

# Enrile tells Villar: We're not robots

by MAILA AGER  
Inquirer.net

SENATE President Juan Ponce-Enrile described the prediction of Senator Manuel Villar that the Senate committee of the whole would find him guilty of misdeeds in connection with an alleged corruption-tainted road project as "unethical" and "uncalled for."



Senate President Juan Ponce-Enrile

"My God! *Ano ba naman akala ni Villar sa amin na mga hindi presidentialibles? That we're robots? That we are bayaran ng mga presidentialibles?* [What does Villar think of us who are not presidential aspirants? That we're paid hacks of the presidential aspirants?]" Enrile said in a phone interview.

Villar had said that fellow senators who plan to run for president in 2010, like him, were ganging up on him to hurt his chances in the elections.

Enrile said only six senators were reportedly eyeing higher positions in 2010—Villar, Panfilo Lacson, Loren Legarda, Richard Gordon, Francis Escudero and Manuel Roxas II.

"Six of 22 senators [are eyeing higher posts in 2010] and he will say that these [six] people have their way? My god! That is an indictment of the entire Senate and that is unethical for him to say," Enrile said.

"It's unethical for a senator to denigrate the very institution to where he belongs. That's in the rules," Enrile said.

"We are not stupid people to convict somebody who is innocent based on the evidence. *Anong akala niya sa amin?* [What do they think of us?]" he further said.

If Villar believes that he is innocent, "he shall have no fear" to face the Senate, Enrile said.

"They say we are hanging him [Villar]... If he will not redeem himself, he is hanging himself. We are not the ones hanging him," he added.

# SAYS VILLAR

## 'I'm willing to bet I will be found guilty'

by CHRISTINE AVENDAÑO  
Inquirer.net

SEN. Manuel Villar last May 14 took the hot seat, not before the Senate sitting as a committee of the whole, but before the media.

"I did not do anything wrong. I did not violate any law. I did not do anything unethical," Villar repeatedly said in a press conference. "My only desire is to have this project finished, which will hugely benefit the people."

But Villar stressed that the Senate investigation was "all about the presidential election in 2010."

He said he was willing to bet that he would be found guilty by his fellow senators: "*Pustahan tayo guilty ako dito.*"

Villar sought to rebut Sen. Jamby Madrigal's charge that he was behind the P200-million double funding in Congress of the C-5 extension road, as well as the purported rerouting of the road to benefit his real estate empire.

He said he intended to defend himself before the people, from whom he expected to get justice, rather than before his peers, especially his fellow senators "who are my foes in the presidential race."

Villar said he did not yet know whether he would appear or take part in the hearings of the committee of the whole, which Thursday conducted a preliminary inquiry into



Sen. Manny Villar

Madrigal's complaint against him.

Asked if he was ready to be expelled by the Senate—the penalty he faces should the committee adjudge him guilty of unethical behavior—Villar said he did not think it would head toward such a move.

"But whether suspension or expulsion, I am prepared. I am not afraid of such things," he said in Filipino.

### 'Kuryente'

Villar made a short presentation in seeking to prove that his accusers had nothing but "*kuryente*," or a fabricated story.

He said the complaint against him originated from earlier accusations that he had allowed the double entry in the 2007 national budget of funding for the C-5 road.

He pointed out that the Senate finance committee cleared his last year of any wrongdoing, and reiterated that there was no double entry or double funding because the allocations in the national budget were for two different projects.

There was the P200 million for the flyover in Sucat, Parañaque City, and another P200 million for the flyover on Coastal Road, according to Villar.

He said that for the C-5 project, P1 billion of the P4.393-billion total cost had been released in previous years.

"[The amount of] P400 million was available in 2008 and P187 million this year, leaving a balance of P2.806 billion unfunded. So there is no anomaly, no corruption, no double insertion," he said.

### 2 roads

To the allegation that he had authorities reroute the C-5 extension road so it would benefit his properties, Villar first explained that no rerouting happened because his accusers were actually talking about two roads.

