa atin ng damage sa puerto ay nakakabigat sa ating pag-recover dito sa Odette, pag-recover sa ating economic growth.

Sabihin ko lang po ang ginawa ng ating PPA at ng Cebu Port Authority sa kasagsagan ng damages. Ang PPA ho waived port fees for activities related to relief operation. Walang bayad, winaiwe (waive) ho 'yan. Priority and special lanes were given to vehicles, equipment and cargoes used for relief and recovery operation. The Cebu Port Authority suspended the collection of passenger terminal fees at the Cebu-based port and in other terminals severely damaged by Odette. Food and snacks were given to stranded passengers in PPA and CPA operating activities.

Alam niyo ho, sabihin ko lang ho, doon sa mga puerto na kung --- na saan mayroong kaganapan, may shower pa rin hong ibinibigay ang PPA para nang sa ganoon makadagdag sa comfort and convenience ng mga pasaherong stranded.

Makikita ho diyan ang mga ginawa natin sa susunod na slides ang mga recovery, rehabilitation, at relief and rescue na ginagawa ng ating mga tao, tauhan, at pamunuan sa PPA at Cebu Port Authority.

Itong slide na sasabihin ko, mahalaga ho ito. Ito ho 'yung imbentaryo of affected groups and availability of shipping services. Tingnan niyo ho na 'yung number of affected routes, 40. Noon ho, ang nagseserbisyong mga sasakyan, barko at vessels prior to Odette, 119. Ito ho 'yung kaganapan bago mag-Odette.

Ngayon po, doon ho sa pagdating ni Odette and immediately thereafter, ang imbentaryo ho namin, out of 119, 65 na lang 'yung vessels. Ibig sabihin, may kakulangan. Ibig sabihin, diyan sa kakulangan na 'yun, nagdadagdag ng inconvenience sa ating mga kababayan 'yan.

Tingnan niyo rin ho na 'yung number of non-operational and fully-damaged ship. Ibig sabihin, 'yung mga nasalanta, 'yung naperwisyo, na-damage ni Odette, 45, 45 ho ang nasalanta. Talagang napakalaki ho ang epekto nito sa atin.

Ngayon, para ma-address ho 'yung kakulangan ng ating mga vessels, dalawa 'yung agarang ginagawa ng inyong Kagawaran, Mr. President. Una ho, through MARINA, nagpapa-issue kami ng special ship upon your instructions two days ago na kung saan nagbibigay ng special permit para mag-operate. Naka-issue na ho sila ng siyam. Kailangan pa ho namin siguro doblehin 'yan.

At habang ginagawa ito, napakalaking bagay ho 'yung Philippine Coast Guard. Because of their vessel facilities, nag-iikot at rumerelyebo ang Philippine Coast Guard. Hindi lang ho ang Philippine Coast Guard na sa relief and rescue operation, sila rin ho ay tumutulong punuan 'yung kakulangan, 'yung pangangailangan na mga vessels.

Ang huling report ko ho, Mr. President, ay about the Philippine Coast Guard. Nabanggit niyo po kanina 'yung Philippine Coast Guard, tama ho. Iyong Philippine Coast Guard ay naging vanguard at frontliner ng Kagawaran ng Transportasyon dito kay Odette.

Kumilos ang Philippine Coast Guard before the arrival of Odette. Kumilos at kumilos ang Philippine Coast Guard pagdating ni Odette. At habang umalis na si Odette, patuloy pa rin na kumikilos ang Philippine Coast Guard sa relief and rescue operation.

Makikita po dito sa slide na 'to ang natulungan ho at na-evacuate ng Philippine Coast Guard is 1,500 families. One thousand five hundred lang? Hindi ho. Iyong family is defined as three to five, 'yung tatay, 'yung nanay, 'yung anak. Ganyan ho karami ang na-rescue at tinulungan ng Philippine Coast Guard dito sa pagdalaw ng buwisit na Odette.

Dito ho, makikita rin ho sa mga slides na 'to 'yung mga talagang kontribusyon ng Philippine Coast Guard, 'yung dedication nila sa kanilang trabaho, exposing their life and limb for the interest of our kababayan. Ipinagmamalaki ko hong ipakita 'yung mga slides na 'yan na kung saan ipinapakita ng Coast Guard na sila ay pang-relief, pang-rescue, pang-alaga sa kababayan, pangangasiwa, at pag-secure ng West Philippine Sea.

Tingnan niyo ho 'yung mga relief goods na na-transport ng Philippine Coast Guard. Sa limang rehiyon, iyong Philippine Coast Guard ho was able to transport 393 tons during the time of Odette. Napakarami ho niyan. Tumigil na ho ba sila? Hindi ho.

Ngayon ho, dahil sa pangangailangan, hindi lang sa pagkain, medisina, tubig, at gasolina sa konstruksiyon, nakipag-usap ako sa Philippine Coast Guard with Commander Laroya na kung saan prinograma namin 'yung mga vessel na puwedeng magamit ho para i-transport 'yung shelter facilities --- iyong sa construction materials. Ito ho ang ginagawa ng Philippine Coast Guard.

At habang ginagawa ng Philippine Coast Guard ito, ng PPA, ng CAAP, sir, sa DOTr ho, Mr. President, iyong mga empleyado natin diyan kasama ang LTO at LTFRB, nagkusa hong nagkontribusyon silang personal na itong kontribusyon na 'to --- goods, tubig, bigas --- nilikom at ibinigay sa Coast Guard at ang Coast Guard ay nag-transport nito.

Ang ibig hong sabihin, habang ang Kagawaran ng Transportasyon, habang ginagawa ang kanilang trabaho, hindi lang ho muscle and bone ang ginagamit, puso. Nakikiisa iyong men and women of the Department of Transportation na ipakita iyone oneness, belonging, and sympathy to the people that have been ravaged by Odette.

Iyon lang ho, Mr. President. Maraming salamat ho.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Salamat, Secretary Tugade. Now, we'll... Dito tayo mag-ano sa... I will discuss this with --- itong --- 'yung medisina pati ang sa iyong departamento, Secretary Lopez. There seems to be a spike in the prices.

