**OFFICE OF THE PRESS SECRETARY**
**News and Information Bureau**

**PRESS BRIEFING OF PRESS SECRETARY TRIXIE CRUZ-ANGELES**
**AUGUST 24, 2022 (12:12 P.M. – 1:01 P.M.)**

**ASEC. DE VERA:** Magandang tanghali, Malacañang Press Corps. Narito si Press Secretary Trixie Cruz-Angeles, kasama si DSWD Secretary Erwin Tulfo at DILG Secretary Benhur Abalos.

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Magandang umaga po sa inyong lahat. Ang pulong na ito ay pinatawag para mabigay po sa inyo ang update sa ating disaster response dito sa bagyo. Pero bukod pa noon, mayroon pa kaming dagdag na balita – si Sec. Benhur at saka ako – on other ongoing concerns.

So ang mga kalahok natin ngayong araw na ito: Secretary Benhur Abalos of the Department of Interior and Local Government; Secretary Erwin Tulfo of the Department of Social Welfare and Development; kasama natin si Undersecretary Raymund Ferrer, Administrator of the Office of Civil Defense; si Sir Jonathan Gesmundo, Department of Transportation; si Kristine Evangelista of the Department of Agriculture; at si Sir Mario Bautista, DSWD Undersecretary for Disaster Response.

So umpisa po tayo ngayon sa ulat ni Secretary Benhur Abalos…

**DILG SEC. ABALOS:** Salamat po, Secretary Trixie. Magandang umaga po sa inyo at of course sa ating media partners at sa lahat po ng mga nanunood.

Gusto ko lang ibalita na kaninang 6:30 ng umaga, dito po ito nangyari sa Roosevelt Avenue sa Quezon City, sa National Capital Region – nagkaroon ng buy-bust sa isang lalaking tao for Violation of Selling Drugs, Section 5; at Section 11 for Possession of Dangerous Drugs at ito ay higit-kumulang 25.5 o 25 and a half kilograms ng shabu. Ang street value nito is P173,400,000 'no.

Because of this I would like to commend the Quezon City District Drug Enforcement Unit. Of course ang Quezon City po is headed by General Torre of the Quezon City Police District and General Estomo of the National Capital Region. Nagpapasalamat po ako sa ating kapulisan.

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Sec., puwede nang diretso sa disaster response? Sec. Erwin…

**DSWD SEC. TULFO:** Yes. Magandang umaga po sa inyong lahat and thank you for inviting me over, Secretary Trixie.

Ang situation po natin sa Cordillera, Regions I and II ay humuhupa na ho iyong sama ng panahon doon. Ang report ho sa atin ng OCD as of 6 A.M. kanina from Secretary Faustino, mga panaka-nakang pag-ulan at saka iyong mga baha po – marami nang areas na wala na pong baha, nagri-recede na po. So sa reports naman po sa atin ng atin pong mga regional directors po sa CAR, Regions I and II ay umuwi na rin po, marami na pong kababayan natin ang umuwi na po sa kani-kanilang mga tahanan.

Binabantayan din po namin kasi may mga reports po kaming natanggap na may flooding din po sa Mindanao bagama't wala pong bagyo doon, iyong monsoon rains lang kung tawagin. Sa Zamboanga po ay nakauwi na po iyong ilang kababayan natin doon sa ilang barangay. Ganoon

din po sa Sarangani, binaha din po kahapon – apat po na bahay ang nawasak pero wala naman pong nasaktan. Nakatira ngayon o pansamantalang nanunuluyan iyong mga pamilya doon sa kani-kanilang mga kamag-anakan.

Nabigyan na po ng assistance or bibigyan na po ng assistance actually ngayong umaga ng amin pong DSWD Regional Office No. 12, iyong apat na pamilya pong iyon at bibigyan po bawat pamilya ng P10,000 na Assistance to Individuals in Crisis. Iyong pagpapakain po, kami po ang magsasagot po ngayong araw kasi kahapon daw po ay sinagot po ito ng local government unit kasi nga po eh iyan ho talaga ang 'ika nga, ang LGUs po ang mga first responders po natin.

Other than that, wala na ho tayong pagbaha pero may mga reports din po kaming natanggap sa isang radio station na mayroon daw pong pagbaha sa ilang barangay po diyan sa Daraga, sa Camalig at saka Sorsogon. Pinapa-check na ho natin sa ating regional director po doon and if ever, kung mayroon man po ay bababaan po sila ng ayuda.

For further briefing po, iyong mga kasama ko po ngayon – iyong aming Undersecretary for Disaster Management, si Undersecretary Marco Bautista.

Go ahead, Undersecretary. Can you brief them? Iyong actions taken, mga food packs na binigay natin.

**DSWD USEC. BAUTISTA:** Magandang umaga po sa inyong lahat. Itong DSWD po ay nakatanggap ng report dahil po dito sa Tropical Storm Florita, na-displace po sa Region I, II, III, CAR at saka itong NCR po mayroon tayong total affected families po na 2,213 families at ito po ay total na 7,616 persons po ito. At nagkaroon pa tayo ng preemptive evacuation po sa mga lugar na nagkaroon po ng flashfloods all over Northern Luzon kasama na rin iyong NCR na 620 families.

