

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE LAUNCHING OF THE DIGITAL INNOVATION AND
MODERNIZATION OF PHILIPPINE POSTAL CORPORATION**

[Delivered at the Manila Central Post Office in Manila | 19 May 2022]

Kindly sit down. Thank you.

Nakalagay dito sa briefer ko, "Mr. President, we are live on television. Huwag ho kayong magmura." *[laughter]* Hindi po, this is not the proper place to go into... Ano lang 'yun, sa labas lang 'yun.

Energy Secretary Alfonso Cusi; PCOO Secretary and Acting Presidential Spokesperson Martin Andanar; Acting Cabinet Secretary Melvin Matibag; Presidential Assistant for the Visayas Michael Dino; Senator Bong Go; Senator-elect Robinhood Ferdinand Padilla, yes sir; Civil Service Commission Chairperson Karlo Alexei Nograles; officials and employees of the Philippine Post Office led by Post Master General Norman Fulgencio; Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation President and Chief Operating Officer Alfred Lim; fellow workers in government; other distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen

My warmest greetings to the officials and stakeholders of the participating government agencies and to the [PHLPost Postmaster], as we launch the Digital Innovation and Modernization of the Philippine Postal Corporation.

Let me congratulate the PHLPost on its 30th Anniversary and its ensuing transformational and future-proofing journey, as demonstrated by the successful conduct of this launching.

The COVID-19 pandemic has opened avenues for innovative products and systems that cater to the needs of consumers in the new normal, where data and technology now drive the market.

The modernization efforts of the postal agency are indeed timely and relevant as it facilitates the efficient delivery of communications, payment of services, as well as goods and merchandise, especially now that industries and businesses shift their operations to more modern methods such as e-commerce and online transactions.

This endeavor will surely boost our global competitiveness and stimulate economic activities during the period of recovery and digital transition.

With the success of this project, I thus commend the PHLPost for ensuring responsive and people-centered governance, placing Filipinos at the heart of their operations towards building a high-trust society.

I also express my utmost gratitude to the PHLPost for supporting the administration's advocacies and development plan that are always anchored on Malasakit as one of its pillars.

In the past six years, this administration has introduced reforms to further empower government instrumentalities in ensuring the seamless delivery of basic services — all to build a more inclusive and sustainable Philippines.

In fulfillment of this administration's Ease of Doing Business agenda beyond my term, I hope that you will constantly explore innovations and strategies that will further streamline, develop, and improve government services to the people for greater efficiency.

May our pursuit for change and progress never cease to gain more momentum in the coming years, under the new leadership.

I likewise urge everyone at PHLPost to remain united and steadfast in your commitment to the nation as we enter a more progressive and prosperous future.

Bago ako magpasalamat, two things: one is that masuwerte tayo pinag-usapan namin ni Norman 'yung promotions ninyo dito. Marunong rin siya kaya pala niyaya niya si Civil [Service Commission] Chairman si Atty. Nograles. Sabi naman niya okay daw. Sabi ko bilisan mo lang kasi I said we are on the tail end of our administration. Our work is almost done. *[applause]*

Pangalawa — nawala man 'yung tinitignan ko kanina. *[laughter]* Doon banda pero mahina na ang mata ko. Ah nagpahangin lang pala. The second is the first thing that I uttered to Norman was I hope that these innovations, digital and all, will bring back the integrity of the Post Office.

Karamihan kasi dito — noon not now — many years ago 'yung the complaint of the public was that fundamentally 'yung mga packages nila nabuksan, nawala, all sorts of you know things that would make a person unhappy.

I remember I requested my mother to go to the Post Office in Davao to get a package. It was not about the Post Office actually. It's about the Customs. Fiscal ako noon and I was a Tanodbayan investigator. Wala pa ang Ombudsman noon. Ang ito 'yung Tanodbayan. I was one of the two prosecutors in Mindanao assigned as — Department of Justice kasi kami but we were deputized by the Ombudsman, dalawa kami. One was in Zamboanga I think another fiscal, another prosecutor.

