



'Champion of development.' Manila North Tollways Corporation (MNTC) President Jose "Ping" De Jesus, receives an Order of Merit award from Bong Lacson, chairman of the Society of Pampanga Columnists (SPC), for "actualizing a gateway to North and Central Luzon through the world-class, newly rehabilitated North Luzon Expressway (NLEX)." De Jesus was also cited for his initiatives to save Pampanga and the rest of the region and Metro Manila from the ravages of the Mt. Pinatubo eruptions during his term as the Public Works Secretary. The SPC is composed of Pampanga's most prestigious columnists notably Dick Pascual and Ding Cervantes, both of Philippine Star, Fred Roxas of Manila Bulletin, Tonette Orejas of Philippine Daily Inquirer, and local journalists Ashley Manabat, Arnel San Pedro and Noel Tulabut.

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