

**Presidential Communications Office
Presidential News Desk**

**SPEECH
OF
PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE
DURING THE CEREMONIAL ENACTMENT OF THE EASE OF DOING BUSINESS ACT AND
ACT CONVERTING THE DAVAO ORIENTAL STATE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY INTO DAVAO ORIENTAL STATE UNIVERSITY**

[Delivered at Rizal Hall, Malacañan Palace, Manila | 28 May 2018]

Salamat po. Kindly sit down.

If you will allow me after reading this prepared speech, may --- I'd just like to convey some sentiments to you.

Today, I sign into law two legislative measures in support of our Ten-Point Socio-Economic Agenda. One pertains to education, while the other pertains to business competitiveness and good governance.

The first law is the Act Converting the Davao Oriental State College of Science & Technology into the Davao Oriental State University. This is in recognition of the institution's valuable role in molding professionals and experts who have contributed to the advancement of Davao Region and the rest of Mindanao.

It is my sincere hope that our country's newest university will continue to take part in nation-building by offering advanced technological instruction and [by] pursuing highly specialized research programs in various fields of science and technology.

The other measure that I sign today is the Ease of Doing Business Act of 2018 — a law that has been long overdue. This addresses the failure of the Anti-Red Tape Act of [2007] to solve the perennial problem of bureaucratic red tape in our government institutions.

This law will introduce simplified requirements and streamlined procedures that will finally spare our people from the intolerable waiting time and long lines in frontline government agencies.

One of the most important features of this law is the standardization of the processing time for government transactions. From now on, agencies are required to process simple transactions within 3 days and complex transactions in 7 days and highly technical transactions in 20 days.

The law will also limit to a maximum of three the number of signatories for applications [for] licenses, clearances, permits, certifications and authorizations. Electronic signatures will also be recognized [and] a zero-contact policy will be implemented to avoid improprieties.

Local governments are also mandated by this new law to automate their business permit and licensing systems, [to] set up one-stop business facilitation services and to use online unified business application forms.

This complements the mandate of the Department of Information and Communications Technology or DICT to automate business-related transactions through web-based software and technological platforms.

One of the priorities of our Ten-Point Socio-Economic Agenda is to encourage competitiveness and improve the overall business environment. We intend to accomplish that by promoting integrity, accountability and good governance in all government transactions.

By automating our bureaucratic processes and integrating online mechanisms in day-to-day transactions, we do not just bring our people closer to their government. We also forge a vibrant and productive relationship that will redound to the benefit of the people.

Alam mo this kind of line has been repeated a thousand times in this floor. Every president that I can remember was always talking of red tape, graft and corruption and everything. Lahat, with no exception.

Whether it was a perceptive thing or just an objective --- always it has been bruited about --- hanggang dumating na lang sa akin. And corruption is still there.

I remember vividly during my time, Cabinet members were ordered to process papers online. And I said that you are limited to 30 days pati 'yung mga directors 15 days.

And in spite or despite of that warning, there seems to be an inadequate or a haphazard implementation of those suggested procedures.

I am not attributing any of the Cabinet members there. It could be a failure in the lower echelons of government. Pero ito bang graft and corruption is a favorite parang chewing gum that... You know it's being used everyday to wash off the dirt and spit it out when its --- the taste runs out.

And it is periodically and seasonably done all throughout the years na nandito tayo sa opisina. Me, I have fired several and I've been fi...

May I call the Government Corporate Counsel now. Are you in this...? Nandito ka? Kasi kung nandito ka lumabas ka, p***** i** mo. You are fired.

I do not need you and maybe you do not need me. Alam mo 'yung APECO was granted a franchise, freeport and everything, and there's always that accompanying provision about gambling.

Wala akong magawa eh. I don't like it. I had a very bad experience about gambling when I was young.

I've been discouraging people about the gambling is tolerated as if we were just... Pati itong mga perya-peryaan. Kasali na ang mga barangay captains diyan and mayors especially.

You run your town or municipality as if you are really the chosen one and not the elected worker of government. Iyon ang mahirap dito sa gobyerno na 'to eh.

When you are granted a franchise to conduct gambling in a certain facility, it does not include farming out that franchise to other cities and provinces.

Kasi pagka ganun then you can ramble on, following your theory, you can ramble on to give permits beyond the shores of Luzon and you can do it in Siasi, Jolo.