Alam mo pagdating doon sa Post Office, ang nanay ko — alam nila fiscal ako and yet usual, the usual complaint that would make a Filipino disgusted with government. I'm referring to the Customs. Kaya when she came home, yawyaw siya siyempre babae. Sabi ko sa nanay ko *"kalimutan mo na lang 'yan."* Those are the things that are usually taken for granted.

Kaya noong na-Presidente ako sinabi ko talaga sa mga taga-Customs, *"P***** i** ninyo, don't f*** with me. Talagang yayariin ko kayo."* At hindi ninyo alam 'yan, far and wide in between the six years na Presidente ako, I think I dismissed about 200 pati kaibigan ko.

At 'yung pastillas sa Immigration naman maraming taga-Davao doon because at one time ang head ng NAIA was Mayor Respicio, 'yung tinalo ko. So Cory

appointed him as — diyan sa NAIA. Ganoon ang istorya diyan. Pero sinabi ko talaga sa kanila huwag na huwag. Kaya ako ayaw ko 'yang salubungin ako.

Iyong lahat na nag-pastillas doon ng Immigration, 'yung 42 tinawag ko sa Malacañan. Sinabi ko kay Bong, "*Magbili ka ng pastillas, Bong, tapos lagyan mo ng pera, 20 pesos will do, kasi pagdating nitong 42 na ito, ipapakain ko sa kanila.*" Ganyan ang sakit ko. Magpapakain ng tao ng...

Ang problema that night nandiyan na lahat dumating ito si Justice Secretary Guevarra, eh so... Ang plano ko lang noon ako, si Bebot — ah 'di si Morente, 'yung head pati si ES Medialdea. Sabi ko kay Bong, "*Pagbigay mo, sabihin mo sa kanila 'kainin mo'*" kasi hintayin ko. Naudyok noong dumating si Guevarra because the Bureau of Immigration is under the Department of Justice, kaya siya nandoon. Ganoon ako katindi.

At may isang undersecretary na nilugaw niya 'yung opisina. May isang agency dito nangangailangan ng 5 million. Alam mo ginawa ng p***** i**? Siya nagsabi, "*Ako ang magbigay, ibigay ko dito.*" So alam mo na kung saan, sa budget.

Tapos nagsumbong 'yung babae doon, sabi niya bigyan daw nila ako ng 6 million, kukunin nila 'yung 500,000. So noong nalaman ko, tinawag ko siya doon sa... At 'yung sa harap ko naka — may platform kasi diyan sa ano clubhouse, sinipa ko 'yung mukha talaga. Nandiyan si Bingbong kasi kasama niya sa law office noon. Iyan ang — extreme ano ako eh. Wala akong patawad diyan sa...

You know, all the years ng hirap ko sa buhay as a Tanodbayan special prosecutor, I had to tour Mindanao and do the trials despite of the fact that at the time delikado ang panahon. The NPAs were all around killing people as if nobody's business. Iyan rin ang ayaw ko sa NPA, by the way. Sumobra ang mga g***.

So 'yan ang tingin ko sa graft and corruption. I earned my spurs before becoming the [mayor] of Davao City for 23 years. Then I became a congressman, then I became the vice mayor of Mayor Sara, then bumalik na naman ako pagka-mayor, then eventually — sa awa ng Diyos wala akong talo – to the presidency.

Kaya alam ko `yung — hindi ko na lang pahabain. I know the entrails of corruption. Isang tingin ko lang malaman ko na kasi pagtingin ko lang sa — alam ko na kung ano. Nasanay ako eh araw-araw. Prosecutor ako ng Davao, special prosecutor ako ng Tanodbayan. Ang Tanodbayan is all corruption. Kaya `yang mga resibo-resibo ganoon... Kaya nga pag...

Pagpunta ko dito, sabi ko kay Norman, "*At least you will bring back the integrity of the Post Office.*" Wala akong duda. Mayroon man noon pero with the innovations now — ang problema lang, I must confess that I am really ignorant on all of these things.

