

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE DURING THE INAUGURATION OF
THE PARAÑAQUE INTEGRATED TERMINAL EXCHANGE**

[Delivered at Kennedy Road, Barangay Tambo, Parañaque City
05 November 2018]

Salamat po. Kindly sit down and thank you for your courtesy.

Ang wish ko pa naman sana ang mag-introduce sa akin ‘yung babae naka-blue diyan sa left side. *[laughter]* Kasi I think I have met her during the inauguration of the Cebu Airport? And at that time, I approached you and asked you if you are single, and you told me na mag-aasawa ka na. Natuloy na po? *[laughter]* Sayang. *[laughter]* It’s a joke.

She’s a Visayan actually. Sa Cebu ko nakilala. Wala ka ng mga kapatid? *[laughter]* O youngest ka? Ah apat pa? Kelan tayo magpunta ng Cebu? *[laughter]* Magawa ka ng problema doon. *[laughter]*

Well, anyway, Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea; Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade and other members of the Cabinet; Mr. Edgar Saavedra, Chairman and CEO Megawide Corporation; Mr. Manuel Louie Ferrer, President Megawide and Walter Mart Terminal Inc.; other distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen

Alam mo sabi ni Secretary Tugade walang corruption ‘yan. If I may... Without any of --- offending anybody, any of you... Alam mo noong eleksyon ang contribution nila na ibinigay sa akin hindi ko tinanggap. Just to tell you any ano --- tales can be weaved around a certain contract or the winning contractor. Sabihin ko sa inyo a lot of them isa na sila, hindi ako tumatanggap. Sabi ko “it’s okay, maybe with a shoestring budget I can make it.” Para maklarolahat. So I am impressed, I am proud na ginawa nila itong magandang structure. And it will serve the Filipino and that is what’s very important to me.

It is not how you relate to me in the past. I am not concerned with that because nandito na ako. And my only dream is for my country. Whether you believe it or not, iyan talaga --- country first.

And magsabi si Tugade that there is no corruption, I believe him. Do you know why? He was the valedictorian sa klase namin sa law school. And he was also a member of the debating team of San Beda. Kaya kanina he was arguing with himself. Sabi ko, “medyo mahaba-haba ito ah”. *[laughter]*

But that is Art Tugade. At noong kinuha ko siya, he was already a billionaire. Mayaman na ‘yan. Nag-e-eskwela pa kami he was already a top executive of a big company. No wonder that after we graduated, parted to pursue our endeavors in life, he ended up one of the millionaires sa ano.

Well, of course, Secretary Villar wala ka ring masabi because multibillionaire naman ‘yan siya. *[laughter]* Si Panelo is not a multimillionaire, millionaire, or multibillionaire or billionaire, he is a debonair of the Cabinet. *[laughter and applause]* If you talk about sartorial elegance then we have one for that.

At 'yon namang kinakalokohan ng mga babae, itong si Secretary Andanar. Sabi ko matanda naman 'yan at wala namang 'yang... But ano a lot of girls would really... 'Pag nandiyan, "Saan? Saan si ano si...?" O sige diyan kayo. Sabi ko matanda na 'yan. And who is here? Si Danny Lim sa ating Metro Manila office. Who else I'd like to... To all the beautiful people in this room. Nagmamadali ka kasi eh.

I congratulate the Department of Transportation [and] our private partner, MWM Terminals, Inc., for the inauguration of the Parañaque Integrated Terminal Exchange or PITX.

As the first integrated and multi-modal terminal in the southwestern part of Metro Manila, PITX is a landmark project – a "landport" that feels and functions like an airport.

It is one of the three intermodal terminals to be developed by the government in cooperation with the private sector. This will offer passengers a safer, state-of-the-art, and convenient terminal experience that will hopefully contribute in addressing traffic congestion in Metro Manila.

This will help ease traffic by limiting provincial buses plying Metro Manila roads, specifically along Roxas Boulevard and the EDSA-Taft area. It will also serve as a transfer point between the provincial buses from Cavite, western Batangas, and other in-city modes of transportation.

With a maximum daily capacity of 100,000 passengers, this facility will feature departure and arrival bays for buses, jeepneys and taxis. It will also provide state-of-the-art bus reservation and online booking, and many other amenities that will surely help guarantee a safe and convenient transport experience for the public.

I am directing the DOTr and MWM Terminals to implement the necessary measures to ensure all transport vehicles will be using the PITX are roadworthy that complies with our environmental laws and [have] proper documentation as well.

With the Build, Build, Build program in full swing, I assure our people that the government is exerting all efforts to construct the necessary infrastructure that would sustain our country's continued development.

Together, let us work hard to lay down the physical foundations of a more progressive and prosperous nation so that our countrymen will enjoy at the very least not a rich life, not even a bar lower than that, but at least --- most of them are poor --- but we can assure them of a comfortable --- just a comfortable life.

Salamat at mabuhay kayong lahat. *[applause]*

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