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Community

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Monday, 15 August 2016

Help protect our environment

BY STEPHEN THEN

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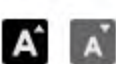
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Ting (squatting) planting a tree donated by Dayang Enterprise in Piasau Nature Reserve, Miri. — STEPHEN THEN/The Star



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MIRI: The state government needs assistance from the private sector to “re-green” the environment.

Piasau assemblyman Datuk Sebastian Ting yesterday said there was a need to replant trees in order to restore our ecosystem and air quality.

“This is especially important in fast-developing areas such as in big cities and towns.”

Speaking at a ceremony to replant 100 trees in the Piasau Nature Reserve, some 10km from Miri, he said those in the private sector could play a role in providing logistics and financial support to assist the government in regreening the ecosystem.

The trees were donated by Dayang Enterprise.

“These private entities have the human resources to identify areas which urgently need conservation or restoration.

“They are also able to provide financial resources to implement such projects fast,” he added.

Ting, who is Sarawak United Peoples Party secretary-general, said Dayang Enterprise was an established oil-and-gas company and was thus able to go big in conservation and preservation projects in Miri.

“The move by Dayang to replant trees in Piasau Nature Reserve is worthy of being emulated as this area is a very important place for the hornbills.

“I am very involved with the Piasau Nature Reserve project as it is a very unique place.

“It is very rare to see hornbills living freely in an area close to a city. We must put in every effort to preserve this place.”

Ting lauded the contribution by Dayang, saying that the combined effort towards preserving the environment and the ecosystem would, consequently, be beneficial for society.

“Issues on air pollution, ecosystem degradation and land clearing are urgent topics nowadays, as they contribute to global warming and other climate change.

“So, the private sector is needed to play a bigger role in restoring the environment where they operate in,” he stressed.

Ting said having more trees would improve air quality as a single tree could produce about 80kg of oxygen per year.

He said trees absorbed carbon dioxide, cleaned up air pollutants and acted as barriers against sound pollution.

It was proven that trees provided tranquility, which in turn, beneficial for physical and mental health, he noted.

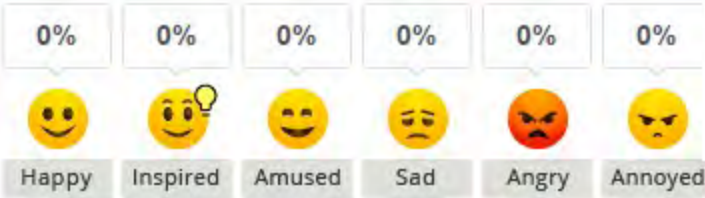
“A serene environment with plenty of trees is calming to the mind and body.

“Trees provide clean air and also retains water and moisture and helps to maintain soil fertility and helps to sustain ground water,” he added.

Dayang deputy chairman Datuk James Ling, in his speech, said Dayang was glad that it could contribute towards making Miri a better place for its people.

TAGS / KEYWORDS:

Sarawak , Family Community , trees



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