Nagkaroon po ng assistance po sa lahat ng area po na ito, from Region I, CAR, II, III as well as NCR at nagkaroon ng total assistance from DSWD as well as the local government units na P1,113,466,000 – na ito po ay naipamigay sa mga affected families as well as nasa evacuation centers natin. At nagbigay din ang LGU a total of P82,000 kasama po ito sa mga food packs po natin, mga hygiene kits saka clothing, kitchen kits sa mga evacuation centers po natin.

So, so far umaalis na po sila sa evacuation center at umuuwi na po sila sa mga kani-kanilang bahay po at wala na rin pong mga flashfloods so far po sa ngayon. So ito po ang [update] natin…

**DSWD SEC. TULFO:** What is important—let me just add to that. Awa ng Diyos wala pong reports maging ang OCD natin, NDRRMC and DSWD regional office po natin, maging ang mga LGUs po natin sa DILG wala pong casualties po tayo. Sa awa ng Panginoong Diyos, wala pong namatay, wala rin pong mga nasaktan – may mga na-displace lang po pero wala pong nasaktan dito po kay Florita kaya we have to be thankful po. Iyan lang ho ang maidadagdag ko.

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Secretary Benhur Abalos…

**DILG SEC. ABALOS:** Magandang umaga po ulit. Papakita ko po sa mga slides iyon pong ginagawa naman sa ngalan ng DILG – ng ating mga gobernador, mga alkalde sa iba't ibang probinsiya po na naapektuhan nitong bagyo.

Sa slide number one, kung makikita po natin… ito po ay preparedness ng mga LGUs sa operation, ito po'y tinatawag na Operation Listo 'no – protocols for typhoons. This outlines the actions to be undertaken before, during and after a storm. Most actions are to activate and mobilize the

barangay DRRMC. Ito si Mayor [unclear] with the members of the MDRRMC; mayroon tayong updates; other operation centers.

Slide number two, ito naman po iyong evacuation center – this is preemptive na ginawa sa Marikina ‘no. As of August 24, 8 o’clock A.M., a total of 1,806 families; 6,721 individuals were reported to be preemptively evacuated by the Marikina LGU in the seven regions mentioned earlier.

Slide number three, is the convening of the San Guillermo DRRMC in preparation of the Florita. On the ride is Governor Albano of Isabela leading the pre-disaster risk assessment meeting for Isabela Province.

Slide number four, ito naman po ay ang Tuguegarao Management Group and City General Services positioning barricades to close and forewarned commuters and motorists on impassable roads due to rise on water level in some areas.

Slide number seven, La Union two steps ahead during disaster – exhibiting forward thinking po ito, si Governor Rafael ‘Raffy’ Ortega David, kinonvene [convene] niya kaagad ang management team noong August 23 ng Provincial Risk and Reduction Management Office. They expedited the financial process to purchase additional disaster response equipment and logistics to ensure readiness ‘no. So lahat po iyan ay ginawa niya at as per report: equipments, vehicle drivers and utility personnel are on standby for possible deployment; food items and survival kits are also ready for augmentation.

So lahat po itong mga ito ay mayroon po silang mga pagkain na binigay and likewise I’m going to show to you another table, this is table on the annex. Nandiyan ba? Ah wala, okay. So ito lang, dadaanan ko na lang ano. Just so you will be notified kung ilan po ito.

- Sa CAR: Sa Mountain Province, ang family na na-evacuate ay 27 or 94 individuals; in Apayao, it’s 48 or 198 individuals – these are done by the LGUs ‘no.
- Sa National Capital Region, its 622 individuals or 175 families
- Region I: Ilocos Norte has 27 families and 118 individuals; Ilocos Sur, 65 families and 265 individuals; La Union has 105 families and 348 individuals.
- Region II: Cagayan has 446 families and 1,455 individuals; Isabela 406 families and 1,503 individuals; Nueva Vizcaya dalawa po na pamilya.
- In Region III: Aurora, 20 families or 73 individuals; Zambales 298 families or 1,100 individuals.
- Region IV-A: Rizal 187 families, 935 individuals.

Humupa na po ang bagyo, nagsisimula na po na mag-declog ng mga canals iyong iba ‘no, inaayos na po nila. Niri-report ko lang po ang ginawa ng DILG and of course ng mga governor, ng mga mayors po ng mga nasabing lugar.

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** All right. Maraming salamat, Secretary Abalos.

In the meantime, may we hear from Undersecretary Reymund Ferrer—padating pa lang, okay. From Mr. Jonathan Gesmundo from the Department of Transportation.

**JONATHAN GESMUNDO, DOTR:** Yes. Magandang tanghali po. We have gathered the situation and if any, damages na naapektuhan ang transport sector natin. We have four sectors of transportation – aviation, maritime, roads and railways. Okay.