They say that some, not all, are hoarding and you know that it --- you increase the price by selling more than the usual price of --- for example, building materials, or even food stocks, canned goods. They are getting to be more expensive for the people.

Ang akin kasi, I'd like to --- kung totoo. Kung hindi, 'di walang problema. Kung totoo, I am just giving you the warning na 'pag nahuli kayo ng DTI or nahuli kayo ng pulis --- ang pulis because the jurisdiction dito sa putting a cap on the prices of goods belongs to --- and even building materials, nasa sa iyo.

So nandito ka man, tell us if there has been a violation or violations during this time because we can identify them and the Philippine National Police, we will ask them to arrest the hoarders and people who are taking advantage of the situation.

Dito 'yan sa mga... These are the periphery --- mga hardware sa mga kapital nila sa --- for example, ang province and cities na are still operating and, I said, they are in the periphery of the areas hit by the typhoon.

Could you tell us? Ang una ko dito, what I'm worried is really the --- we have to put a stop on this and probably you can come --- go ahead and cap the prices of the goods available, especially medicine.

**DTI SECRETARY RAMON LOPEZ:** Yes. Thank you, Mr. President, Mayor. Magandang gabi ho, Senator Bong Go; ES; mga kasama sa Gabinete; mga kababayan.

Tama ho, Mr. President, kasama ho sa report natin. Ia-advance ko lang iyong part na 'yun na unang-una, noong nag-declare ng state of calamity, nag-umpisa na 'yung ating price cap 'no. So may price control na tayo. Ibig sabihin ay 'yung price freeze natin, kung ano 'yung presyo bago mag-pandemic --- at bago magbagyo, I mean, ay iyon po dapat ang presyo, hindi galaw.

The day after, and I think mga hanggang two days after, habang nagkakagulo pa rin, marami ho talagang na-report na nag-price increase, na nagsamantala. In fact, ang order po namin --- ang order ko po sa ating mga kasama na 'yung mga enforcers natin ay talagang mag-aresto ng overpricing.

Actually, marami ho talaga diyang na-apprehend diyan po sa area ng Bohol at Cebu. Nabalitaan din po natin 'yung nagtaas ng mga genset. So lahat po nung mga ni-report sa amin ay atin pong pinapuntahan.

Sa ngayon po, lalaktaw ako sa aking chart, kung puwede ring i-post ng ating technical ang DTI presentation --- *[one, two, three, iyong apat]* --- pang-apat na slide, nag-issue na ho tayo ng...

Base sa mga ni-report sa atin, mga 50 na explanation letters, 50 na inquiry letters, at iyong kasunod noon ay kaso pagka ito po ay hindi talaga sa atin in-explain 'yung pagtaas nung presyo na 'yun. But after po na-apprehend sila, actually ho, Mr. President, kino-correct ho nila 'no. So tayo ho talaga nakatutok doon sa mga nabalitaan natin na mayroong mga pag-increase ng presyo.

After that ho, i-report ko lang ho na for example ang marami ring nag-report sa atin 'yung presyo nung fuel na pinilahan kasi nag --- right the day after nagkaroon ng shortage. Nandoon ang fuel pero hindi kaagad mai-pump so talagang may ganoon ho supply and demand. Nag-doble, triple, P120 to P180 per liter para lang magkaroon ng gasolina 'yung mga gustong bumili.

After ho na-reprimand, ang prices ho ngayon like sa Maasin City; Macrohon, Southern Leyte; pati sa CARAGA Region ay nagre-range na sa below P50 at saka balik na siya doon sa below P50 hanggang P56 per liter. Ibig sabihin, ito ho ay after nagkaroon tayo nang pagsupil doon sa mga nag-violate ng mga presyo.

*[Ah, hindi. Pakitaas lang 'yung slides natin. Okay, 'yan. Okay.]*

So... So, Mr. President... So tama ho kayo. Kaya ho natin in-attend-an kaagad 'yung mga reklamo na 'yun. Pero ngayon, Mr. President, dahil ho nakita nila na nanghuhuli na ang DTI at nagpatulong din kami sa CIDG, sa

PNP, tumino na 'yung ating mga nagtitinda 'no. So iyon ho 'yung ano ngayon estado natin ngayon.

Minonitor (monitor) din ho natin 'yung mga nagsara na mga tindahan dahil critically damaged 'yung mga tindahan. Mga groceries and supermarkets, karamihan po dito sa mga regions na naapektuhan, actually makikita po natin 'yung Bohol na lang ang marami pang sarado. Talagang heavily damaged: 136 ang sarado pa, 104 ay open. Karamihan po --- at pati sa Surigao del Norte at saka Dinagat, diyan 'yung mas maraming nagsara kaysa sa bukas sa ngayon, Mr. President, because of the critically damaged.

And that's the reason po talagang maraming nagkaroon nang paghihirap sa pagkuha nung mga basic necessities. Sa ngayon ho, ang na-experience natin sa pag-ikot din natin dahil sumama po tayo --- sumama po ako sa inyo, nakita natin ang talagang pangangailangan ay 'yung pagkain --- pagkain, tubig. At iyon naman po 'yung ibinibigay ng DSWD, at tuloy- tuloy naman po 'yun. Actually, ang kailangan ho talaga nila iyong relief goods dahil kung tutuusin, hindi ho lahat may pambili rin eh ng mga basic necessities na 'yun.

Again, babalikan ko po 'yung sa profiteering na 'yung nag-monitor tayo ng establishments in Bohol: 52 are comp --- 52 percent compliant to SRP; sa Cebu, 99 percent establishments are compliant. At iyong nakuwento ko ho kanina, na-issue-han (issue) natin 'yung mga violators, mga 50 na po.

Ang Local Price Coordinating Council, tuloy-tuloy ang monitoring po nila. Sa Region X, mayroon hong walong na-issue na letter of inquiry at seven na show cause order sa Misamis Oriental. Pagdating ho sa supply, nakikita ho natin na may kakulangan pa pagdating ho sa rice, bottled water, at fuel sa ibang lugar: Region VI ganoon din po pati sa Region VII.

