



Kamala Club donates \$100,000 to NUS

The club is supporting the education of female Indian Singaporean students

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THE Kamala Club, Singapore, has donated \$100,000 to the National University of Singapore (NUS) in support of the education of female Indian Singaporean students.

The club handed over the cheque in a ceremony at NUS on June 30.

The funds will involve the establishment of the Kamala Club Singapore Medal and will also provide bursaries for needy female Indian Singaporean students at the university.

The medal will be awarded yearly, starting from July next year, to the best performing graduating female Indian Singaporean student at NUS.

A bursary will also be awarded each year, starting from the new academic year this August.

The club's president, Mrs Raja Chowdari, told *tabla!*: "Being a ladies club, we thought of supporting female students. With limited resources, we could think of only local Indian students..."

"The medal will be given to the best undergraduate and the bursary will be awarded to needy students."

The money from the club was raised over the years through various programmes such as classes in cooking and dancing.

Said NUS president Tan Chorh Chuan: "We are pleased that The Kamala Club, Singapore, has chosen NUS as a recipient of its philanthropic support."

The gift will enable outstanding but financially needy young Singaporean women to study at NUS, and to fulfil their potential and eventually make a positive impact on society.

"We hope that the generosity of The Kamala Club, Singapore, will also inspire others to join us in further enhancing access to a transformative university education."

Said Mrs Chowdari: "Having already donated some funds to the Singapore Indian Education Trust, we thought of donating to one of the premier universities in Singapore — NUS."

The Kamala Club, Singapore, is a non-profit organisation that promotes social, charitable, humanitarian and cultural support for the local Indian community and various underprivileged groups in Singapore.

The longstanding club has both local and expatriate members.

It was inaugurated in the

1950s by the first prime minister of India, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, during his first visit to Singapore.

The club was officially named after his late wife Kamala.

A clubhouse at Moulmein Road was built through donations and fund raising and officially opened in 1957.

It was the first clubhouse in Singapore built for women and built by a woman contractor. But it was acquired by the Government in the 1980s for road development. Since then, meetings have been held at

members' houses. The club has supported causes such as flood relief.

It contributes to old-age homes and missions, and also organises awareness talks on breast cancer and women's health.

The group celebrates Indian festivals such as Holi, Deepavali and Dandiya.

It also organises monthly music, yoga and cooking sessions. The club seeks to promote multiracial harmony among the various communities here.

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Generous...
The president of The Kamala Club, Singapore, Mrs Raja Chowdari, (fifth from left) presenting the cheque to the NUS president, Professor Tan Chorh Chuan (sixth from left). With them are senior members of the club.
PHOTO: NUS