Umpisahan ko po sa aviation. Generally speaking, there were no major damages in the airports.

- Tuguegarao Airport ay nag-release ng NOTAM (Notice to Airmen) that the airport will be closed since 8 A.M. today until tomorrow, 4 P.M.
- Vigan Airport reported a minor flooding at the runway.
- Basco Airport remains normal, there were just one cancellation from Philippine Airlines. Lingayen Airport reported flooding at the airport at the apron and some parts of the runway.
- Baguio Airport and Rosales Airport reported no damages.
- So there were just three cancellations of flights to Northern Luzon – one from PAL Express, one from Cebgo and one from Cebu Pacific.

On the railway sector, there were practically no major incident.

- LRT 2 no untoward incidents, normal operations.
- MRT 3, normal operations.
- PNR, there was suspension of operations from 12 noon to 2 P.M. due to flooding at Yuseco area in Manila. And then the Tutuban to Alabang, operations resumed at 2:30 P.M. There was also a cancellation of the trip from Gov. Pascual due to flooding at C3.
- All of the railway – PNR, MRT 3, LRT 2 and LRT 1 – experienced light ridership, kukonti lang ang pasahero.
- LRT 1, no significant effect.

On the road sector.

- EDSA Busway – the Inter-Agency Council for Traffic or IACT provided assistance to the passengers during yesterday's height of the typhoon that affected the NCR. So busway operations were normal.
- There were no reported damages in LTO and LTFRB in Regions I, II and III.
- There were reports of low volume of passengers, light to moderate traffic in NCR – this is at Commonwealth, Katipunan, Taft and the University Belt.

In summary, from 7 A.M. to 9 A.M. there was a report of low volume of passengers. The situation at eight stations were light to moderate. No stranded passengers were reported.

In region II at the height of the storm in the province of Isabela, there was a report of a road crashed involving a Victory Liner southbound from Tuguegarao which turned turtle after negotiating a dissenting portion of the national highway along Naguilian, Isabela. There was a report of two passengers died. A forensic probe is currently being conducted.

In Region IV, yesterday, this is yesterday. There is a heavy traffic reported. The rivers along Rodriguez and San Mateo welling up of rives. There is a landslide reported along Marcos Highway near ACHS Cabading and that is in Antipolo. There is also report of soil erosion in Sitio Calupa, San Luis, Antipolo and there is three obstruction in two barangays in Lucban, Quezon. As of 8:30 this morning, all roads and bridges are passable and no untoward, no reported road damages, this is in Region IV.

The LTO Law Enforcers are now on standby in case of any road emergencies.

In MARITIME. There were no reported damages to ports and MARITIME facilities. No suspension of port and vessel operations. All MARINA personnel and building facilities were properly secured. The Philippine Ports Authority reported no significant damage or effects on port operations. The Port of Pasacao in Camarines Sur, vessel operations resumed at 9:00 PM yesterday after trips were suspended by vessel operators due to rough seas.

The Ports of Bataan, Aurora and Northern Luzon are operating under full commercial operations since yesterday. Also, the ports here in Manila are operating normally. The typhoon has not affected the port operations in Cebu.

The Philippine Coast Guard has been in high alert since yesterday to provide assistance. Okay, that is the report of the situation of the transport sector specifically in Northern Luzon. Thank you.

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Maraming salamat, sir. Ma'am Kristine Evangelista from the Department of Agriculture.

**DA USEC. EVANGELISTA:** Thank you, Sec. Trixie. Magandang tanghali po sa inyong lahat. Sa agrikultura po, base po sa report na, initial assessment po ito na ginawa ng ating regional office. Sa Region I, ang Ilocos Norte po, 628 hectares ang affected na agricultural land, ito po ay 310 farmers po. Karamihan po sa mga lupa na affected ay rice lands, mayroon din pong kaunting high value, ito po iyong mga gulay. So, iyan po ang ating figures as of now, pero tuluy-tuloy po ang assessment na ginagawa ng ating regional office at pakikipag-ugnayan sa lokal na pamahalaan.

Mayroon na po tayong mga biologics, para po doon sa mga livestock raisers natin na apektado iyong kanilang mga inaalagaang hayop. Mayroon din po tayong mga rice, corn, and vegetable seeds para po sa ating mga magsasaka na nangangailangan po ng tulong. Mayroon po tayong quick response fund, pero ito po ay aayusin ng ating regional office sa tamang pagpapabigay kung anuman ang pangangailangan sa lugar.

Continues assessment po ang ating ginagawa ang if we will have to do Kadiwa, doon sa mga areas na affected para po makapagdala ng mga gulay para sa ating mga kababayan, iyon po ay ating inaayos din po sa ngayon.