Kung hindi ka pa naman g***. So you are just like a PAGCOR operating an independent entity with the same powers na you grant everything. Kung hindi ka t*****, p**...

So ganun ang gobyerno eh. And I have been trying to be patient with everybody. But there are always that opportunity to interpret a law or insist in your stupid proposition until the problem gets out of hand.

So marami na ako... Everyday I have been firing an undersecretary, a secretary, now I am firing the Government Corporate Counsel himself.

Alam mo sa totoo lang maraming abogado diyan naghihintay sa labas. There are thousands of lawyers there waiting for an appropriate opportunity to work in government.

Hindi na ako kailangan magtanong. All I have to do is just look around.

Marami Pilipino na gustong trabaho diyan. Hindi ko na kailangan itong mga l*****...

I am sorry ha. I do not --- you are not the one --- hindi kayo. I ask for an apology. But this is just a palabas ko lang sama ko ng loob. Because now we are talking about graft and corruption, we are talking about red tape and everything and yet it continues to...

Nandito man kayo. Kaibigan man tayo. Do not take it personally kasi galit ako doon sa... Hindi man ako pwedeng magalit sa inyo, lalo na sa'yo, kaganda mo. *[laughter]*

Hinarap pa nila 'yung picture, pati picture ko. Ang p*... Tapos I supposed that picture of mine was taken during a flag ceremony kasi naka --- diyan ang dibdib ko tapos kaharap kita. Talagang... Pero kung gusto mong totooanin, okay man lang sa akin. *[laughter]*

Ang buhay na ito uy. It's so exasperating. Nahihiya ako sa tao. Bakit ganun ang nangyayari sa gobyerno? And I seem to be at a lost kung paano kita --- kung patayin kita o ipa-DDS kita o sagasaan. Bakit, bakit kayo pumapasok nang ganun na...?

Nakakahiya nga sa... It had to take Congress to --- ito, it's a very simple, simple standards. 'Yun lang... So I supposed that the Executive department can do it. Congress na ito. Hindi lang sa akin. Kung sa atin-atin lang, medyo magkahiyaan pa. Pero tayo dito napapahiya talaga ako.

So itong online pati 'yung sinabi ko na ayaw kong gustong mag-pila ang Pilipino. Kasi ang ordinaryong Pilipino, walang matakbuhan eh. They do not have the money to hire law offices or even fixers for a price. And they have to do it. And some of them are from the provinces or most of them.

At pupunta lang dito to transact a business. They find it hard to move around because of the traffic. So it's one item and there are about 10 to complete. They can only accomplish one item a

day. At kailangan pa nila ng pera sa hotel. Kailangan pa ng pera sa --- lahat. Isa rin diyan na ayaw ko nakikita ko.

Ito namang Ombudsman, silang lahat diyan. Huwag na 'yang paalis na Morales na 'yan. You better, you know... I've been a prosecutor all my life before I be...

'Yang magpunta dito 'yung --- 'pag hindi mo mademanda 'yung mayor, hindi mo mademanda 'yung governor o hindi mo mademanda kung sino, i-demanda ninyo mga assessor, mga treasurer. At pupunta sila dito to face charges.

And they have to go to you, maghingi lang naman ng baon o pamasahé to buy the ticket, because if you do not appear during that day, you will be declared in con --- well, you would be arrested again or you are considered to have jumped bail.

At ito 'yung tinatamaan na wala namang choice or there are no choices because 'pag sinabi ng mayor 'yan, 'pag sinabi ng "o pirmahan," pipirmahan talaga 'yan. Ganun 'yan.

Hindi naman bibigyan eh. Greed? 'Di sana --- "O sige pirmahan mo 'yan, bigyan kita ng pera." Wala pagputok niyan, they are the ones being charged. Usually, because they cannot hire a lawyer of his own choice. Kaya ganun ang nangyari.

So they come to Manila in tatters. Butas-butas 'yung barong. Pagdating dito, they suffer kung saan-saan na lang magtira. And they are late even, so they have to be there at 5 o'clock in the morning diyan sa Sandigan. Nakakaawa. Wala naman silang mapuntahan na iba.

