

House gift for orang asli family

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GOPENG: A needy orang asli family is finally able to have a decent roof over their heads thanks to Berjaya Youth (B Youth) who came to their aid in collaboration with EPIC Homes.

Roni Hassan and his family of 10 were delighted and thankful to finally be able to have a house that would accommodate all of them in relative comfort.

"We are so thankful for this new house. We have been living in the old house with my parents for the past nine years, from the time I got married," Roni told the media.

Roni, 25, is from the Semai tribe in Kampung Ulu Gerundum, and does odd jobs at construction sites.

He was living in a dilapidated house with his wife, Nitol, their

three children and his parents and sister's family.

"The bad condition of the house and overcrowding were the reasons this family was chosen for this project. The total cost of the project was RM80,000, the cost of the house itself was about RM40,000. The balance was for the compulsory pre-build training for all the volunteers, logistics and other costs," said Bcorp corporate communications senior manager Emily Tan.

The new home, a six-module house designed by EPIC Homes measuring 640 sq ft, comes with a living room, a kitchen and three bedrooms.

The project was completed with the combined efforts of 35 volunteers, aged 18 to 34 years, who had gone through a builder's basic workshop two weeks before the project commenced where

they learned basic construction methods and skills like carpentry, nailing, and drilling.

"We are happy to be able to do this for Roni and his family. This project turned out to be much better than the first one in Gombak where we had some minor stumbling blocks due to the high terrain. We will definitely be building more homes in this village, at least one more," Loh Jon Ming, 27, one of the co-founders of EPIC Homes told the media.

"That would be the beginning of developing the community by empowering them," Loh added.

This is the second such build project undertaken by B Youth

The first project was carried out in last August which saw more than 30 youth volunteers joining forces to build a new home for an orang asli family in Gombak.



The house for a needy orang asli family under construction by B Youth volunteers.