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Thank you, Miss Kristine. Okay, before mag-question and answer. I-a-announce ko lang po na base sa office order ng Bureau of Customs. May mga transferred na ilang mga Customs officials pending investigation of their participation in an alleged importation that used—ito pending investigation of alleged smuggling iyong nakalagay po sa office order of sugar at Port of Subic. Ang mga personnel po na ito ay iyong District Collector ng Port of Subic, Marites Theodossis Martin. Iyong Deputy Collector for Assessment Maita Sering Acevedo, iyong Deputy Collector for Operations of the Port of Subic, Giovanni Ferdinand Aguillon Leynes. The Chief Assessment Division, Belinda Fernando Lim, ESSC District Commander, Port of Subic, Vincent Mark Solamin Malasmas, CIIS Supervisor-Port of Subic Justine Roman Silvoza Geli. Okay. Temporarily in-assign sila o trinansfer po sila sa Office of the Commissioner, while their investigation is ongoing, alright.

**ASEC. DE VERA:** Sec, si Sec. Abalos will have an update.

**DILG SEC. ABALOS:** I apologized 'no, medyo naputol iyong slide kanina, nagkaroon ng technical problem. But I would like also to commend Governor Matthew Manotoc of Ilocos Norte for acting here expeditiously. Nakikita po ninyo sa slide ngayon, Ilocos Norte. Kanya pong ginalawan kaagad ito, bago magbagyo, habang bumabagyo kamukha ng ibang LGUs, namigay din sila ng food pack at in fact, ang ginagawa na po sila ngayon ay naglilinis na po sila 'no.

Ganoon rin po ang Provincial government of Pangasinan through the instruction of Governor Ramon Guico III. Nagkaroon sila ng pre-disaster, tapos hindi lang iyon at tumulong rin sila sa mga

tao. So, LGUs being the primary responders, nandoon po iyong mga evacuees at of course they gave food packs here. Salamat po

**ASEC. DE VERA:** We are now opening the floor for questions to our panelist. Miss Vanz Fernandez?

**VANZ FERNANDEZ/POLICE FILES: S**ir, for DILG Benhur Abalos, Good afternoon, sir. Would the DILG like to give further statement on its called for LGUs to assist the DSWD on the distribution of education ayuda. And how's the arrangement so far for the DILGs directive for assisting the DSWD and would the DILG also like to request some potential assistance from local law enforcement units or maybe the PNP to keep order in the continued distribution.

**DILG SEC. ABALOS:** Thank you, this morning, Secretary Erwin and I signed up a memorandum of agreement relating the roles and responsibility of each department. Number one, the DILG would support the DSWD. Number two, all of the names of the beneficiaries, all will come from DSWD. Number three, the pay master, the money would not come from the Mayors, the Governors or the Barangay Captains, it will all come from DSWD. Now, what is the role of DILG? We will provide support in terms of additional manpower. If they need site, we will discuss this, we will provide additional sites and of course, ang Philippine National Police will be there to help them.

So, iyon lang ho. Kasi, before if you will recall, noong dati ayuda, noong nagkaroon tayo ng pandemya, hindi klaro eh, kaya kung minsan nagkakaturuan, nagkakasisihan. Si Barangay Captain, si Mayor ba, Gobernador ba, DSWD. Ngayon klinaro na po naming maigi. Inayos namin kung saan manggagaling ang pera, sino ang mag-a-identify. Mamaya siguro baka puwedeng i-explain din ni Secretary Erwin ang kanilang panukala. Sino ang puwedeng kumuha, 'no, that is their own policy kung sino ang qualified, who are disqualified.

At ang maganda rito is, if I am not mistaken, lahat ito ay online. Because with online registration, you could now regulate, there could be projections kung gaano na kadami and with these projections of numbers. We could now identify sites kung saang sites.

So, probably, I will give the microphone to Secretary Erwin for him to further expound on this, Ma'am. Thank you.

**DSWD SEC. TULFO:** Thank you, Sec. Ben. Tama po iyon. Kami po iyong magpi-payout. Kami po iyong mag-i-interview. Ang magiging role po ng LGUs, mga Mayors po, ipu-provide nila sa amin ay iyong mga staff nila sa MSWD saka CSWD. Sila po iyong first step po pagdating po ng beneficiary po. Ipipresenta nila po nila iyong kanilang mga documents, iyong kailangan lang po namin, dalawa lang iyong certificate of employment sa school and valid ID po to make sure na sila nga po iyon, iyong sa certificate of enrollment.

After that, kapag dumaan na po sa kanila, then kami na po iyong bahala, kami po iyong magi-interview, like anong trabaho ng magulang mo, kung estudyante po iyon, o kung ano ang trabaho ninyo, kung iyon ho ay magulang. And then, after that eh doon na po siya sa payout master namin, sa paymaster po namin.

Ang target po namin, kung kakayanin po, within ten minutes pagpasok na po niya ay makalabas na po siya, kasi less na po iyong documentations at saka iyong mga questions para mabilis po iyong beneficiary.

Doon po sa mga magulang, huwag na po ninyong isama iyong mga anak po ninyo na paslit na elementary, high school. Hindi na po natin kailangan, magpaparami lang po tayo ng tao doon sa lugar, number two, baka may ulan, maulanan, magkasakit pa. Number three, you still have to observe health protocols.