I'm not saying it's graft, but there is really something wrong, seriously wrong with this country. And I don't know how --- among generation ma-correct itong mga 'to. Thousands of cases like these. Walang mapuntahan ang tao.

Kaya ako may gusto akong sabihin, na-experience ko. Sabihin mo, nagyayabang ako. Huwag na lang. Pero wala kasi silang mapuntahan eh. Kaya 'pag nagpunta 'yan sa akin, 'yun na magka-problema na tayo, especially injustice.

Hindi kasi madali mag-ano ng... Ako, I just like to inform everybody. No contract of government ever, ever reaches my table. Not even for addendum and things like that. Not one. Not sing --- 'yung mga MRT, highway ganun.

Ang akin is the policy and appointments. Nothing of that sort ever reaches my table. Tanungin mo 'yan sila lahat Cabinet members. It's cradle to grave. If that is your project, well that's fine. Work on it. Make it perfect.

Pagka pumutok 'yan, iyo 'yan. Pero sabihin mo ako, maki-alam ako. Kayo nandito man talaga kayo. At sabihin nakialam ako sa gobyerno. When? Nandito man kayo lahat. Guys of consequence sa ating gobyerno.

Did they ever, ever, ever even once, even in Congress? Marami naman diyan, impeachment and everything. Itong si ano. Paalis na lang, ako pa ang pag...

Magtanong ka ng isang congressman o isang senador na tinawagan ko diyan sa impeachment na 'yan and today you can have my resignation.

I have not called anyone of them, Cabinet members na magtanong ng transaction. Maski sino dito tanungin mo. I do not even know their number and I do not call them. And I only call them dito sa makita sa Malacañan. I have maintained that kind of distance.

Bakit sige ka ayos ng necklace mo? Makinig ka. *[laughter]* Bakit kasi... Hindi binibiro ko lang si Berna kasi wala akong maasar eh. Bale pang-timbang. Ano ba tawag niyan sa Tagalog y*** na 'yan? Bale pang-balance na lang sa sakit ng loob ko.

'Yan, that's the truth. I have never, never. Noong umupo ako day one, hindi na ako tumawag kay Pimentel, hindi ako tumawag kay...

Well, one time 'yung kinonfirm (confirm) ko lang kay Bebot kung totoo ba talagang issue 'yung asawa. Kasi sabihin ko sa kanya, dedepensahan kita. Kay totoo man talaga. Native man ang nanay niya. So magpakasal siya ng limang beses, that's his business.

What he does with his --- is none of our g***** business. Totoo 'yan. Now, he is good --- as he had no other time to let it out. Wala talaga. Could be... Danny Lim is here. Sid, sa Customs. He has been with me. He was my chief of police for so many years. He was my...

Ni minsan, ni minsan wala akong tinawagan. I let it go. Si Aguirre, he offered, sabi niya, "itong mga tao mong mga pulis, they are guilty of murder." "So file a case. No problem about that," sabi ko, "why do you have to tell me?" in a Cabinet. "Go ahead murder. Filan (file) mo lahat. Let's have trial. Then let's have a judicial trial. Sentensyahan mo, sige." Basta sinabi ko, protektahan ko 'yan.

If it is connected in the performance of duty and I believe that --- sige i-convict mo. Bukas, i-pardon ko 'yan. Reinstate ko one rank higher to boot.

Pero 'yung lahat ng magnanakaw paalisin ninyo. Do not give them that privilege of... So wala --- hindi masyado ang Congress diyan. Wala man kayo. Executive department. Pero diyan, sige man lang kayo daldal nang daldal, wala namang... Maski sa session, tindig dito tindig doon. Kaya sabi ko, umalis ako dito. Nagsalita ako, walang nakikinig.

Ang mga g*** nagsialisan, dalawa na lang kami naiwan doon sa stenographer. Sabi ko, "what's the --- what am I doing here?" That's why I went back to being mayor.

Well, Congress was a very enlightening period of my life. Nuances ng --- really it was a very productive time for me. Pero 'yang style ng Congress, it's not --- hindi maganda para sa...

Wala ngang nakikinig diyan. Lalo na kung magsalita ka ng --- "in my municipality, there is this" 'yung kalaban niya sa politika. Atake nang atake. Wala naman ako pakialam diyan sa kalaban mo sa politika. Maghintay ka sa eleksyon.