Ngayon, stocks are being replenished coming from adjacent regions kaya ho para tuloy-tuloy lang 'yung supply doon sa mga lugar na 'yun. Sa mga construction materials ho, gensets, emergency lights are being brought right now. Dinadala po doon nung mga retailers at mga suppliers doon sa mga affected areas.

In fact, ngayon po, may mga containers na dumating sa Cebu at kasama na rin po, may genset din na dumating sa Dauis sa Bohol, mga genset supply.

At in two days, mayroon pang mga ibang construction materials na darating sa Bohol. Pero ito po 'yung mga construction materials na nasa hardware.

Alam po natin na ang immediate na pangangailangan, tulad ho nung sinabi niyo kanina, actually doon sa walang kayang bumili. Kaya kailangan tayo magbigay immediately iyong sinasabi po ninyong trapal --- iyong temporary solution. At over time, ang ating ibang ahensiya, NHA, Housing, can provide also 'yung mga iba pang construction materials na doon --- lalo na sa mga walang kayang bumili. Pero itong mga dini-deliver nung mga hardware, ito ho 'yung binibili nung pangkaraniwan, iyong mga ika nga ay 'yung kayang bumili ng mga construction materials.

On the part of DTI po, iyong moving forward po 'yung sa amin eh 'yung pagbigay ng kabuhayan packages. In all our visits, in-identify po, nag-a-assess po tayo nung mga kailangang tulungan na mga maliliit --- 'yung mga micro SME.

Kaya sa amin po, ang kailangan ho maka-assess kami sino 'yung naapektuhan, 'yung mga paninda nila, nagtitinda sa palengke, may karinderya. Iyon ho 'yung aming ina-assess ngayon, 'yung pangkabuhayan para mabigyan ng pangkabuhayan.

Ang estimate po namin mga 2,000 ang magiging beneficiary per probinsiya na naapektuhan. Kung 2,000 'yan at bawat isa ang programa ho natin 8,000 to 10,000 kada micro-entrepreneur 'yung beneficiary para mabigyan ng pangkabuhayan package.

So estimate po natin mga 20 million allocation per province. So a total po immediately mga P100 to P150 million ang ating magiging initial assistance. Sa ngayon, ready po ang DTI na mayroon na kaming immediate na puwedeng ibigay ngayon.

Mayroon ng 8.2 million na pangkabuhayan package na puwede na kaagad ibigay and we will start with the 300 na profiled SMEs --- micro. Dito po sa Siargao 'yung ating pinuntahan to receive livelihood assistance na 8,000 worth na mga livelihood kits per beneficiary. At...

*[Next slide.]*

Moving forward, actually ho this week naka-schedule, Mr. President --- dahil gusto niyo mabilisan --- this week iyong pera po na 'yun mai-allocate pa natin to 1,000 beneficiaries. Nakakalat 'to sa Region VI, Region VII, VIII, at CARAGA.

Ito ho pangsimula pa lang ho ito 8 million, pero as sinabi ko ho kanina, nag-a-allocate tayo ng P100 to P150 million. Pero in the interest of time, ito muna ang mauna iyong 8 million para this week mayroon na tayong mabigyan ng kabuhayan. And then starting January, tuloy-tuloy na ho tayo using also the 2022 budget that of course we expect to be approved. So iyan po ang pagbibigay ng ating ayuda kaagad na pangkabuhayan.

Isa pa ho, ang ating SB Corporation --- *[next chart]* --- may microfinancing facility. Nag-agree ho kami sa board ng SB Corp., mag-allocate ng P500 million pero ito ho 'yung microfinancing kung saan zero interest, walang collateral, at six months to one year grace period, iyong wala munang babayaran para talagang magaan para ho sa mga beneficiary.

And then finally, Mr. President, iyong microfinancing na 'yun, zero interest, no collateral, six to one year grace period, nag-allocate tayo ng P500 million. At tungkol naman doon sa pandemic, itutuloy ho natin 'yun. Mayroon tayong microfinancing na ganyan din: zero interest, no collateral. At ang napahiram na po doon ay 137,169 borrowers; P6.13 billion na ho ang napahiram natin -- natulungan ng mga SMEs dito po sa CARES Program.

Iyon lang po, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Salamat, Secretary Lopez.

I'd like to move to the other side. I'd like... Let's... The... Iyong maliliit eh. But every official that I have met or will meet again because I intend to make the rounds to see how things are progressing.

Ang kanilang --- ang lahat ng mga barangay captains, mga mayors, iyong power pati 'yang sa Cebu. Talagang hrap sila so I'd like to know how soon can you restore the connections to make it working effort immediately.

**DOE SECRETARY ALFONSO CUSI:** Yes, magandang gabi po, Mayor Pangulong Duterte; maganda pong --- magandang gabi po sa ating lahat.

Susundan ko lang po muna 'yung report po ni Secretary Art, iyong damage po sa mga ports ano po. Totoo po 'yun especially 'yung Region VII and Region VI. Talaga pong nagkabara-bara at doon po sa pier mismo doon po nalubog 'yung ibang barko. And some of those vessels that were damaged were tankers, Mayor, 'no.

So because of this damaged port, nagkaroon po ng bottleneck nang pag-ship ng petroleum sa --- from Cebu going to Bohol, Leyte. And iyon po naman in-address agad nating mabuti, Mayor, ano. Talaga pong --- at nagpapasalamat po ako sa pagtutulong-tulong, especially the Visayas Command po.

Kahapon po, nasa Cebu ako at nagpulong po kami doon kasama 'yung Visayas Command and other agencies, DOTr, and in-address nga po namin 'yung problema nung sa pier congestion na nangyayari dahil nga po doon sa damage sa mga ports. And they are very, very supportive under General Dauz and, in fact, we agreed to support everybody, including security, the clearing, the cutting, the Engineering Brigade para mapabilis po 'yung trabaho.

And I am very thankful for the support of the other agencies. Iyon po naman 'yung report ni Secretary Mon Lopez about the fuel, totoo po 'yun na nagkaroon ng mga --- ng profiteering in the --- on the first day nang nagre-restoration po tayo.

At ang ginawa po natin, pinalabas po natin lahat 'yung ating mga tao sa Visayas --- sa Cebu po 'no. Lahat ng office people pinalabas po natin at pinagtrabaho po natin maging enfo --- ah inspector and enforcement together with DTI and CIDG.

