

Headline	RM80,000 new solar energy system for Kampung Orang Asli Pucur		
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RM80,000 new solar energy system for Kampung Orang Asli Pucur

KLUANG: Residents of Kampung Orang Asli Pucur, Kahang here can now enjoy the benefit of free electricity provided through the solar energy system.

The system, which is capable of supplying 4,000 watts of electricity, was developed by a group of researchers from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM) at an overall cost of RM80,000 provided by Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad.

Project leader Dr Jasrul Jamani Jamian said the project to develop the solar energy system, which has a life expectancy of 21 years, began since September last year with cooperation from Mersing polytechnic, Department of Orang Asli Development (JAKOA) and Tenaga

Nasional Berhad (TNB).

"Over the past 11 years, 28 families in the village depended on the limited supply of electricity, which is only available from 7pm until 6am, from a diesel-powered generator at a cost of RM2,000 a

"However, with the installation of solar energy system at the village's eco-treatment station, they can now enjoy electricity supply around the clock everyday," he

Jasrul Jamani who is also a lecturer at UTM's Faculty of Electrical Engineering said this to reporters during the launch of the 'Pioneer Project: Eco-Treatment Station and Guideline for Easy Maintenance of Solar Energy' at the village on Thursday.

Also present were the faculty's dean, Professor Dr Johari Halim Shah Osman; Bank Islam Malaysia Berhad head of branding and corporate communications Azmir Abdul Malek, as well as the state JAKOA director, Wan Assim Wan Sheikh. Meanwhile, village head Tok Semangar Ahmad, 54, hoped that the solar energy could be extended to 18 more houses around the village in the future.

"It has greatly provided for the needs of the villagers, especially for Muslims who are preparing for the month of Ramadan and Aidilfitri celebrations," he added.



RESIDENTS of Kampung Orang Asli Pucur, Kahang in Johor stand next to the Solar Energy System installed at the village on Thursday. PHOTO: BERNAMA