KEMENTERIAN TENAGA DAN SUMBER ASLI

KERATAN SURAT KHABAR

SURAT KHABAR	:	NEW STRAITS TIMES			
TARIKH	:	16/11/2021 (SELASA)	MUKA SURAT	:	11
JABATAN	:	JPSM PULAU PINANG			



Penang Island City Council staff members planting mangrove saplings in the Balik Pulau Forest Reserve yesterday. PIC TAKEN FROM PENANG ISLAND CITY COUNCIL'S FACEBOOK PAGE

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WAVE BUFFER ZONE

5,000 mangrove saplings planted in Balik Pulau Forest Reserve

BALIK PULAU: A total of 5,000 mangrove saplings were planted in the Balik Pulau Forest Reserve in Jalan Baru here yesterday to strengthen the area as a wave buffer zone.

Penang Island City Council (MBPP) Mayor Datuk Yew Tung Seang said this was also done to preserve the ecosystem and create a marine life protection location in the area.

He said the initiative was in line with the City Council's mission to plant 100,000 trees in Penang by 2030.

"From 2008 to this month, we planted 54,856 trees in several locations, including in mangrove swamps, to greenify the state.

"We are confident that the target is achievable with the commitment and cooperation from various agencies," he said at the Balik Pulau Forest Reserve here yesterday.

Present was state Forestry Department director Muhammad Ezhar Yusuf.

Yew said more than 100 City Council staff planted the mangrove saplings in the 1ha site.



Datuk Yew Tung Seang

Ezhar said the mangrove swamp area in the forest reserve totalled 166 ha.

He said that, every year, mangrove saplings and other trees would be planted to maintain the ecosystem.

"This mangrove area is an important wave buffer zone.

"We know that this area was hit by a tsunami in 2004 and the mangrove trees have proven that they can reduce the impact of the disaster.

"This mangrove swamp must be preserved so that it remains a strong wave buffer zone and a shelter for marine life," he said.

He added that apart from mangrove saplings, other tree species, such as api-api , were planted in the forest reserve as they had the potential to address erosion.

"The tree species will be planted according to the suitability of the soil, and it will be planted continuously here so that the mangrove swamp ecosystem is protected."