And we were able to arrest --- to arrest the problem and two gas stations were given --- were cited for show cause. And sabi ko nga pinapaskilan ko na rin po para medyo sabi nga kung puwedeng mapahiya, huwag tularan po na practice na magsasamantala sa ganoong problema po. So we... We... We addressed that, Mayor.

And tungkol po naman dito po sa --- tungkol dito sa po sa ginawa ng DOE, parte sa pagpeprepara at pag-restore po nitong ating mga na-damage na

pasilidad, totoo po na napakalaki ang naging pinsala na dulot ng Odette dito sa enerhiya.

At sa December 21 pa lang po nagkaroon na po tayo ng preparasyon --- Task Force Energy Resiliency, we convened po 'no, together with other agencies and private sectors looking at the downstream, iyon pong petrolyo at iyon pong electricity. Ito po namang ating Task Force Energy Resiliency, sinimulan po natin ito during this administration and this is already institutionalized at DOE.

So let me present to you the power situation and then the effects on oil supply, action taken, and way forward po 'no.

Tungkol po naman dito sa power sector po, sa power sector, there are three major items or major parts of the energy sector, and that is: the generation which is composed of other private players ano, dito ang mga generation companies; then we have the transmission, which is handled by NGCP; and then the distribution companies, the cooperative, and like the other utilities like VECO in Cebu, Meralco in Manila, and the others.

As far as sa generation po facilities, they are all ready. Fully restored, meaning po tumatakbo na po 'yan. Nag-ge-generate na po ng power, naita-transmit na po at nagdi-distribute ano po.

So 'yung partially restored po, iyan tumatakbo po. Kaunti lang ang idini-deliver dahil hindi po available iyong --- hindi po available ang transmission lines at saka 'yung distribution lines po 'no. And still out/isolated/unavailable, dito po ginagamit lang 'yung pinatay na rin po --- 'yung pinatay nila po kasi wala pong taker nung power kuwan pa --- or iyong production nila 'no, the power that they can generate.

So sa Region VI po --- itong Panay- Negros, on-grid capacity available na po diyan 203. So maayos na po ang restoration work natin sa Panay and Negros region. Iyong binisita po natin, Kabankalan, iyong sinabi po natin na ire-restore po natin 'yung power before Christmas, nagkaroon po sila ng partial restoration na po and it is progressing.

Ngayon, dito po naman sa Region VII, ito pong Negros Oriental at saka Cebu, Bohol, dito po malaki ang ating na-damage 'no dito sa Cebu at saka

sa Bohol at sa Negros Oriental po. Sa Negros Oriental, nagkaroon po tayo ng isang casualty na lineman ano po sa NORECO II, na-electrocuted po in the process of working. Total casualty po namin na linemen working dito po sa mga rehabilitation: dalawa po. Iyong isa nabagsakan po ng ulo --- ang ulo at namatay din po.

So as far as the power is concerned, the generation, we are all okay. But ang problema din po rito like sa fuel po 'no nagkaroon po tayo ng --- nandiyan po 'yung power, hindi po natin naibabato because of transmission.

Ganoon din po sa fuel, sa petrolyo. We have enough supply of petroleum, we have enough inventory, kaya lang ang naging problema po hindi agad ma-deliver because of the port congestion. Na-damage 'yung --- na-damage po 'yung mga barko and the others.

Dito naman po sa Northern Mindanao okay naman po ang ating on-grid capacity available. Region VIII, Leyte-Samar, ito po may problema po tayo rito sa Leyte and Samar ano po. Sa Southern Leyte po, dapa po talaga 'yung mga linya. Iyon po pupuntahan ko sa Wednesday at pinapunta ko na rin po lahat ng industry players because we are going to discuss papaano nangyari po 'yun 'no.

At dito naman po sa Northern Leyte including Samar, lahat po naman ng sa distribution okay po ang distribution niya, 'yung linya, iyong mga cooperative ho puwede, kaya lang hindi dumarating po 'yung kuryente dahil po sa transmission line, NGCP po 'yun.

So diyan po nagkaroon na po tayo ng improvement 'no doon po sa resiliency, 'yung mga poste na medyo nagkaroon na po doon ng --- because of Yolanda, napatibay na po 'yung mga poste roon. Instead of 150 'yung strength niya, to handle 150 kilometer wind, ngayon ang nailagay na 'yun sa 250. And that is part of our resiliency program that we started also in 2018.

Sa next slide po, ito po naman 'yung sa mga Small Power Utilities Group, katulad din po 'yan --- 'yan po 'yung mga SPUG area. Available po diyan is out of 87 power plants, 64 po ang available. So this is also generating ng ngayon po, available po ito and ito po 'yung nasa Dinagat at saka ang dito kasama po rito is Siargao. Ito po.

*[Next slide, please.]*

Dito po 'yung sa transmission, ito po ay isang another factor. Ito po malaki po ang naging damage dito sa transmission. The initial report I got is around 880 posts were toppled and five towers were also damaged 'no or toppled 'no also.

But as of now, ang restoration accomplishment po is 85 percent, 81 --- 81 transmission lines has been restored out of 95. And dito makikita natin sa next slide --- next slide, that the Leyte-Samar, we have 22, 18 have been restored. Ito 'yung apat , ito po 'yung sa may Southern Leyte.

Ito namang sa Cebu, may tatlo pa po tayong ire-restore. Ang problemang malaki po dito sa Bohol, ano po. Dahil talagang ito po ay --- wala pa po tayong nare-restore dito. So... But ang target naman po dito sa Bohol, we are going to have a partial energization using the 69kV and this is a lean land operation using the barge and the diesel plant available. Magkakaroon po tayo dito ng target restoration by December 31, BOHECO I, 33 percent; BOHECO II, 37 percent; and BLCI Bohol --- ito po 'yung 50 percent po ito po 'yung sa Tagbilaran at Panglao area.

Ang sa Cebu naman po ang target po natin dito as of yesterday, we had already around 40,000 na household ang may electricity po. Ang karamihan po doon inuna natin 'yung mga vital industries, vital installation po, hospital, water pumps, and 'yung mga --- sa mga export processing kuwan po 'yung plants 'no nauna na rin po 'yung mga 'yun saka, of course, 'yung sa vaccine storage po 'no.