According to Villar, the MCTEP road is a project of the Toll Regulatory Board (TRB) and implemented by UEM-Mara Philippines, while the C-5 extension road is a national road that he and other lawmakers in Las Piñas, Parañaque and Cavite have been pushing to help ease traffic for six million residents.

## D'ANDREA LAW CORPORATION

U.S. IMMIGRATION LAW OFFICES

### We're the Answer to Your Immigration Problems

- Labor Certification (PERM)
- Nurse and PT. Petitions
- Specialty Workers (H1B)
- Treaty Traders & Investors (E)
- Adjustment of Status (I485)
- Family Petitions (I130)
- Employment Petitions (I140)
- Intercountry Transfer (L1)
- Extraordinary Ability (OI)
- Investor Visa (SIM, \$500K)
- Temp Workers (H2A, H2B)
- Trainees (H3)
- Artists & Athletes (P1, P3)
- Religious Workers (RT)
- Canadian & Mexican (TN)
- AAO Appeals & MTR
- Ability to Pay
- Request for Evidence (RFE)
- Notice of Intent to Deny/ Revoke
- Employment Portability
- Form I9 & LCA Compliance
- Fiancé & Spouse (K1/K3)
- Student Visas (F1/M1)
- Exchange Visitor (J1)
- New Reduced Fees

- J1 Waiver (212e)
- Visitors (B1, B2)
- Crewman & Transits (C1, D1)
- Battered Spouse/ Child (VAWA)
- Child Status Protection (CSPA)
- Removal of Conditions (I751)
- Good Faith Marriage Waiver
- Inadmissibility Waiver
- Citizenship and Naturalization
- Private Bills
- Humanitarian Relief
- All other Related Matters



**Robert K. D'Andrea**  
Attorney at Law

Martindale Centre  
216 N. Glendora Ave., Suite 200,  
Glendora CA 91741



Pasadena Koll Center  
1055 E. Colorado Blvd. Suite 500,  
Pasadena CA 91106

## (626) 240-4688

www.dandrealaw.com • info@dandrealaw.com

**FREE CONSULTATION**

Washington D.C. Bar • American Bar Association • American Immigration Lawyers Association • Federal Bar Association • Orange County Bar • Los Angeles County Bar

## 10,000 hired in Labor Day job fair

by JEROME ANING  
Inquirer.net

THE nationwide government-sponsored job fair on May 1 resulted in the hiring on the spot of about 10,000 jobseekers, the Department of Labor and Employment said last May 13. Labor Secretary Marianito Roque said the fair, dubbed "Jobapoolooza '09" also referred 16,442 job seekers for employment in participating firms that offered highly in-demand jobs.

Such in-demand jobs include those in business processing outsourcing, information technology services, wholesale and retail, construction, food and beverage, hotels and restaurants, and manufacturing.

# STOP FORECLOSURE!

## Lower your interest rates and mortgage principal

- ✓ We will negotiate with your bank and conduct loan modification. No adverse impact in your credit score.
- ✓ We can also do Bankruptcy Chapter 7 (totally discharge all debts and stop harassing collection calls) and Chapter 13 (Lien strip junior liens to nothing).



Atty. Gene W. Choe

### CALL US IF:

- \*You are behind on your mortgage payment
- \*Your home value is lower than what you owe
- \*You are struggling to keep your home
- \*You have too much debt

**FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION!**

# (213) 639-3888



Please call Ms. Cielo Guilatco, (L.I.B.) Filipino or Mr. Michael Kang, our Loan Modification Manager. You may also email them at [Cielo@choicelaw.org](mailto:Cielo@choicelaw.org) or [Michaelkang@choicelaw.org](mailto:Michaelkang@choicelaw.org)



## LAW OFFICES OF GENE W. CHOE, A.P.L.C.

3699 Wilshire Blvd., Ste 720, Los Angeles, CA 90010

[www.loanmodifylawyers.com](http://www.loanmodifylawyers.com)

BANKRUPTCY • BUSINESS • IMMIGRATION • FAMILY • PERSONAL INJURY • REAL ESTATE • CRIMINAL DEFENSE • EMPLOYMENT