Kung kayo naman po ay may anak na college, hindi na po ninyo kailangang samahan iyong college na iyan o senior high school, puwede na po sila, dalhin lang po nila ang certificate nila at saka ID. Kung may mga kapatid po sila, dahil na rin po nila, sila na lamang po. Iyong mga anak po natin na senior high school or college. Pero kung iyong anak ninyo ay high school, grade 7 to 10, puwede po iyong magulang na lamang, iyon po ang pakiusap po namin. Kaya, huwag po kayong matakot, marami pong natatakot na baka mamili na naman, mapulitika na naman. Hindi po, ang DSWD po ang mag-i-interview sa inyo at DSWD po national ang magbabayad po sa inyo. Hindi po ang local government, so wala pong palakasan dito. Tama po, online lamang po ang tatanggapin muna namin ngayon, iyong mga nag-register online or di kaya sa QR code or iyon pong SMS, magpapadala po kami. Kapag nag-register po kayo, magku-confirm po kami kung saan po kayo pupunta, payout center, para ng sa ganoon ay mas mabilis po, mas madali at hindi po magulo.

**DILG SEC. ABALOS:** Sir, if I might add lang, because this is very, very important. Ayaw naming madagsa eh. This will be every Saturday, may apat pa yata. So, huwag kayong mag-aalala, kasi kung minsan nagmamadali ang lahat and we need media here to inform our, mga kababayan na online and aside from that, to make sure ma-control namin ni Secretary Erwin, lalagyan namin ng letters, whose family name, start with letter A, B or C or D ‘no. We will determine it later kung hanggang saan letra lang muna. Para hindi madagsa ng husto, ‘no. Kasi we just came from typhoon, may bagyo lalo na iyong mga bumabagyong mga lugar po rito.

So, this is quite important na sana malaman. At siguro, Secretary Erwin, masabi mo rin kung sino ang disqualified, dahil maraming disqualified, hindi lahat puwedeng tumanggap, ito po ay pinag-aralan ng DSWD, sir pakisabi lang.

**DSWD SEC. TULFO:** Tama po iyon, may mga nabanggit na po kami sa aming website iyong puwede pong tumanggap ng educational assistance tulad po ng anak ng mga OFW, PWDs, kung iyong mga magulang ay may sakit, iyong mga estudyante po, iyong mga bata po na in crisis situation, sila lamang po. Iyong 4Ps po, hindi ho kasama na po rito, hindi na po sila kasama, kasi 4Ps itself is educational assistance na po iyon, so hindi na po kasama iyon.

Pangalawa, iyong mga mayroon na pong mga scholarships po sa mga Governor, kila Mayor, sa mga Congressman, sa mga government agencies, hindi na rin po, dahil magdudoble-doble. Ang purpose lamang po nitong educational assistance para po doon sa mga bata na kailangan po ng mga school supplies and at the same time or pambayad po ng school fees. Iyon lamang po ang pupuwede.

Now, iyong tanong, papaano iyong mga nakakuha ng 4Ps, iyong mga pumila sa 4Ps at nakakuha, yes po, ire-refund po natin, pero hindi pa po natin inaasikaso iyan ngayon, probably around October or November pa po namin maasikaso para sa refund, pero kung magri-refund man ho ay hindi po natin bibiglain. Kunwari nakakuha si 4Ps beneficiary ng P3,000 para sa anak niya, uutay-utayin po natin iyong pagbabalik po sa amin, probably, ikakaltas po natin iyan doon sa kanilang matatanggap na bayad every two months, doon po namin kukunin iyan.

**ASEC. DE VERA:** Vans Fernandez has a follow-up question.

**VANZ FERNANDEZ/POLICE FILES:** Yes, sir. Are you aware of this certificate of enrollment buying in some public schools like they have this P180 per certificate and P50 from other schools?

**DSWD SEC. TULFO:** No, ma'am. We are not aware kasi po DepEd po iyang magha-handle pero we will relay the information siguro to the Secretary, to Vice President Sara. I'm sure she will have it investigated soon kapag nalaman.

Kaya nga po binawasan na ho namin, inalis na ho namin iyong indigency kasi pinagkakakitaan, sinisingil po ng P80-P100 sa barangay kaya tinanggal ko ho iyon. Certificate of enrollment na lang at saka ID pero kung ganoon ho, aba eh hindi ho magandang balita ho iyan na pinagkakakitaan na naman pala ng school iyong mga certificate of enrollment ho na iyan. But thank you for bringing that to our attention. We will relay that to Secretary and Vice President Sara Duterte, ma'am.

**VANZ FERNANDEZ/POLICE FILES:** Sir, last question na lang. Are we expecting a smoothing of this continued distribution after the chaotic start of the distribution of this ayuda?

