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COLLABORATION WITH UKM

SOLAR LIGHTS BRIGHTEN UP LIVES OF 30 VILLAGERS

MPB/NSTP voluntary
brigade installs 7
solar streetlights
on remote island

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FOR years, 30 villagers from nine families living on a remote island called Kampung Che Soh here had relied on only one electric pole to light up their area.

However, the villagers, who are mostly fishermen received good news on Friday.

Seven Alpha solar streetlights were installed on their island, courtesy of Media Prima Bhd (MPB) and Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

MPB Group Corporate Communications Department general manager Azlan Abdul Aziz said the project was an initiative of UKM's Burhanuddin

Helmi Club.

He said five voluntary brigade members from MPB and the New Straits Times Press took part in the project, the first collaboration with UKM for the Tumpat area.

Fisherman Kamarulzaman Omar, 58, who represented the villagers, thanked MPB and UKM for their generosity.

"All this while, we (villagers) have been living in darkness and relied only on one electric pole to light up our village."

"If we needed to go out at night, we had to use torchlights.

"Many of us prohibited our children, especially our daughters, from going out at night.

"We wanted to prevent untoward incidents from happening to them as our village is surrounded by thick bushes and a river," said the father of seven at Kampung Che Soh yesterday.

Kamarulzaman said the solar streetlights were installed in the darkest areas of the village, including near the mosque and school.



A voluntary brigade member from Media Prima Bhd and the New Straits Times Press installing an Alpha solar streetlight in Kampung Che Soh, Tumpat, yesterday. PIC BY NIK ABDULLAH NIK OMAR