

PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE
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MEDIA INTERVIEW BY PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.
FOLLOWING THE SITUATION BRIEFING ON TROPICAL STORM KRISTINE
[Held at the NDRRMC, Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City | 23 October 2024]

PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR.: Good morning. Well, siguro naman napanood ninyo. Ganoon din, what –essentially what we are doing is going through our regular SOPs at maayos naman. Mukhang the departments were ready.

Ang nangyari lang talaga is that we look at specific cases around the country kung ano ‘yung kanilang specific na pangangailangan. Right now, it’s really Region V that has first – that was hit first at saka mabigat.

Unfortunately, Region V was almost on the periphery, hanggang nasa gilid na nung ano, nung coverage area ng storm. So, pagpasok nitong center ng storm, pagka eye of the storm papasok na sa northern Luzon, baka maging masyadong mabigat kaya’t kailangang paghandaan nang mabuti.

And we are doing everything we can to get assistance prepositioned. That’s always the key. Get the people evacuated properly, get our goods and equipment prepositioned as close as possible without them having the risk of damage para malapit na sila doon sa area na kailangan nilang serbisan pagka dumaan na ‘yung bagyo. And that’s essentially what we did.

And again, we’ve included all of the different agencies, of course, the NDRRMC led by the DND. And they are prepared to provide, number one from the AFP, airlift kasi ‘yung mga kalsada hindi pa madaanan. And number two, they are continuing with the – the AFP is also continuing to monitor the situation so that we will be able to activate the EDCA sites, which were put there specifically for this purpose

So, the other departments seem to be well prepared. We have some budgeting issues simply because na mayroon tayong napakarami ng dumadaan na bagyo at... ‘Di bale but that’s not something that we should worry about because we will be able to remedy that.

Q: Mr. President, with the expected much stronger onslaught of the typhoon, will it possible na ma-extend ‘yung suspension ng classes and work for tomorrow?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: It all depends on the weather. Yes, very possible. Unfortunately, very possible, oo. Because we are losing so many days – days of work, days of classes, but what can you do? Nandiyan ang bagyo. Hindi naman natin ilalagay ang mga tao sa peligro.

Q: Sir, former Vice President Leni Robredo is asking for help in particular ‘yung mga rubber boats. How soon ‘yung -- ?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Yeah, as soon as we can get in. As soon as makapasok kami, we will be doing that. And we are now beginning to marshal our assets, like for example, rubber boats.

Hanggang Mindanao kukunin na muna namin at dadalhin namin dito sa area ng pangangailangan.

We just got that report from CamSur that half of the province is under water because they live in the basin within Albay and CamSur. Kaya't iyon ang talagang tinamaan. Tinatamaan lagi ng baha

So, as soon as we can, we will go in. As soon as we can. Kung kailangan – hindi naman mailipad ng helicopter 'yun. So, kailangan talaga – kailangan truck ang magpapasok. Oo. So, as soon as mag-clear.

Alam naman ni – alam naman ng DPWH ang gagawin nila at naka-monitor naman sila. Nandoon naman ang mga tao nila, may regional offices para magsabi what – when they come in. So, that's what we are waiting for now.

So, wala, wala tayo... We are at the mercy of the weather as we always are. So, we will just have to wait for the true effects of this Typhoon Kristine. All right. Thank you.

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