

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING HIS ATTENDANCE TO THE GOVERNMENT OWNED AND
CONTROLLED CORPORATION (GOCC) DAY AND OFFICIAL SIGNING
OF THE LOAN AGREEMENT FOR THE MALOLOS-CLARK RAILWAY
PROJECT, AND PRESENTATION OF THE 2019 NEW GENERATION
CURRENCY BANKNOTES**

[Delivered at the Rizal Hall, Malacañan Palace | 11 July 2019]

Thank you. Kindly sit down.

The Executive Secretary Salvador Medialdea; Excellencies of the Diplomatic Corps; Finance Secretary Carlos Dominguez; Transportation Secretary Arthur Tugade and other members of the Cabinet; honorable members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives; Bangko Sentral and Pilipinas Governor --- Bangko ng Pilipinas --- Benjamin Diokno; officials of the Asian Development Bank led by Vice President Ahmed Saeed; fellow workers in government; other distinguished guests; ladies and gentlemen

Before I start with the money, I hope that the notes that we signed together with the honorable Central Bank Governor, huwag sana ma-devalue sa panahon natin. *[laughter]* Nandiyan 'yung pirma natin eh. Make sure that it would always retain its original value, not only the paper but...

Well, anyway, I'm friends... Bakit ikaw ayaw mong tumingin sa akin, Berna? How is your love life? *[laughter]* Good.

It is an honor for me to join the hardworking officials and employees of government-owned and -controlled corporations as we celebrate GOCCs Day.

I am glad to note the efforts of the Department of Finance in ensuring the financial health of the GOCCs and other entities. Indeed, the success of our GOCCs is crucial to the achievement of our national development agenda. Through the

years, their remittances have gone a long way in helping us fund our most important infrastructure projects and social programs.

Let me take this opportunity to thank our GOCCs for the 40 billion peso remittance for 2018 — a 32% increase from the 2017 figure and the highest in 25 years. *[applause]* Bilib --- saludo ako sa inyo. At least may natutunan ako sa economics `yung...

I encourage you to further intensify your efforts towards efficiency, effectiveness [and] responsiveness in your respective organizations.

Among the initiatives in our national development agenda that is financially backed by GOCC remittances is the 53-kilometer Malolos-Clark Railway Project or the MCRP.

Worth more than 6 billion US dollars, this will be the country's first airport express railway service.

This project also highlights the crucial role of the Asian Development Bank in bolstering our country's infrastructure development program. The loan facility of ADB has provided for initiatives such as the MCRP and has indeed complemented our GOCC's remittances towards achieving our national development agenda.

I am directing the Department of Transportation to fast track the completion of the MCRP and observe the highest quality standards as we complete this railway project.

By the time it is completed, I expect that our people, especially those from Central Luzon, will greatly feel the impact of our Build, Build, Build program.

As we pursue these endeavors, I expect [you] to embody excellence, integrity and accountability of us here in government as we journey towards inclusive and sustainable growth.

Be assured that you have my full support as we advance the common good and bring the Philippines to greater heights of progress.

May salamat ho dito, but I'd like to just give you an extra news for the day. I was reading the dossier from all intelligent sources and I am... If I can dismiss them, I will be dismissing something like 64 Customs employees.

In the meantime that their case are being heard, in obedience of the rule of the right to be heard, I want them to be here in Malacañan. My view is that help me craft a new implementing rules of how not to rob a country properly.

So I will be asking them to report here. And from the sources that I have commissioned, akin lang, I would have cut down corruption by a third or one-half.

But most of them 'yung nandiyan na, we will be filing charges, 64 of them. So at this early, they might be also learning the --- what's going on here, and they are also hearing us.

It's a simple case of --- you resign or I file charges. And that goes for all of us. We are workers of government and we serve the people, period.

Thank you very much. *[applause]*

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