

## Choo's toilet upgrade project gets \$100,000 donation

THE Rotary Club is pledging a \$100,000 gift to PAP candidate Desmond Choo's initiative to retrofit ageing toilets in Hougang.

With the donation, funds for the programme, which has upgraded 11 squat toilets to sitting ones and with 19 more in the pipeline, will more than double.

Another 50 toilets can then be retrofitted, said Mr Choo's campaign team yesterday. Non-slip tiles and grab bars are also included in the upgrading, based on residents' needs.

President of the Rotary Club, Mr Kumar Tapan Rao, said that he was shown a video on YouTube of a resident who had benefited from the retrofitting by a fellow Rotarian last week.

The video was produced by a

group named "The People for Desmond Choo".

"We realised that there is this problem we were not aware of out there. But it's hard to address it logistically. Will people let us into their homes to see their toilets? So we thought, let's ask the person who has already been doing this to help us," he said.

He insisted that the political dimension of the donation - coming in the middle of a by-election for the Workers' Party-held Hougang ward - did not cross their minds.

"It is not that we are wanting to promote a political cause. We are looking for a human story. If it was brought forward by an individual who has political affiliations, then we can't help that."

**RACHEL CHANG**

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