FGV’s Community Learning Centres Home-delivers Exam Questions to 1,046 Students in Sabah



Various other programmes held throughout last year, to support the rights of children in FGV’s plantations

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 JANUARY 2021 – To ensure that the children of its plantation workers do not fall behind in their studies in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, FGV Holdings Berhad’s (FGV) Community Learning Centres (CLC) in Sabah have gone the extra mile to facilitate 1,046 students in taking their year-end examinations safely from home. The year-end exams took place over a duration of five days in mid-December 2020 and results are due to be out in mid-January 2021.

Printed examination questions were delivered by 36 teachers to the homes of 876 primary students, and 170 secondary students, residing in nine villages in FGV’s Sahabat Complex in Lahad Datu, namely Kampung Baiduri Ayu, Kampung Cenderawasih, Kampung Embara Budi, Kampung Fajar Harapan, Kampung Gemalapura, Kampung Hamparan Badai, Kampung Jeragan Bistari, Kampung Kembara Sakti and Kampung Mercu Puspita.



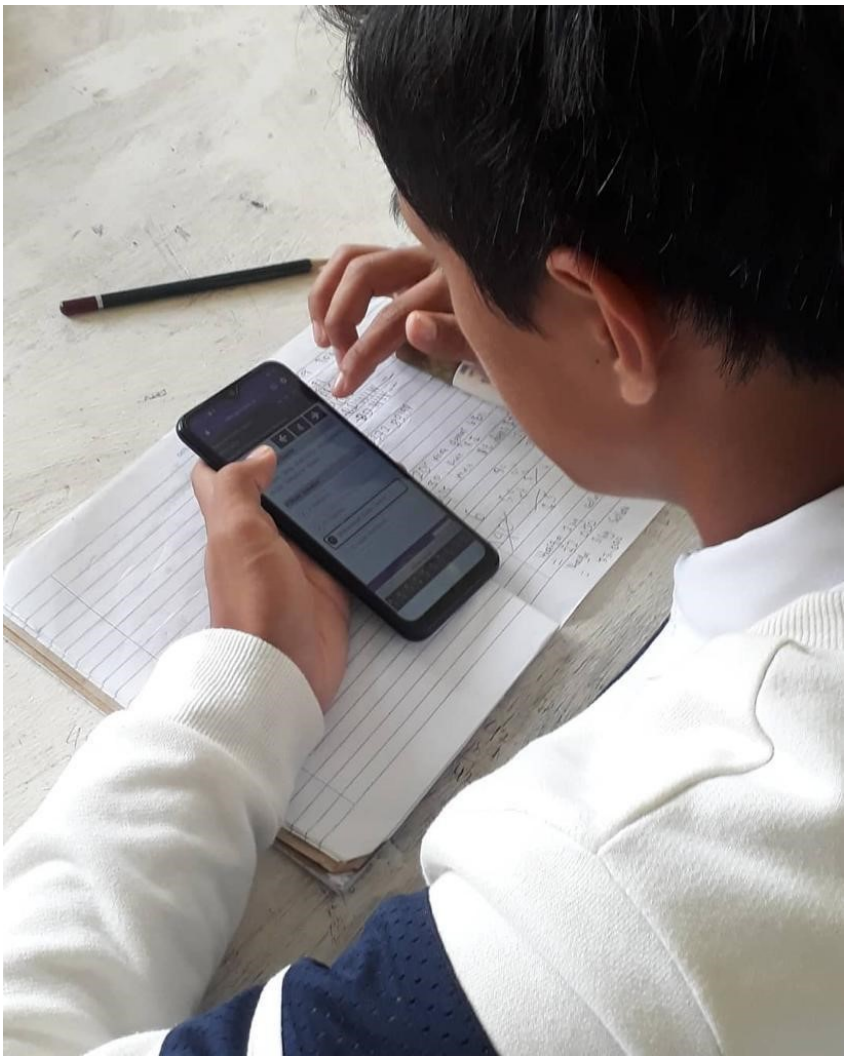
FGV's CLC students receiving exam papers delivered to Kampung Cenderawasih, in Sahabat Sabah

Dato' Haris Fadzilah Hassan, FGV's Group Chief Executive Officer said, "We salute the dedication of all the teachers in our CLCs, who continue to assist students beyond the classroom. At FGV, we believe that education and educational activities are essential in building good values for a dignified life. We strive to protect the rights of the children of our workers, and are committed to ensuring that they are given equal opportunity to gain knowledge and enjoy their right to education."

As most of FGV's plantation workers in Sabah are from Indonesia, FGV works closely with the Embassy of The Republic of Indonesia in Malaysia through its Consulate in Tawau, as well as the Private Education and Special Education Sector of the Sabah State Education Department. This is to provide the CLCs with syllabus, teaching aids, textbooks and teachers who are accredited by the Indonesian Ministry of Education and Culture.

Adi Tri Sutrisno, Headmaster of FGV's CLCs in Sahabat said, "Leading up to the final year-end exam, we managed to conduct online learning sessions utilising mobile platforms and applications for classes and homework throughout the challenging time of the Movement Control Order, so that our students would not miss out on their lessons."

"The main challenge was in introducing the usage of gadgets and online applications to students who have never used them before. In time, they adapted and responded well to e-learning conducted through Whatsapp, Google Classroom and Zoom Meeting applications. Examination subjects include Religious Studies, Mathematics, Bahasa Indonesia, English Language, Science, Social Studies, National Education, Sports and Physical Education, Creative Appreciation and Cultural Arts," he added.



Furthermore, 14 students from FGV's CLCs in Sahabat also took part in the 'Appreciation of Creativity, Science and Arts (APKRES) 2020' online competition for Sabah and Sarawak in November 2020. The competition called for participants to submit creative videos in several cultural categories such as storytelling, debate, drawing, culinary skills, online chess, singing, musical performance, and poster design among others. Two students received official certificates for winning runner up in the drawing and culinary skills categories, and had their winning videos uploaded on FGV's CLC Sahabat's YouTube channel.

In an effort to ensure that the right to nationality is fulfilled for children in FGV's plantations, a registration programme was held by the Republic of Indonesian Consulate in Tawau in July 2020, where a total of 302 children received their official birth certificates and Indonesian citizenships. In addition to that, a new CLC was launched in Kampung Jeragan Bistari and officiated by Sulistijo Djati Ismojo, Consul of The Republic of Indonesia in Tawau. The event ran concurrently with FGV's CLC Graduation Ceremony for year 2020 which saw 95 graduates from primary six to secondary three.

FGV also participated in the Sabah Polio Immunisation Campaign (KIPS) under the Ministry of Health for children below 12 years old in collaboration with the Lahad Datu District

Health Office in February last year. 171 children at its plantations were successfully immunised at the FGV Sahabat 36's Jeragan Bistari Clinic in the Lahad Datu area.

FGV has taken the initiative to invest RM5 million in establishing the 11 CLCs in Sahabat and Kinabatangan in Sabah. The CLCs function as alternative learning centres for children who are not enrolled in formal education. The project which began in 2018 is expected to be completed in 2021 when four more CLCs in Kalabakan and Yapidmas will be operational.

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