**DSWD SEC. TULFO:** Hoping and praying, ma'am, for the best na this coming Saturday, though we're still expecting na may mga kinks and glitches pa rin kahit papaano, it will not be perfect pero at least ho dahil sa distributed po ito sa mga cities and mga municipalities, marami na pong payout centers. So, we expect na madi-declog na po iyong mga lugar, hindi na po magsisiksikan. Pero we will still be on the lookout for any adjustments and finetuning po para this will run for five Saturdays starting po this coming Saturday and ang suggestion nga po ni Secretary Benhur, "Baka puwede, Secretary, gawin mong alphabetical. This coming Saturday, letter A to E siguro para hindi tayo dagsain" which may punto po siya. Na-experience na raw ho nila ito, na-testing na nila sa Mandaluyong. So, ganoon ang gagawin natin. Online registration pero alphabetical ho siguro muna, iyong A to E then iyong susunod po F to letter K. Ganoon ho ang gagawin natin para mas maayos po ang 'ika nga, pamimigay ng ayuda.

**VANZ FERNANDEZ/POLICE FILES:** Sir, how much is the total amount that you have distributed na?

**DSWD SEC. TULFO:** P154 million, ma'am for the 53,000 students. Ini-expect po namin, ma'am, mga hanggang 375,000 to 400,000 students nationwide na really in crisis ang magbi-benefit po sa P1.5-B na educational assistance, ma'am.

**VANZ FERNANDEZ/POLICE FILES:** Thank you, sir.

**IVAN MAYRINA/GMA-7:** For Undersecretary Evangelista, ma'am. Karaniwan pong nangyayari pagkatapos ng bagyo ay nagkakaroon ng pagkaipit ng supply ng mga gulay at iba pang mga naapektuhan sa bagyo at tataas po consequently ang presyo. Do we see that happening today, I mean in the next few days or weeks?

**DA USEC. EVANGELISTA:** Well, sir, base po sa report ano, what we're looking is the supply situation first sa Ilocos Norte because hindi lang naman po ang Ilocos Norte ang ating source dito sa Metro Manila. Since we are looking at only 220 metric tons of which two metric tons lang po ang gulay dito, the rest is basically rice. So, iyong gulay natin dito sa Metro Manila ay hindi ho natin inaasahan na gagalaw ang presyo dahil po doon sa bagyo at doon sa effect sa Ilocos Norte at this point.

**IVAN MAYRINA/GMA-7:** Iyong Cagayan sabi po nila marami po sa magsasaka doon ay mag-aani na sana ng mais. Ano ho ang magiging potential impact nito sa supply at sa presyo?

**DA USEC. EVANGELISTA:** Well, the regional office already alerted iyong ating mga magsasaka kapag mayroon po tayong mga ganitong sitwasyon para kung ano ang puwede nilang ma-save bago dumating ang bagyo, iyon po ang sana ay ating direksiyon. Now, in the event na mayroon po talagang mga tinamaan, aside from iyong seeds para po sila ay makapagtanim ulit, titingnan po natin kung ano ang effects sa supply situation again not only in the region but the overall demand ng corn as far as the industry is concerned. So, these are the things that we are looking into right now, sir.

**IVAN MAYRINA/GMA-7:** One last please, Sec. Trixie, ma'am.

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Yes po.

**IVAN MAYRINA/GMA-7:** Patuloy po iyong mga pag-exercise natin ng visitorial powers sa mga warehouse. Umabot na po, wika ninyo, ng Mindanao iyong pagbisita natin sa mga warehouse. Are we already at that point na we've found enough of this hoarded sugar na puwede nating i-plow back into the market para ho mag-self correct ang presyo?

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** We have to see kasi 'di ba binibigyan natin ng pagkakataon sumagot iyong mga may hawak ng mga warehouses at saka iyong mga consignees o iyong mga may hawak ng asukal mismo, iyong mga may-ari. So, hindi pa po tapos iyong mga periods na iyon, hintayin po natin. Iyong iba kasi we assumed that they're legal or legit. Kung kunwari, hindi siya smuggled, iniimbestigahan din iyan kung hoarded. So, iimbestigahan din iyan ng DTI at saka ng Sugar Regulatory Administration. So, bigyan pa natin po nang kaunting panahon bago natin ma-determine iyan.

Ang mahalaga po ay nakikita natin iyong tunay na estado ng merkado natin. May asukal ba talaga diyan? Paubos ba talaga nitong end of the month? Kung hindi naman at mayroon naman palang asukal diyan pero for some reason ay hindi nailalabas, legitimate or not, then at least makikita natin, maku-compute natin kung tama ba iyong pag-i-import natin at kung tama iyong pag-compute natin sa importation natin.

**IVAN MAYRINA/GMA-7:** Thank you.

**MARICEL HALILI/TV5:** Magandang hapon po. Sec. Trixie, follow-up po doon sa sugar. Iyon po kasing small supermarket, umaaray po sila kasi hindi daw nila kayang sabayan iyong mga malalaking supermarket na magbenta ng P70 na sugar per kilo, so they're asking for the assistance from the government para kahit papaano ay kayanin din nila. Ano po iyong puwedeng gawin?