Lalo na 'yung kalaban ko. Ay susmaryosep. Mag-privilege speech pa. Gusto kong patayin pero...

He's now retired. But he's been very good to me. Okay lang. Ganun lang ang buhay eh. You can always forgive.

So 'yun lang ho ang --- 'yan ang sentimiyento ko. Para malaman lang ninyo. Wala talagang --- wala akong tinata... Sabihin mo sa g***** 'yan. Wala akong pakialam diyan sa.

She got herself into it actually. And it was not because of us. Not because of Congress, because of her peers. Wala naman tayong kasali diyan. Lalo na Supreme Court.

Sabi ko nga, kung may magsabi lang dito isa. Anyone of you. Magsabi na tumawag ka sa akin, nakalimutan mo may kinausap ka, mag-resign ako bukas. Totohanan 'yan. Tatal gusto ko na lang mag-resign rin eh.

Ano bang... Ano bang latest count nito kay Bongbong pati kay ano? Ma-vice president ba talaga 'yan kasi...

But there are so many things, development in this country which I cannot talk publicly. But I'm kind of torn between making it public so that you would know the stakes that we are facing. It's not outside actually pati 'yung what's the truth.

Ang mga Lorenzana, si Año, maybe Sid. Alam niyo but I think it's not a proper time because it -- - sabihin na it smacks of politics. But these are the things that you should know because in weighing the where you --- which side are you on would mean a lot to the country. I just don't know kung kailan ko...

I... I said I am not up to it 'yung mag-demanda. 'Yung kalaban ko sa Davao, siguro he filed cases against me mga four times. Umabot kami ng Supreme Court. And always I'm exonerated or I was exonerated simply because hindi naman totoo eh.

Brod ni Bello 'yan. Parehas sila hindi nag-medyas. Either may kalyo o talagang... Totoo.

So I end up by saying that we will try to comply with... Itong Boracay. Look, I do not mean to lord it over, tutal nandito naman kayo. Pero as I have promised, I will declare the entire island a land reform area.

But kung ako --- but I would really... How do I... Sincerely suggest na you can carve out a strip there. Coastal lang naman ang profitable diyan eh.

You... I will leave that option to you, to preserve the coastal area at ibigay ko, I will defer that decision to you. Kung from the lowest point where the high and low tide would probably reach the inland.

But the others gawain ko, because I do not think that's... If you allow a commercial na malaki, you would really strip the island of its environmental safety.

Ako, ang hinihingi ko lang naman sa inyo is allow me to clean Boracay. We do not have any interest there. Wala akong pakialam diyan kung anong gawain nila. Except that because it is touted to be a tourist destination.

And so it behooves upon us to make it clean and allow us to rehabilitate. Get the germs out and makita mo naman gaano kadumi. Pero wala akong ano. But I will just convey to you now na my predilection, if you want to call it, is to declare it a land reform area.

But so as not to prejudice also existing... Ewan ko kung bakit na naging commercial 'yung banda diyan. That I leave --- I leave it up to you to decide kung if you want to, I said, carve out a few meters from the coastal, 'yung tubig, 'di kayo. I will not touch on that.

Mabuti 'yung... Alam mo, marami na kasi pagka-commercial na sabihin, "well, you know these guys made deals..." Wala ako, hanggang land reform lang ako. So I'm directing my --- sa ano ko, DAR ko, next time to work on it.

But I will leave that option sa inyo. Para bahala kayong kung anong --- gaano kalaki. But the entire island should be... Kasi forestal pati agricultural lang 'yan eh. I'll give it to the natives. 'Yun lang po.

And ano pa bang gusto ko sa inyo? Wala naman siguro. I'm quite satisfied with our relationship. Thank you for the cooperation that you have extended me. I'm very happy. Ano pa ba? Wala na siguro.

Pero ngayon ko lang nakita na --- ngayon ko lang nakita a room full of... Hindi ako nagbabastos ha. Huwag kayong maniwala diyan sa mga 'yang babae-babae na kalaban ko.

Sirahan mo 'yang, 'yang television mo. Para atakehin natin itong mga babae.

Hindi ako nagyayabang ha. Sabihin ng mga babae na anti-woman ako. Mag-hanap ka ng presidente sa Pilipinas nagpa-hostage para sa babae.

[end of live stream]

--- END ---