

## ARTHUR P. TUGADE

**Arthur Planta Tugade** is the current Secretary of the Department of Transportation (DOTr).

He was not born into a life of privilege, and he dealt with unbelievable challenges growing up. San Beda College took Art under its wing and made him a scholar from Elementary to Law School, where he graduated magna cum laude in Philosophy in 1967 and cum laude in Law in 1971. He completed his executive program at the National University of Singapore under the NUS – Standford Program in 1985. Secretary Tugade holds an honorary doctorate degree, Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa), from the Manuel L. Quezon University.

He started as an Executive Assistant of the Delgado family's Transnational Diversified Group Inc., and worked his way up to become the company's President & Chief Operating Officer. From there, he built his own corporation, the Perry's Group of Companies, in 2003.

His foray into government started in December 2012, when he was appointed Chief Executive Officer and President of Clark Development Corporation.

As the 18th Secretary of the Department of Transportation, he brings with him the values of hard work, incorruptibility, and the political will to get things done. Under his watch, he vowed to build the boldest and most ambitious transport infrastructure this country has ever seen. By the end of his term, he would have been able to formulate a 30-year roadmap that will help provide a consolidated nationwide transportation system that is efficient, intelligent, and environment-friendly.

Under his leadership, the DOTr was able to address controversial issues that hounded the Philippines in the past few years. There is no more backlog in driver's licenses, vehicle plates are being distributed, the MRT-3 has significantly reduced unloading incidents, more than 400 ports projects have been completed, airports nationwide improved their On-Time Performance, PUVs and land transport, in general, are getting an overhaul, several corrupt officials have been dismissed, bidding of projects were streamed live online, DOTr agencies remit record-breaking dividends, and a record number of high-impact transport infrastructure projects are underway.

In the face of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the country's transportation chief started to revolutionize mobility to adapt to the changing times or the so-called 'new normal' in its four (4) sectors, namely the Road, Railways, Aviation, and Maritime.