

KERATAN AKHBAR



AKHBAR	:	THE STAR (STARMETRO)
TARIKH	:	27/4/2017
JABATAN	:	JABATAN PERHUTANAN
KLASIFIKASI	:	PERHATIAN

Prince joins in mangrove planting effort

Event in Pulau Ketam held in conjunction with school's 50th anniversary and Earth Day

By ALLISON LAI
metro@thestar.com.my

MORE than 250 people had a pleasant surprise when the Raja Muda of Selangor Tengku Amir Shah Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah joined them to plant mangrove trees in Pulau Ketam, Port Klang.

The participants, who were mainly students and alumni members of SMK Tengku Ampuan Jemaah, Port Klang, were divided into five groups after arriving on the island via ferry.

After a briefing, they walked with Tengku Amir for about five minutes before arriving at the site where they planted 300 saplings of *bakau kurap*, or *Rhizophora mucronata*.

Student Nadiah Rosli, 17, said she enjoyed the experience although her pants were partially covered in mud.

"Walking along the slippery surface to my spot was fun," said the

17-year-old.

The event was organised by the alumni of SMK Tengku Ampuan Jemaah in conjunction with the school's golden jubilee celebration to mark 50 years.

"The mangrove tree-planting programme was organised along with the Earth Day celebration that falls on April 22 each year.

"Various agencies such as the Forestry Department, community leaders and residents helped realise this effort to preserve the environment," said alumni chairman Ahmad Mansor Sa Abu Hassan.

He noted that mangrove trees served as barriers to prevent erosion and reduce the impact of waves on the island's shoreline. They also helped protect Pulau Ketam's ecosystem while preserving the natural habitat of the flora and fauna there.

"Besides, the wetlands are also a source of food for birds and aquatic life," Ahmad Mansor said.



Tengku Amir Shah (centre) planting a *Bakau Kurap* sapling during the mangrove planting programme in Pulau Ketam. — Bernama

Tengku Amir Shah (centre) with some of the 250 volunteers, comprising alumni and students of STAJ and NGO members, at the mangrove tree-planting programme organised as part of the Earth Day celebration. — Bernama