PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE PRESIDENTIAL NEWS DESK

MEDIA INTERVIEW BY PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR. FOLLOWING THE OPENING OF THE 2024 NATIONAL PEACE CONSCIOUSNESS MONTH AND THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 28TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1996 FINAL PEACE AGREEMENT WITH THE MORO NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT [Held at the Ceremonial Hall of Malacañan Palace | 02 September 2024]

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Good morning.

MR. IVAN MAYRINA (GMA-7): Good morning, Mr. President. Masama na naman po ang panahon. Ano ho ang inyong utos sa mga national agencies, local governments, and the general public?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Well, we --- pagka may ganito mayroon na kaming standard operating procedure na sinusundan na lang natin. Of course, the main element here is we are monitoring kung ano ba talaga ang weather situation and, of course, 'yung flooding. Pero so far, 'yung problema 'yung hangin, malakas ang hangin. But, unfortunately, 'pag tinitingnan natin 'yung mga forecast, baka mas lalakas pa bukas dito sa Manila bago aakyat at tatawid ng Cagayan bago mag-head ng north.

So, we are watching it. Ang tinitingnan lang natin sa eskwela, siyempre iba. The LGUs also make – iba-iba --- the LGUs make their own decision with that except if there is a region-wide assessment na hindi pwedeng pumasok.

Sa trabaho naman, ang tinitingnan lang namin ay kung makapunta 'yung mga empleyado natin, makapasok, at makauwi. Importante makauwi kasi 'pag mahirap 'pag ma-stranded sila doon sa kanilang pinag-tatrabahuhan. So, that's what we are watching now.

And we're prepared for the aftermath of all of these. As usual, nag-forward placement na tayo ng mga pangangailangan. We will just have to wait for the weather to see what it will do. Hopefully, umiwas sa atin. But even if it does not, we have all the elements in place to support our people na magiging --- mahihirapan dahil nga dito sa naging Bagyong Enteng.

So, we are just watching it and we are trying to adjust. We leave a lot of the decision-making to the LGUs. And to the regional offices because iba-iba ang sitwasyon. So, but as we go on to the rest of the day – wala nang trabaho ngayon --- we will see… We will try to give the bulletin as early as possible for work and school tomorrow. Ang instruction ko sa kanila, kung maaari bago tayo matulog, alam na natin kung may pasok bukas o hindi para makapag-adjust naman 'yung mga tao.

MR. MAYRINA: Pupulungin niyo po ba ang NDRRMC today?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: I'm sorry?

MR. MAYRINA: Are you going to meet with the NDRRMC?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: No, they are working. Alam mo that's always my policy. Hindi ko...

Pagka nasa gitna ng krisis, hindi ko sila tinatawag dahil nagtatrabaho sila. Besides, wala namang – they keep reporting naman to me at very --- 'yung sa specific areas, doon lang naman nagbabago.

As a whole, nationwide, region-wide, island-wide – kung ano man ang area na affected that's we are monitoring and we will give the advisories as quickly as we can. So, doon kami pumapasok sa national government. That's when we come in and make the advisories as to whether or not may pasok sa eskwela, may pasok sa trabaho.

All right. Thank you!

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