Hindi nga ako maka — hindi ako makagamit ng cellphone, `yang digital. Doon lang ako sa `yung tulbok-tulbok, typewriter na maliit, `yung Nokia. Iyan lang ang gamit ko. Doon lang ako may alam. Kasi mag-practice ako — tinuruan ako ng anak ko — mag-practice ako, isang tulbok ko ng ganoon, tatlong letra ang lumalabas. Sabi ko kung ganito ang laro nito, hindi na talaga ako puwede, or the brain maybe does not really — hindi na receptive sa new learnings.

Kaya lang ako nandito, at I marvel at the innovations now pati `yung iganoon mo lang `yung card kagaya ang ginawa ni Tugade sa Clark. Wala talaga, `yun lang ticket mo. That's the only thing that you swipe and you're at the departure area na. Iyon ang magaganda, at pasalamat ako sa Diyos na inabot ko. Binigyan pa ako ng ilang taon na makita ko `yung, I said, the marvels of electronics and digital things.

Pero ako mismo, `yung explain nang explain si Norman, oo lang ako nang oo kasi wala talaga akong alam kung how it works `yung ano. Ang trabaho ko na lang ngayon magtingin ng magandang babae. *[laughter and applause]* Okay na ako. Tingin lang, hindi ako naga-abduct, hindi ako naga-ano, basta tingin lang kasi matanda na.

Itong aking — hindi na ito digital. *[laughter]* Iyong ano pa `yung — ano `yung p***** i**** — `yung luma, `yung ganoon. *[Senator Go: Analogue.]* Ah, analogue ako, I belong to the analogue generation. Pagka ganyan ka, talagang matanda ka na. So huwag kayong matakot kung magtitig ako sa inyo. Hanggang titig lang `yan. Pero kung magpakilala ka, okay man. *[laughter]* I would, of course, enjoy meeting...

Alam man ng asawa ko `yan kasi mahilig man gyud ako magtingin ng magagandang babae. Sabi ko huwag kang — hanggang diyan-diyan lang ako. Wala na akong balak na... Pero hindi ko na lang sabihin kasi magkabungguan tayo dito.

So 'yun lang ang message ko. Iyong promotion, then you must make sure help the Customs erase the itong lagayan, corruption. Norman says that he is going to build cameras everywhere. And that is good. Tama 'yan. Pati 'yung Customs must behave, actually. Ang Customs ang pinaka... Kaya nilagay ko puro mga military, at least ma-minimize.

Si Guerrero was the chief of staff. He was also the commander of Task Force Davao noon. So tao 'yan ni Inday, hindi akin. Pero mahusay, he's doing good. At least he's doing his best. Iyan lang naman ang sa akin eh. I do not expect you to go and perform miracles. All that I need is iyong talagang puso ang ilagay mo. Then if you succeed, good. If you are halfway through it, still good. Pero 'pag wala ka ng nagawa, kasali ka na. That's about it. If there is... If nothing happens, then you are a part of it.

So with that, I leave a message of... Isa na lang ito before I go, before I go out of the presidency — so you are a special crowd — let me, from the bottom of my heart, express my gratitude to you all for allowing me to journey the presidency for six years.

Alam ko na ang Pilipino bumoto sa akin. Huwag na nating pag-usapan 'yung walang bumoto. I served the country irrespective of each tribal division. Iisa lang and I did it. Makita mo naman ang infrastructures ngayon because when I was President, sinabi ko talaga sa mga — distribute the money equally lahat ng region whether I won in that place or not, bigyan mo talaga lahat.

Kaya nakita mo ngayon ang Pilipinas, everywhere you — there's an infrastructure and there's the ever, ever ending na no ending roads makita mo sa provinces. Those are the things, maliit lang na bagay. Kung mag-expect pa kayo ng more, I'm sorry, hanggang diyan lang talaga ang kaya ko. But still, I am very grateful to you for making me President of the Republic of the Philippines.

Maraming salamat po. *[applause]*

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