Health centres for orang asli

Information and programmes on nutrition will be available to the villagers.

AJINOMOTO (Malaysia) Bhd recently sponsored and carried out its Corporate Citizenship Day at orang asli villages of Kampung Penderas and Kampung Pasu in Kuala Krau, Pahang.

At the villages, 90 Ajinomoto Malaysia staff and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) students worked with the locals to refurbish and transform abandoned houses into Nutrition & Health Resource Centres. These resource centres will serve as an educational and informative hub for the villagers — helping them to improve their overall well-being and lifestyles through a healthier diet.

Community volunteers are trained to run the centres, equipped to empower the women with a local nutrition programme that will improve the health and nutrition of their infants and children.

The resource centres are set up as part of the Ajinomoto International Cooperation for Nutrition and Health Support Programme (AIN). The AIN programme is funded by Ajinomoto Co. Inc, Japan, in collaboration with UPM and Ajinomoto Malaysia.

It is aimed at improving people’s quality of life by supporting local communities in the field of food and nutrition throughout the five-year programme, which was launched in 2009, with a RM174,000 grant.

A donation drive was conducted before the Corporate Citizenship Day, where useful items like furniture, clothes and more were collected from staff and distributed to the orang asli in both villages.

Ajinomoto Malaysia managing director Hiroshi Amano together with UPM post graduate and student’s affairs deputy dean Prof Dr Mohd Roslan Sulaiman and villages’ tok batin officiated the resource centres and the closing of the Corporate Citizenship Day.