PRESIDENT FERDINAND ROMUALDEZ MARCOS JR.'s
MEDIA INTERVIEW
Mariveles, Bataan
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[00:00:00]
SEC. CHELOY VELICARIA-GARAFIL: Sir, we have several questions from the Malacañang Press Corps. First one, Melanie Reyes of Radyo Pilipinas.

MELANIE REYES (RADYO PILIPINAS): Sir, good afternoon po. Ito pong inauguration ng Global Power Battery Energy Storage System, will this contribute to the overall target of the administration to achieve 35% of the renewable energy in the country by 2030?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Well, it depends on where that source of energy comes from. The batteries do not produce energy; what it does, it stores energy. And if that energy comes from renewables, then we count it, we include it into the mix, the ratio that we calculate. But it is most suited for use by renewables simply because renewables are cyclical and the demand, the load for electricity does not follow the same cycle. So, kung minsan iyong pinakamataas iyong demand eh iyon ang pinakamahina ang production. Halimbawa pag solar eh gabi na, ang pinakamalakas natin alas sais ng gabi, so wala nang araw, so wala tayong makuhang energy.

Ngayon, itong ganitong klaseng sistema iyong sobra doon sa oras sa araw na hindi masyadong malaki ang demand imbes na tinatapon na lang ay ilalagay natin sa baterya. And then we will then apply that to the time of day where it is most economical, where the load — we're able to satisfy the load requirement for electrical power.

SEC. CHELOY VELICARIA-GARAFIL: Thank you, Sir. Mr. Harley Valbuena of DZME.

MR. HARLEY VALBUENA (DZME): Hello, good afternoon, Mr. President. Sir, bukod po doon sa naipamamahagi nating assistance ngayong araw doon po sa event kanina sa Limay, Bataan, ano pa po iyong karagdagang programa ang plano ng administrasyon para po sa maliliit na negosyante at start-ups?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: What was the question? I'm sorry…

[00:02:25]
MR. VALBUENA: Support for start-ups, Sir, iyong small businesses and start-ups po iyong mga gusto pong mag-negosyo, sir.

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Well, we have always wanted – lagi naman natin talaga sinusubukang gumawa ng tinatawag – a healthy start-up environment dahil kailangan tayo we have to encourage innovation. But the whole system of start-ups kailangan tulungan iyan dahil malaki ng porsyento na hindi natutuloy kasi bagong teknolohiya, bagong sistema.

So, kung minsan after magka-long term pilot or whatever, lumalabas hindi pala praktikal so kailangan mag-start-up ulit. Kaya't kailangan nandiyan lagi ang gobyerno. So iyon ang aming ginagawa. That is what we are trying to do.

It's beginning with the kadiwa where the small – they can be considered start-ups because these are the businesses that closed during the lockdown. So iyon ang aming tinutulungan, they are like start-ups. But now, we will move beyond just the MSMEs, especially the technology start-ups because that is the direction that our economy has to go if we are to be able to compete.

SEC. CHELOY VELICARIA-GARAFIL: Thank you. Mr. Mark Fetalco, PTV 4.

MARK FETALCO (PTV): Good afternoon, Sir.

Gaano po ka-significant ang Bataan-Cavite Interlink Bridge Project para sa ekonomiya ng Pilipinas at nasa ilang trabaho po iyong kaya nitong ilikha?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Napakalaking proyekto ito. It is a very exciting project. Matagal nang pinag-uusapan ito. I was talking to the former secretary, Secretary Mark Villar, who was there at the beginning, 2018 pa naaprubahan. So i-minus na lang natin iyong two years ng lockdown. At so, ngayon nandoon na tayo at in-on natin kanina, nag-drill na sila.

So patuloy na siguro ito, a 32-kilometer bridge. Parang hindi ako makapaniwala magkakaroon tayo ng tulay dito sa Pilipinas na 32-kilometers. Pero ang laking bagay kasi bubuksan niya talaga ang ruta mula sa Southern Luzon hanggang Central Luzon na hindi dumadaan sa NCR. Tapos it is also – will help the congestion doon sa NCR, pati iyong mga port facilities. Kasi nababara na iyong Manila port, masyado ng over ano – masyado nang maliit o masyado ng maraming traffic. Pwedeng ililipat dito. So, these are the many opportunities.

I was asking there are actually seven contracts that are going to be implemented. Sabay-sabay iyan. So ang estimate yata ni Sec. Manny is

23,000 – 23,000 jobs during construction. And this a construction that will go on for five years. And then in terms of the economic benefit, well, maliwanag na maliwanag iyan, 'pag binuksan mo iyong isang lugar, naging madali ang pagpunta. Isipin natin mababawasan iyong biyahe mula sa apat na oras ay magiging 45 minutes na lang. Malaking bagay iyon. At may magandang daan na can take – hindi lamang mabilis kung hindi mas madaming nakakayanan na traffic. Kaya't ito iyong mga pinoproblema natin supply chain, supply chain problems, this is the solution.

The solution to the supply chain problems that we are facing now is connectivity. And when we talk about connectivity ngayon, hindi mo iniisip digital connectivity lang. Iniisip talaga natin iyong kalsada, iyong sea lanes, lahat ng paraan upang magbiyahe. And that is precisely what this very, very major infrastructure development is going to – that's the effect that it is going to have, that is what it is addressing. So, we are looking forward to its completion as soon as possible.

SEC. CHELOY VELICARIA-GARAFIL: Thank you, Mr. President. Last question, Ms. Joyce Balancio, ABS-CBN.

JOYCE BALANCIO (ABS-CBN): Hi, Sir, what are your Holy Week plans?

And dagdag ko na rin, do you have specific directives to government agencies as they prepare for the Holy Week?

PRESIDENT MARCOS: Yes, we have been preparing already for a while. But nadagdagan lang iyong ating preparasyon dahil biglang uminit, bigla iyong init na dumating. At siguro hindi ko naman alam ba't natin nakalimutan na 'pag Holy Week talagang mainit. But that's another – we have to make everybody – make sure that everybody is comfortable, that they can get to where they want as quickly as possible. Sa palagay ko naman nakahanda naman kami.

Ako simple lang, I'll do what I do every year. I go into a retreat for a few days and then I'll spend Easter with my family.

Thank you. Salamat.

SEC. CHELOY VELICARIA-GARAFIL: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Malacañang Press Corps.

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