So nandoon --- nandoon na po rin 'yun. So ang VECO itong sa Cebu po, target dapat a day, ang kailangan --- ang target nila today is 58,000 household ang magka --- mabibigyan. Pero sa ngayon po nagkaroon na po sila ng 60 --- 61 --- 61,000 po. So they are --- they are moving ahead of target. And by December 30, we are target --- their target is 30 but I am confident that they will go beyond that. And by January 10, hopefully, min -- - ang kuwan po is that minimum 80 percent energized po ang Cebu --- ang Cebu Province po. Ganoon din po 'yung sa Mactan, kasama po 'yung sa Mactan energization.

Ito po namang sa mga cooperatives 'no po, ang affected cooperatives po, number of affected cooperatives, 74; ang normal operation po 48; and partial power interruption, 19 po. So number of munici --- municipalities for restoration, 167 out of 900 --- 167 out of 937, so 17.8 percent restored na po siya. And ang --- this involves 2,140 household connections, ano po. So ito po, kaya malaki po, babalik po ito, ito po sa area ng BOHECO, sa Bohol po ito, BOHECO; then Cebu; and then Dinagat DIELCO; kasama po rito 'yung sa Siargao; and SOLECO.

Itong Siargao and DIELCO po magkakaroon din po sila ng target by December 30 na around 30 percent energization. There are 683 out of 937 municipalities fully restored and 87 partially restored, or 78 --- 72.89 percent accomplishment po 'no.

*[Sa next slide, please.]*

Ngayon, para po naman mapabilis 'yung trabaho , mayroon po tayong Task Force Kapatid ano po. Ito po 'yung pagtutulong-tulong ng ibang kooperatiba na hindi apektado na pumunta po --- na pumunta sa Cebu, pumunta sa Dinagat, pumunta sa Bohol, and other areas. Sama-sama po rito na nag-report. So the number of contingents there were 628 people that came from other --- other cooperatives, with 100 vehicles 'no.

And again, ito po nakarating po doon sa tulong din po ng ating Navy and Coast Guard, PPA, CPA, and the others. So nakikipag-coordinate po kami sa AFP and DOTr for the logistics support for this mobilization po. So tuloy-tuloy po ito at hopefully 'pag dumating na po lahat --- may hinihintay pa po kami tatlong kooperatiba --- bibilis po 'yung trabaho natin na pag-restore ng power in the affected areas.

Dito naman po sa oil. Ito po ang status po 'no. So sinabi ko po kanina wala po tayong problema sa supply po ano. Makikita ninyo sa left columns Region IV, 17 days; 13 days for Region VI; Region VII, 18 days; Region VIII, 18 days; Region X, 59 days; and Region XIII, 13 days.

Ngayon, ang naging problema lang po natin dito sa fuel po iyon pong blending, kasi by law, we have to blend gasoline with ethanol 'no, 10 percent. Eh nagkaproblema po doon. So what we --- what we immediately did was to suspend it 'no, was to suspend the blending. Ang blending naman po nun para po sa energy security at saka sa environment.

And ang naging epekto rin naman doon, ipinasa natin sa tao 'yung savings 'no na kuwan doon dalawang piso so bumaba. And fortunately, tomorrow there will again be a reduction in price dahil bumaba po 'yung world market 'no. So this will --- makakatulong po ito para sa prob --- sa kahirapan ng ating mga tao, mga kababayan.

So today there are 215 outlets, gas stations closed 'no, damaged or either due to power load --- flooding and lack of manpower kasi hindi po nakarep - -- naka-report kaagad.

Iyong sa LPG po refilling plant in Region VII, 97 percent operational so wala po tayong problema sa LPG. All import terminals and depots are operational. So iyon po ang sinasabi natin na walang problema sa supply. Ang pag --- pag kuwan lang nun is 'yung logistic delays because of certain constraints on the roads, the vehicles, the vessels, and the ports.

And then the price freeze is in effect on household LPG and kerosene in the following declared areas of state of calamity: Region IV-B, VI, VII, VIII, X, and XIII. So nagkaroon po ng pila --- nagkaroon ng pila sa mga gas station, but 'yun po, again, naibsan na din po 'yung proble --- 'yung problemang 'yun.

Kanina po, tumatawag sa akin si --- ngayon tumatawag po sa akin si Governor Yap kaya lang hindi ko po nasagot dahil nga po nandito tayo't nag-uusap.

So ang actions taken, DOE is regularly in touch with the energy industry players for recent developments and requirements through the Task Force on Energy Resiliency.

DOE is --- ah ginagawa po natin ito, sabi nga po natin ito nauna na ito, ah 2018 i-finorm (form) na po natin itong programang ito. And here, these are the things that we did: preparation for the impact of Typhoon Odette; communication for updates and status and restoration activities, as well as logistic transportation; we had problem on right-of-way issues, hindi po makapasok 'yung mga repair people natin because 'yung poste nas --- may mga issue on right-of-way. But with the help of the LGU and the AFP, natapos din po 'yung problemang 'yun.

And then sa oil industry naman po, 'yung prioritization of the dispensing of petroleum products at the gasoline station. Kasi nga po sa kaguluhan binigyan po natin ng special lane 'yung mga public utilities, 'yung mga government vehicles and other responders. At 'yung --- itong overpricing po na-address na rin po natin.

On port issues of berthing and unloading of products in Bohol, Cebu, and Siargao Islands, malaki po ang tulong ng ating AFP, ng PCG, DOTr, tulong-tulong po, ganoon din po 'yung DTI 'no sa pagkontrol po ng presyo. And biofuels blending (ethanol), 'yun na po sinabi ko kanina, isinuspend (suspend) na po natin 'yan.

*[Next slide, please.]*

So ito pong way forward natin papaano po ba? Dahil lagi tayong binibisita ng typhoons --- para --- sabi ko nga po dito, para tayong nagtutumbang preso. Itatayo natin ang poste, babangon, itutumba ng bagyo.

