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Transforming young minds

MANJUNG: Seeing her parents waking up early in the morning every day to tap and collect latex, has made Nur Salsabilla Mohd Sobri determined to change her family's life for the better.

The 11-year-old student of Sekolah Kebangsaan (SK) Tan Sri Ghazali Jawi in Grik here, knows that education is the best tool for her to change the fate of her family.

"I realise that I am still young, but that will not deter my spirit to help my parents and it must start now. I used to be a shy kid in my kampung but today, I believe my kampung would be dull without me," she commented wittily.

Nur Salsabilla, who hails from Kampung Air Panas, Grik, said she could not have done it if she was not selected for the Pintar-TNB Student Leadership Programme.

"The programme has helped me enhance my communication and soft skills, as well as boost my self-confi-

dence. I used to be a shy student but now I am talkative, and can express myself better," said Nur Salsabilla who wishes to be a doctor.

She is one of the participants who attended the three-day camp which took place at Orient Star Hotel in Lumut here. This year, for the first time, the students were taken to visit the Sultan Azlan Shah Power Plant.

The schoolchildren took on a variety of modules and courses that were designed to enhance self-awareness, personal growth, and management as well as leadership and academic achievements.

Echoing her sentiment was Muhammad Haiqal Mohd Ridzuan from SK Tanjung Batu in Pekan, Pahang, who gave the thumbs up on the contents of the programme.

"I spent three days here and I get to make new friends from Selangor, Kedah, Terengganu, Kelantan and more.

This was also my first time in Perak," he said.

Muhammad Haiqal said besides having new friends, he was also excited to learn how electricity was produced during the field trip to the power plant.

"I have never thought that the electricity could be produced by using coal. The power plant is huge and it provides up to 25 per cent of our country's electricity supply.

"It is amazing and something new for me. The explanation given by the staff on how electricity is produced was really fascinating. This camp is packed with knowledge and it drives me to be an engineer," he said.

Salina Saad, a teacher of SK Jelutong, Penang, said her school was adopted by TNB last year and the eight students who were chosen to take part in the programme had shown positive development.

"A healthy self-esteem is a child's

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Technician Ku Halim Ku Ahmad briefing the students on the operations of the Sultan Azlan Shah Power Plant.

armour against the world's challenges. Children who know their strengths and weaknesses are better at handling conflict.

"The programme has definitely met the objective of guiding them in terms of leadership, academic and soft skills," she said.

Mohamad Safirudin Hamdan, a teacher at SK Datuk Akhir Zaman in Negri Sembilan said it was a good initiative taken by TNB, in carrying out its

corporate social responsibility.

"Having to teach students in the rural areas for years, most of them refuse to come forward and they find it hard to express their opinions during the learning session. But for those students who had participated in this programme, I have seen some changes.

"Even though it is still early, there has indeed been a change in the students. They can now express their opinions and ideas," he added.



The participants of the three-day camp. They were selected from 11 schools throughout Malaysia.