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Sa ngayon kasi dahil boluntaryo lang naman po iyong pagbaba ng presyo ng mga malalaking supermarket at may limited period po ito. Halimbawa, iyong sa SM – while supplies last lang. So, in this case—pero kasi hindi ko hawak now, pero iyong iba kasi ay may limited period lang talaga sila. So, after that period babalik na tayo kung ano iyong dikta ng market natin. So, if panandalian then we might not need to respond kasi makakabenta sila when the period expires. Pero kung ma-extend ito or the President or iyong masyadong dire iyong magiging effect sa kanila, then magriresponde ang ating gobyerno. Asahan ninyo po.

**MARICEL HALILI/TV5:** Thank you, ma'am. For Sec. Erwin, clarification lang po. You've mentioned na of course kinu-consider na baka puwedeng alphabetical order na lang and ma-register iyong mga tatanggap ng ayuda. Ibig pong sabihin, bawal na iyong walk-in?

**DSWD SEC. TULFO:** Yes, ma'am, iniiwasan ho natin na iyong walk-in muna kasi kailangan ho nating ayusin, kailangan nating i-fine tune ho ito kasi inaasahan ho namin na kapag nagka-walk-in ho ulit, ma'am, ay dadagsa po iyong tao. Besides, ma'am, tinitingnan ho namin right after that incident Saturday over the weekend hanggang Monday po hanggang kahapon pinag-uusapan ho namin ng cluster namin na halos lahat naman po ng Pilipino, ma'am, ay may cellphone na po. Kahit saan ka pumunta – kahit sa mga fisherfolks, mga magsasaka may mga cellphone na po sila, pati po iyong mga nasa bangketa, ma'am, iyong mga tao na nasa lansangan ay naka-cellphone po sila.

So, I don't see any reason bakit hindi po sila makapag-register. Hindi lang naman po online, ma'am, kasi mayroon din kaming through SMS, mayroon din namang through QR Code. So, I think kaya na ho ng mga kababayan natin na through online registration, ma'am.

Another thing, ito nga po iyong target po ng administrasyon na ito, umpisahan po dito, with this administration iyong digitalization ng government agencies sa pagbibigay ng ayuda. So, I think this is a better way to start this practice, ma'am, na through online registration para little by little po ay ma-adopt na po ng mga kababayan iyang digitalization po ng government system.

**MARICEL HALILI/TV5:** Salamat, Sec.

**ACE ROMERO/PHIL. STAR:** Magandang hapon po. Kay Sec. Trixie, regarding doon sa Customs personnel na nilagay ngayon sa Commissioner's Office because it's in Subic. But then, there are also other raids in other areas. Do we expect movement of personnel as well as in other Customs District because of recent developments na may nakita kayo sa mga iba't ibang warehouses?

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** There are other activities pertaining to the exercise of visitorial powers. Yes, tuluy-tuloy po iyon. Kung may ebidensiya po. Gusto kong i-emphasize dito na if there is sufficient evidence, kunwari nakikita natin na may basehan para sa imbestigasyon ay iimbestigahan sila and kapag sufficient na iyong ebidensiya, reasonable na iyong amount ng ebidensiya then subject to administrative proceedings na sila. Ang pinakamatinding penalties sa administrative case, alam naman po natin ay dismissal from office pero without prejudice to criminal charges.

**ACE ROMERO/PHIL. STAR:** Sa ibang paksa kung pahihintulutan, Sec, hihingi lang kami ng details doon sa mga bagong appointees sa iba't ibang agencies like PLLO (Presidential Legislative Liaison Office), PAGCOR, at iyong iba pa pong mga nanumpa recently.

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Hindi pa po na-release sa akin iyong buong detalye. Asahan ninyo po mag-issue kami ng statement as soon as matanggap ko na.
**ACE ROMERO/PHIL. STAR:** Salamat po.

**CAT DOMINGO/ABS-CBN:** Good afternoon po. For Secretary Tulfo, sir, clarify lang po namin because the Cagayan PDRRMO says there are three people who were injured due to the typhoon.

**DSWD SEC. TULFO:** Latest po siguro iyan, ma'am, kasi iyong reports na natanggap po namin ng disaster management po namin ay around midnight po kagabi at saka iyong sa OCD po kay Secretary Faustino. Baka hindi pa po naku-collate, nari-report directly ng LGU sa OCD. I was just

basing my report po from OCD kanina naman pong 4:00 AM po nagpadala si Secretary Faustino. I don't know kung what time po iyan. But that's a good point, ma'am, I will have to, after this, I will inform Secretary Faustino of OCD and then I will inform our DROMIC (Disaster Response Operations Monitoring and Information Center), our regional director also regarding that matter.

**CAT DOMINGO/ABS-CBN:** Salamat for clarifying, sir. For Secretary Abalos. Sir, there has been a state of killings in various areas in Metro Manila and nearby provinces. What is the DILG's order or marching order on this, sir?

