

PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
PRESIDENTIAL NEWS DESK
Ref: PCO Dir. Robertzon F. Ramirez

**MEDIA INTERVIEW BY PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR. FOLLOWING THE
INAUGURATION OF THE STBATTALION (STB) GIGA FACTORY**

[Held at the StB Giga Factory, Filinvest Innovation Park, New Clark City Phase 1, Clark Special Economic Zone in Capas, Tarlac | 30 September 2024]

Q: Sir, directives niyo po sa bagyo, sir? Kung ano po ang preparations natin.

PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.: I think you know as much as we do. It started --- I was supposed to go to Ilocos yesterday pero wala na iyong weather sumama na nang husto, bagsak na 'yung ulan.

So, we are just watching it and seeing what will be needed pagkatapos pagdaan ng bagyo. Hanggang sa ngayon mayroon lang talagang --- we're still having to wait for the water to come down and to do everything for the water to come down.

Pero hindi pa ito... Mag-intensify pa ito. So, we'll have to watch until it's finished.

Q: Mr. President, may napili na po ba kayong papalit kay Secretary Abalos sa DILG?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Oo, yeah.

Q: Pwede na pong pangalanan?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: That's premature. Wait, wait. Pabayaan muna natin si Secretary Abalos na mag-ano bago naman natin... I don't want him to feel that we are already pushing him out. Since considering --- especially that he has done such a good job as DILG. So, when he will file, we will also announce his replacement.

Q: Pero, sir, ilan 'yung nasa shortlist?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: I'm sorry?

Q: Ilan po 'yung nasa shortlist ng papalit?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Kakaunti lang. Kakaunti lang. Kakaunti lang. Now, there are two.

Q: Mr. President, would you like to react? Your sister wishes to stand alone for running as a re-electionist.

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Yup, that's fine. That happens. I've run as an independent myself many times. And so, that is her choice.

I suppose that gives her a little bit more scope and freedom to make her own schedule and to campaign in the way that she would like to do.

But you know, the Alyansa is still behind her. We are still continuing to support her. And if down the road she chooses to join us in our campaign sorties, she is of course very welcome. Yeah.

Q: Mr. President, are we expecting more investment?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: I cannot... One at a time.

Q: How proud are we inaugurating this facility --- a first of its kind?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Well, I didn't --- well, I did...

You know we are proud that we got it done. But I'm quite impressed with the StB Giga that they were able to do this in the short time that we had. Marso lang namin pinirmahan ito, nandito na anim na buwan.

And look at the extent, and this is one --- this is the first of only three --- this is only the first of three buildings.

So, the investment is a major one. And it is a major investment in a very critical industry.

Siguro, mula noong ako'y umupo, naririnig niyo na akong nagsasalita tungkol sa batteries, tungkol sa EVs, sa electrical vehicles, tungkol sa renewables.

Well, ito na ito. We actually managed to do it and with our partners from StB Giga and with the very strong alliance that we have with the government of Australia.

But again, this is again a perfect example of... Kaya namin laging napapag-usapan yung PPP dahil ganito ang maaaring gawin kapag nag-PPP. Together government at saka private sector ay nag-uugnay at pareho, nagsasang-ayon kung ano 'yung kailangang gawin. Kaya't mabilis itong nangyari.

And yes, we're very... I'm certainly very happy and I'm very proud for all of those who are involved in the day to day that brought this day about. All right. Salamat. Salamat po.

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