So ang --- mayroon na po tayong nagawang plano rito. Sa DC, mayroon na pong circular ang departamento, 2018, nagawa po ito, January -001 entitled "Adoption of Energy Resiliency in the Planning and Programming of the Energy Sector to Mitigate Potential Impacts of Disasters" through the following: ginawa po strengthening of infrastructure, 'yung mga poste po natin sabi nga po either underground or 'yung mga poste po eh siguro ngayon --- noong 2018, ang pinag-uusapan po namin diyan 250 kilometers per hour. Siguro because of the lakas of the typhoon, we have to consider a minimum of 350 kilometers, ano po.

Iyon po namang stockpiling because nandiyan na rin po 'yan, nakaprograma na po rin dahil nga po nagkakaroon ng problema pagka may disaster na kailangan talagang may naka-stockpile pong petrolyo sa lahat ng ating localities po. And then, of course, the systems change and our emergency response and recovery. We have to really improve that 'no.

But overall, through your administration, Mayor, bumilis ang ating response 'no. Katulad nga po, example kahapon sa Cebu at saka sa Bohol, nakikita na 'yung pagtutulungan at saka sabi ko nga po sabi ko sa mga tao iba na ngayon ang AFP. Talaga --- talaga nag --- nagtutulungan at nagtatrabaho po ano.

And really happy na sa support that was given by the sen --- to us, by the uniformed --- uniformed men.

Iyon lang po muna, Mayor, and hopefully by January 10 or the latest, January 30, all will be already fully --- fully restored. Thank you, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Thank you, Secretary Cusi. Dito muna tayo kay Secretary Mercado. How many bridges were destroyed and 'yung naputol? Those that...

**DPWH SECRETARY ROGER MERCADO:** Good evening, Mr. President; Senator Bong Go; Secretary Medialdea; members of the Cabinet; at sa ating mga kababayan.

Mr. President, as of 12 today, there are only two sections of the road and bridges closed to traffic. Dalawa na lang po, Mr. President. And the most affected where Typhoon Odette has really made its severe damage is on the southwestern section of Cebu Province, Mr. President. It really severely damaged 1.5-kilometer section of the road along the Santander-Barili-Toledo road section, Mr. President.

And one is in Region IV-B. The bridge in --- 'yung isang bridge doon sa Puerto Princesa City 'no. So that is the major damage. Ito talaga, Mr. President, and it will --- we will try our best to open it in one week, Mr.

President, with a detour road to be constructed parallel within --- along the mountain side, Mr. President.

We are --- we are moving heaven and earth on this, Mr. President. *[So let's go to the next slide.]* The --- of the 47 roads closed, we have cleared 45 national roads, Mr. President. These are closed because of the damaged detour, collapsed slope and pavement, Mr. President.

*[Next.]*

So this is the status of our national roads. Two road sections are closed to traffic due to damaged bridge and bridge approach, fallen trees and electric/utility posts, debris, soil collapse, collapsed bridge abutment and pavement, washout revetment, and landslide in one in Region IV-B and one in Region VII, Mr. President.

*[Next.]*

That is the appearance now of the Tagburos Bridge in Puerto Princesa North Road, Mr. President. And as per my conversation with our district engineer last night, he promised that this bridge will be operational tomorrow, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** How do you propose to use it?

**SEC. MERCADO:** Again, Mr. President?

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Putol kasi. It's a damage and it has --- well, it has limited the mobility of people there. So when you say that it would be passable, how will you do it with that kind of picture in front of me?

**SEC. MERCADO:** Yeah, Mr. President, as of the moment, they are filling --- filling the gap with filling materials, Mr. President, and putting up a revetment wall 'no. And at the same time, they are channeling the river so

that the flow of the river will not hit the filled portion of the bridge, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** So you say that it will --- it will be passable that portion of...? Okay.

**SEC. MERCADO:** Yes, Mr. President. This will be passable tomorrow, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Good. I am happy. Again, I am full of happiness. May madaanan eh 'di okay.

**SEC. MERCADO:** We are really working hard because we understand that accessibility is really very important, Mr. President, and that is your marching order also, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Okay.

**SEC. MERCADO:** So this is one of the road sections that has borne the brunt of the damage, Mr. President, in Region VII, the Santander-Barili-Toledo Road specifically in Barangay Madridejos, Alegria Section.

As you can see in the images, Mr. President, the entire stretch of 2.5 kilometers was washed out because of the typhoon surge, Mr. President.

So the pavement is destroyed, the seawall destroyed, the --- there is a scouring. So this one, Mr. President, is the --- of the affected regions, this is the most problematic.

And our engineers are working hard, Mr. President. They are constructing the detour bridge --- detour road along this portion. And I told them to make it a little bit higher --- a little bit higher so that in case there will be high tide and some winds, it will not be affected anymore.

So... And they promised, Mr. President, that this will be finished in two weeks, Mr. President. Sabi ko one week, sabi nila, *"Sir, talagang kuan kasi it needs some bulldozing and talagang mahaba-baha rin, sir."*

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** You would be able to clear the area?

**SEC. MERCADO:** In two weeks, sir.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** And open to the public again?

**SEC. MERCADO:** Yes, sir. Yes, sir. Because the Governor Gwen Garcia also visited last night. And I talked to the district engineer. And I said, *"Please do something,"* because Governor Garcia was pleading that even light vehicles can already pass because the ultimate route or detour road is --- it will take two hours more before they can reach the other side.

So they have --- we have to do something about this and it is one of the priority challenges of our department, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Kaya mo 'yan. Kaya mo 'yan.

**SEC. MERCADO:** Yes, sir.

So that is the image now in Santander-Barili-Toledo Road located in the southwestern portion of the province. So you can see here the scouring. Some portion of the pavement is already lying along the coast to here. Even houses are damaged. And this one is really very sad to say --- to see this portion. People are walking already.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** It has carved a --- that side of the road, iyang sa right portion.

**SEC. MERCADO:** Yes, sir, this one. So one of the portions here, Mr. President, maybe here, it's not passable anymore, Mr. President. So we are

trying our best to put a little road sand --- a gravel road before we will construct.

And we need immediate funds to construct this road for permanent improvement, Mr. President, a little bit higher. So we have to construct seawall, and then concrete, then cross drainage and the like to protect it from another storm surge, Mr. President.