**DILG SEC. ABALOS:** Well, I had a talk with the new chief [of PNP], Jun Azurin. I asked him to give a report to me, kasi of course may mga lumalabas sa kung ilan-ilang mga media 'no. I just want to make sure ano ang tama nito; are these true, are these fictitious and give me that report so that maski papaano ay mai-report naman natin kaagad ito sa publiko. So, I'm just waiting for that report.

**CAT DOMINGO/ABS-CBN:** So, no word yet, sir, kung kailan natin kailangan mag-raise ng particular alarm for Metro Manila or other provinces.

**DILG SEC. ABALOS:** Well, I'll have to see the report. Pero ang nakikita kasi na kumakalat, he informed me, he gave me numbers at sinasabi niya sa akin na there were some that were they're about years ago, months ago, niri-rehash daw, etc. So, it will be hard to comment on something that we do not have the numbers yet. What is important is we get the numbers and then let's hear it straight from the PNP.

**CAT DOMINGO/ABS-CBN:** Last question for me for Secretary Trixie. Ma'am, yesterday the President met with officials from NFA, if I'm not mistaken. May we get more details about that meeting?

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Wala pa po. It was primarily a discussion determining the state of affairs and what can be done about it. So, kapag nalantad na po, mayroon nang policy result dito i-announce ko po, promise.

**CAT DOMINGO/ABS-CBN:** Thank you po.

**ASEC. DE VERA:** We have one question from Sam Medenilla of Business Mirror for DA: Magkano na po kaya ang total estimated damage caused by tropical storm Florita sa agriculture nationwide?

**DA USEC. EVANGELISTA:** Well, right now po mayroon tayong figure coming from Ilocos Norte. Again it's an initial assessment. So we are looking at three million po ang damage as of now. But continuous assessment, so we will also see if other regions are affected as mentioned awhile ago. We are also looking into Cagayan if there are any damages that have to be reported.

**KRIS JOSE/REMATE:** For Secretary Abalos, sir, may iba't ibang crimes na po, may dinudukot, ginagahasa and pinapatay. You think it's about time na i-revive na po iyong death penalty?

**DILG SEC. ABALOS:** May kaniya-kaniya tayong pananaw tungkol sa death penalty if it is a deterrent or not. Ako mismo ay may personal na paniniwala dito. But what is important right now is to make sure that not only the police but all will move. Importante ang peace and order sa atin.

Kamukha noon sinabi ko sa inyo about the drugs, siguro nakita ninyo naman sunud-sunod ang ating paghuhuli ng mga drugs ngayon. Before it was in San Fernando. The other day iyong PDEA ang dami, halos billions. Ngayon, ito na naman kaninang umaga, also sa drugs. Iyong sinasabi ninyo about these crimes na nangyayari ngayon, kasi ang importante talaga is we get the real figures. Mahirap kasi iyong may mga lumalabas-labas na kuwento na hindi natin nabi-verify.

So, don't you worry, I'll be presenting next week or in the next coming days ang Chief mismo, ang PNP to give you the real numbers of what's really happening here. Pero we're here, we're on top of the situation, we're trying our best sa lahat. Lalo na ngayon nagpapasukan na tayo, nag-open na tayo ng mga klase.

**Q:** Secretary Abalos, may balak po ba tayo regarding pa din doon sa sunud-sunod na nangyayaring krimen po, may balak po ba tayong paigtingin iyong police visibility po sa lansangan o paigtingin iyong seguridad po sa iba't ibang bahagi ng bansa? Ano po ang assurance ng gobyerno sa publiko pagdating po dito sa anti-criminality po marami po kasi ang nangangamba ngayon sa kanilang seguridad?

**DILG SEC. ABALOS:** Yes, ito lang ang maa-assure ko sa ating mga kababayan, huwag kayong mag-alala. Noong ako ay naitalaga bilang DILG at ako ay bumisita dito sa Camp Crame, ang unang sinabi ko is police visibility. Importante rito lahat ng kapulisan ay nasa labas ng kalye. Noong araw, noong bata pa ako ay may mga patrolman na nakikita mo nandiyan sa kalye.

So, siguro hindi lang iyon. Kailangan natin ng multiplier factor dito which is the barangay. Importante rin ang barangay kaya nga iyong mga BADAC natin dito, iyong mga peace and order council. Mamayang hapon ay kakausapin ko ang mga barangay captain, nandiyan sila sa SMEX Convention. Magtutulungan tayo rito.

Ang mga pulis, ang mga barangay lahat po ito. Huwag po kayong mag-alala rito, as I've mentioned a while ago we will give you the real numbers here, papupuntahin ko and expect more police visibility. Thank you.

**ASEC. DE VERA:** Thank you very much Secretary Trixie Cruz-Angeles, Secretary Erwin Tulfo, and Secretary Benhur Abalos, and officials from DA, DOTr, and DSWD. Marami hong salamat Malacañang Press Corps.

**PRESS SEC. CRUZ-ANGELES:** Thank you.

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