

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE INAUGURATION OF THE METROPOLITAN MANILA
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (MMDA) BUILDING COMPLEX**

**[Delivered at the New MMDA Head Office, Doña Julia Vargas Ave. cor. Molave St. in
Barangay Ugong, Pasig City | 23 May 2022]**

Thank you. Salamat po.

Ang aga naman akala ko may mga kanta-kanta pa, mga choir pa. [laughter] You know after the President talks, then it's all over.

Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea; National Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana; Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año; Metropolitan Manila Development Authority officials and employees led by Chairman Romando Artes; Senator Bong Go; Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa (RAM) Party-list Congresswoman Aloysia Tiongson-Lim, pleased to meet you; Caloocan City 2nd District Congresswoman-elect Mary Mitzi Cajayon-Uy, talaga ha tsk [laughter]. Hindi ka naman nakatawag, ma'am, busying-busy ako, just to congratulate you. So good as any other time bilib ako. Pero, ma'am, hintuan mo na 'yang padala ng pagkain. [laughter] Araw-araw na lang nakakahiya na eh. Puro "Mitz-Mitz". Saan ang bahay mo? Doon na lang ako magtira sa inyo [laughter] pagkatapos ko dito.

Rizal 3rd District Congressman-elect Jose Arturo Garcia Jr., sir; Pasig City Mayor Victor Riges Sotto; Mandaluyong City Mayor Carmelita Abalos, ma'am; Parañaque City Mayor Edwin Olivarez, yes, sir; Robinsons Land Corporation President and Chief Executive Officer Frederick Go; fellow workers in government; mga bisita; ladies and gentlemen

You know I have one and a half page of speech. Nakakahiya naman. It would take me about only less than two minutes to read this.

With great pride and honor, I join everyone in attendance as we inaugurate the new Metropolitan Manila Development Authority Building Complex.

As we can see around us today, it is time to congratulate the MMDA for the successful completion of its new home, which will provide everyone in the organization the space they need to function more efficiently.

Since we are nearing the end of my term, let me take this opportunity to thank you and commend the MMDA for its tireless service in addressing the needs of our people.

As if it was not hard enough, the COVID-19 pandemic made transport management, waste management, disaster prevention, and public safety in Metro Manila even more challenging.

What makes me proud is that, in the past two years, the men and women of the MMDA bravely and wholeheartedly took on their tasks in genuine service of their fellow Filipinos.

I expect that this building complex will encourage both officials and employees to continue working hard for a sustainable, resilient, dynamic and, most of all, people-centered MMDA.

In the coming days, we shall see just how helpful this project is in helping the agency achieve its goals.

It is my hope that the momentum that we have gained through this project, as well as in our other previous projects, will motivate other government offices and institutions to invest in similar undertakings.

Whether in the public or private sector, I strongly urge you to invest in safer and responsive infrastructure. I urge all of us to invest in our people and country.

Again, I congratulate the MMDA and everyone else involved in accomplishing this feat.

Wala na. [laughter] Sabi ko sa inyo, kita mo. [applause] [Senator Go: Naa si Mayor Ben Abalos ug si Secretary Lina] Ah oo, nakita ko nga Secreta --- Sir, Secretary Lina, Mayor Abalos. [Senator Go: Si Tatay, Mayor Ben Abalos, sir. Dati ring MMDA Chairman.] Sir, nice to see you. Bago ako bababa dito, just give me --- allow me the --- few sentences.

In a few days, I'll be out. I --- 'yung nagawa ko, para sa akin, iyon na 'yun. The best that my efforts can really achieve. Kung kulang pa 'yun, pasensiya na po, 'yun hindi ko na talaga kaya. The things that I failed to do mostly not because of negligence or may mga shortcomings ako but talagang time, I said, the six years would not be enough to finish all the projects.

At sa inyong lahat --- lahatin ko na lang --- pati 'yang TV networks, hindi ko na lang i-mention, basta lahat, maraming salamat po sa inyo and your help in my journey in the six years na binigyan ninyo ako ng honor maging Presidente ng Pilipinas.

Maraming, maraming salamat. [applause]

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