

Overcoming barriers

Scholarship recipient strives for a better life

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FAMILY hardship has never stopped Nurul Ain Amiruddin from excelling in her education. Instead it has become a challenge for her.

Being the only child, the third semester student at UiTM Sri Iskandar, Perak, realised the responsibility that she had to carry over her shoulder at an early age.

She realised that the meager earning her parents received from selling fruits were not enough to pay for her university education.

"I know how hard my parents had to work just to earn enough for the three of us.

"So I tried to do whatever I could to help them, including finding work during my school break," said Nurul Ain.

"Things became worse when my father died last year," said the girl who is hails from Bidor, Perak.

Yet she never let her situation interrupt her studies. She managed to get a study loan from the National Higher Education Fund Corporation (PIPTN) and completed her diploma. She is now pursuing her degree in Human Resource Management.

Realising her predicament, Gamuda Berhad has chosen her as

one of its scholarship recipients.

The scholarship covers the full tuition fees and provides her with monthly allowance throughout her university years.

Being a recipient of the scholarship also means that she has secured a job at Gamuda upon the completion of her study.

"I am so grateful that I have been chosen for the scholarship," she said.

Nurul Ain was one of the 28 recipients who was awarded the scholarship by the company this year.

The students who come from various places, were chosen not only based on their academic performance but also their analytical skills, leadership qualities and a good command of English language.

The scholarship award was presented by Deputy Education Minister Datuk Dr Wee Ka Siong at Kota Permai Golf & Country Club in Shah Alam recently.

Also present at the event were Gamuda Berhad director Raja Datuk Seri Eleena Azlan Shah, its chairman, Tan Sri Talha Mohd Hashim and executive director Ng Kee Leen.

Introduced in 1996, Gamuda has

spent a total of RM17mil for the scholarship which has benefited 200 students so far.

"Being a Gamuda scholar is a privilege as our scholars will have the opportunity for attachment with an established leader in construction and engineering, and have access to a range of experiences and challenges that cannot be found in a classroom," said Ng.

Ng also said apart from scholarship, Gamuda through its in-house training arm, had conducted more than 1,300 training sessions for over 10,000 personnel through its Continuous Learning Approach.

The group also runs the only private and non-profit heavy construction machinery training school in the country.

Set up in 1997, Gamuda Plant Operator School (GPOS) has trained over 25,000 skilled operators for the construction industry.

The event also saw award presentations to the 200th scholarship recipient Wong Chin Chun.

Awards were also given to seven scholars for remaining with the company for more than five years after graduating.



Do your best: Dr Wee (third from left) talking to some of the Gamuda Scholarship Award 2009 recipients. Also present were Ng (left), Raja Seri Eleena (second from left) and Talha (on Dr Wee's left).