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SlopeWatch's Notes

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April 7, 2010
by Shahrin Tamarin

AMPANG: The Ampang Jaya Municipal Council contributed RM3,000 to the Coalition of Bukit Antarabangsa Residents' Association (Cobara) to fund the latter's slope monitoring programme activities.

The cheque was presented by MPAJ president Datuk Mohammad Yaacob to Cobara representative Abdul Razak Bahrom at the Council's headquarters in Pandan Indah this morning.

"We are very pleased to have close relationship with the residents on slope safety issues," said Mohammad Yaacob.

"We are glad the residents are more alert and sensitive to their surroundings so that we, as the local authority, can respond in a timely manner rather than wait for something to happen," he said.

MPAJ and Cobara have worked together on several programmes since Cobara's inception in 2009, with one being the publication of a slope guideline booklet for the public on slope safety maintenance tips.

Cobara was established following the aftermath of the Dec 6, 2008 landslide in Bukit Antarabangsa, which resulted in the death of five residents.

"We are thankful for MPAJ's assistance in providing some funds for us to initiate our programmes and awareness campaign for Bukit Antarabangsa residents. I think this partnership is the first of its kind between residents' groups and the local authority to work on safety slope maintenance issues," said Abdul Razak Bahrom, who is also SlopeWatch programme chairman.

"As everyone knows, Bukit Antarabangsa area is very sensitive to slope erosion and landslides. We hope our efforts will actively increase residents' awareness on their surroundings to reduce the risk of similar landslide disasters from happening," he said.

Cobara, with the assistance of the Public Works Department, have also been working on educational materials regarding landslide information that is explained in a simple manner for the residents.

Cobara watches over 17 neighbourhoods in Bukit Antarabangsa, including Taman Bukit Utama, Taman Bukit Mewah and Riverdale, with a total estimated population of 4,500 residents.



A HELPING HAND: MPAJ president, Datuk Mohammad Yaacob (middle right), presents a mock cheque to representatives of COBARA



Abdul Razak Bahrom

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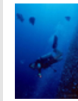
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