So I think we need P50 million, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Do you have the money? Wala?

**SEC. MERCADO:** Well, we will try our best, Mr. President. We are --- I am calling the planning and the finance and tomorrow we will --- will continue to scour for money and hopefully we can report to you that --- so that you will be happy, Mr. President. We will be resourceful.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Yeah. But, gani --- ang ano...

*[Off-mic]*

**SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" GO:** Sabi ng DBM puwede raw kunin sa QRF ng Disaster Fund. Qualified po 'yun doon.

**SEC. MERCADO:** Yeah, we have --- we have requested for augmentation fund, Mr. President, from our savings. But I think because of the damage, we will amend our request and provide funds for --- for this Santander-Barili road section, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** The Senator says that mayroon.

**SEN. GO:** QRF niyo po sabi ng DBM, puwede na hong kunin para ma-repair kaagad, Secretary.

**SEC. MERCADO:** Yeah. Thank you, sir.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** So, Oging, if you have the money, how long --- how fast --- how fast can you do it?

**SEC. MERCADO:** So, Mr. President, hindi --- hindi lalampas ito ng mga three to four months. Massive infusion of equipment and overtime of our contractors.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Four months.

**SEC. MERCADO:** Kasi talagang kuwan eh, may --- maggawa ka ng seawall, you have to negotiate for these owners pa dito, sir, i-transfer pa itong mga bahay. I do not know kung papayag ba sila. We have to...

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Are they built using the easements? Iyong bahay kasi malapit sa daan, there's an easement there. The houses are being erected.

**SEC. MERCADO:** Kaya nga, Mr. President, I issued a department order na making it to strictly implement the road right-of-way provision of the law and the no build zone. Kasi in a no build zone, no structure should be built within the 40 meters from the centerline going towards the shore.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** So the picture that you see, is there a violation there?

**SEC. MERCADO:** Yes, this one. They violated, Mr. President. They are within the 40 meters no build zone. And this one, they violated also because their -- the road right-of-way should only be 15 meters from the centerline, 15 meters before you can start construction. This one, it's very clear that they are within the 15 meters road right-of-way zone.

**SEN. GO:** Sir, may alternative route diyan? Wala na?

**SEC. MERCADO:** Baka kung ano, sir, baka dito tayo kung ano.

**SEN. GO:** Kasi kung dito sa coastal, kakainin din 'yan ng --- kakainin din 'yan nang ano, nang malakas na alon.

**SEC. MERCADO:** We will try our best to negotiate with them and convince them na mag-relocate na lang sila because I think talagang dangerous na ito dito, sir.

**SEN. GO:** Kakainin din ho.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Alam mo pag --- pagtayo nila, when they built their houses there, they knew that they were occupying the easement rights of government kasi ano 'yan eh, parang nasa shoulder lang 'yan, parang nasa shoulder lang ng...

**SEC. MERCADO:** At saka ito, Mr. President, hindi ito isolated. Almost all our islands, shorelines are experiencing these problems. Our people are building within the no build zone and within the road right-of-way kaya mahihirapan talaga tayo.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Alam mo contemporary times, ganito 'yan. Marami talagang mahirap na tao and they cannot erect houses on private lands because they will get sued and there will be a force removal by order of the court. So karamihan nito, 'yung bahay na 'yan mahal 'yan eh. Ang karamihan nito ang mga tao kasi will go to the roadside kasi 'yan lang ang puwede nilang gamitin na --- alam nila sa gobyerno.

So 'yan --- 'yan ang ginagawa nila. And iba --- itong mga bahay na ito, 'yun talagang pinakamahirap, those people living along --- just beside the highways, 'yun 'yung mga mahirap na walang ma --- malagyan ng bahay nila.

At dito naman, alam mo mahirap talaga, Oging --- mahirap talaga, Oging, 'yung ano trabaho mo kasi you are dealing with human beings at wala naman silang malagyan and they cannot be relocated.

So if you intend to destroy that, is there a relocation site for them?

**SEC. MERCADO:** We have to talk to our Secretary Del Rosario and GM sa kuwan --- Escalada, sir, of the National Housing Authority and the LGU also for the...

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Madali lang 'yan. Eh mabilis... I think that sila --- sila Ed and Escalada, are doing their best, that's before Odette. Now, ngayon, if we are --- if we are it --- cleaning the highways there, you have to evict so many people, walang mapuntahan.

Just like ---, there are two --- two ways of doing it: they occupy the roadside easements or nandiyan sila sa tubig, they --- they build houses along the banks of rivers. Kaya 'yan --- 'yan ang --- that's the but of the matter, frankly, ganoon ang nangyayari.

We cannot control because wala silang malagyan. At kung sisirain mo man, the long stretch of the road, maglipat lang 'yan ng layo-layo nang kaunti tapos ganoon rin ang mangyayari.

Alam mo you need to talk to the mayors and --- mayors, well, pati governors, but more importantly is how the mayor would govern his city or municipality kasi sila lang ang makaturo kung saan lilipat 'tong mga 'to.

Ang akin kasi, the --- I do not want to dismantle or to destroy houses unless there is a relocation site. Malaki nga ang problema mo diyan sa totoo lang. When you begin to bulldoze those houses there, you have a problem in your hands and that is a social problem actually 'yung...

Iyon ang --- that is the problems that would confront government from doing its duty to the fullest. Ganoon eh. Hindi man tayo --- hindi kayo nagkulang, kaya lang ang mga tao. These are human beings just --- you just destroy a house and leave them outside. Eh saan matutulog 'yan? Maghingì ka ng trapal?

Kaya kailangan mo ang mayor. Alam mo kung ang mayor kung ginusto talaga niya ang siyudad niya o munisipyo niya in order, he has to impose discipline. But for others, hindi rin talaga madala 'yang ano... I really do not know how.

Kaya in the Philippines, along the --- along highways all throughout, pati 'yung dito sa dagat, nandiyan rin 'yung mga – let's call a spade a spade mga squatters. Squatters but they are Filipinos, and their only fault is that they are poor and that is why we have to grapple with reality and how to go about fixing a place or building whatever infrastructure.

Mahirap. Kausapin mo muna 'yung mayor bago mo sirain maybe if we can find a relocation site. But I am not in favor of starting to dismantle the houses kasi, Secretary, ito 'yung mga nowhere to go. If they are driven out of the spaces along the highways they will look for a place to transfer to and invariably the --- the other option open for them is that to look for rivers and then they will start to build houses along rivers.

And that is why when these catastrophes happen, they are the ultimate sacrifice diyan. Wala kasi tayong malagyan. There are just too many people that are really very poor. Iyang makagawa ka ng bahay sa subdivision, so low, one out of 1,000. The huge crowd of masses, walang malipatan.

Ang mayor --- 'pag hindi pumasok ang mayor, mahirapan ka talaga. It's the mayor --- ikaw galing ka diyan eh. 'Pag sinabi ng mayor ganoon, gagawin talaga niya.

Hindi tayo puwede dito sa itaas because we know the problem, we know the lack of space, but it is the mayor who would look for a relocation site before you begin to destroy the houses, a place where they can transfer. But that would be another day to discuss.

You still have your report? Go ahead.

**SEC. MERCADO:** Sir, with your permission, can we talk to the mayor with our ---

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Yes.

**SEC. MERCADO:** With Secretary Del Rosario and GM Escalada, sir?

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Share the problem with them, not give the problem to them, but share our quandary na ganito nga tayo, once you open a new highway, immediately houses of the poor people begin to sprout alongside, that is what happens.

Kaya 'pag nagbaha nang malaki, maraming mamamatay diyan sa riverbanks or the coastal places where there are ma-ano kasi libre. Hindi naman mapigilan kasi wala namang mapuntahan. That's, I said, that's the quandary that we have to face. I don't know itong mga ganito, how you would handle it.

Yes?

**ACTING PRESIDENTIAL SPOKESPERSON AND CABINET SECRETARY KARLO ALEXEI NOGRALES:** Mr. President, sir, at this stage nasa ano na tayo, sir, nasa Post- Disaster Needs Assessment. So 'yung OCD po pati ang NEDA, will now be finalizing 'yung Post-Disaster Needs Assessment to find out ano 'yung mga pangangailangan natin for rehab and recovery.

So in our post-disaster, Mr. President, kasama na 'yung may subcommittee tayo on infrastructure and then may sub-committee rin po tayo on shelter.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Tanggalin mo 'yung mask mo tutal bakunado ka man kaya.

**SEC. NOGRALES:** Yes, sir.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Baka mahawa mo si Secretary Dar ha.

**SEC. NOGRALES:** So mayroon po tayong subcommittee on infrastructure and may subcommittee rin po tayo on shelter.

So tama po kayo, sir, 'pag ang --- during the needs assessment, makikita natin not only the infrastructure na kailangan nating ayusin, but also 'yung

mga paglilipatan ng mga matatamaan doon --- lalo na sa mga no build zones.

And very sir na, Mr. President, na 'yung LGU, usually 'yung counter parting diyan 'yung LGU po 'yung mag-i-identify ng malilipatan to transfer itong mga affected families and then 'yung shelter ibibigay ng ating national government. But ang counterpart talaga, Mr. President, 'yung LGU 'yung mag-i-identify kung saan lilipat and then tutulong sila doon sa paglipat, sir.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** These --- these are the same --- these were --- for the other presidents to actually clean the roadsides, the --- sa mga highways in the easement portion sa gobyerno.

That's --- it's six years, hindi mo kayang gawin. You know, you go to expropriation, tapos lalaban 'yan, then they go to a court and appeal, and you know until reaches the Supreme Court. Pagdating ng Supreme Court, matagal pa 'yan. And in the meantime, the problem gets serious and serious at almost beyond control. And that is the movement --- demography of people where they are and how they would stay there for how many years.

Iyan lang 'pag all --- lahat ng highway sa Pilipinas, nandiyan 'yan. And you have to go into a relocation, a huge undertaking. Mahirap. Milyon 'yan, 'yang nasa coastal. Iyong dito naman sa riverbanks pati 'yung --- 'yung mga areas where it's have been cleaned up by the logging and even the mining, makita mo diyan ang ano.

It's really... Gusto mong hintuin. Ako gusto kong hintuin 'yung --- nakikita ko kasi 'yung butas sa itaas. Whenever I fly in --- especially in Mindanao, makikita mo 'yung --- butas na butas, parang --- sa taas parang nakikita ko cork ng --- takip ng cap ng Coca-Cola.

Puro butas 'yan and again, you run --- encounter so many objections also coming from itong --- kung ano ang gusto nilang mangyari. Ewan ko. Hard to solve or it can never find a solution until all Filipinos are raised from poverty at makabili sila ng bahay.

And that would come in a long time. Ewan ko kung sinong makagawa niyan. Six years, kulang, kulang talaga. I don't know how --- how you would solve the problem. So go ahead, do you still have --- ?

**SEC. MERCADO:** Thank you, Mr. President. Iyon lang po, except that we are calling our people to drive safely kasi marami pa ring kaunting mga lubi, mga falls na kuwan so you have to be very careful.

At saka we are conducting also --- the department is conducting relief operation also, Mr. President, through their contribution, especially to the affected employees of our department. That's all, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT DUTERTE:** Thank you. Alam mo, itong --- kailangan ito kasi makinig 'yung tao eh. This is not a one --- a one show, eh the --- because it would take so many hours to complete. So let me just read my message to everybody, basahin ko na lang.

Good evening to all Filipinos here in the Philippines and around the world. I greet all of you a Merry Christmas even though we are in a state of suffering. Hayaan na lang natin 'yung anong --- lalo na 'yung mga tao ngayon natutulog lang sa mga kahoy pati mga plastic. Do not worry, dadating kami at we will try our best to improve the situation.

And last Wednesday and Thursday, I went to Siargao, Surigao City, Dinagat Islands, Palawan and Cebu. Well, I have been to the Visayas, 'yung lugar ni Secretary Mercado, Maasin. Diyan ako ipinanganak eh, 'yung ano niya --- at well, it's damaged.

I'd like to --- I'd like to show a clip of the places that we visited.

*[video presentation]*

**--- END ---**