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Maybank Foundation rewards top students in 4 PEERS adopted schools

Maybank Foundation today presented special incentive awards for academic excellence to top students in four primary schools in Selangor under its PEERS (Promoting Educational Excellence in Rural Schools) programme. The four schools were SK Sungai Lui, SK Sri Lanang, SJK (T) Batu Arang and SJK (C) Jenjarom.

Twenty three top UPSR achievers from the four schools received a Samsung Galaxy Tablet each while seven students who achieved 5As in their 2013 Standard 5 school examinations received cash awards of RM100 each. Ten other students who achieved 4A1Bs in their 2013 Standard 5 final examinations also received RM50 each.

The awards were presented by Maybank Foundation Chairman, Tan Sri Dato' Megat Zaharuddin Megat Mohd Nor at a special ceremony held in SK Sungai Lui. Also present were Maybank Head of Group Corporate Affairs, Eliza Mohamed and representatives from Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah and Jabatan Pelajaran Negeri Selangor.

Tan Sri Megat said: "It's always pleasing when our Maybank Foundation efforts, like our support for the 15 schools under our PEERS programme, yield outcomes like school band upgrades. We could see fulfilment from the students who received the rewards for their achievements. From the other students observing, there was a sense of shared pride which coupled with knowing the on-going support given, provide a sense of pride and inspiration".

The four schools involved in today's event have improved their performance ranking from between Band 4-5 to Band 3 since they have been under the PEERS programme.

At the event, Maybank also invited Perthpal Singh Khosal, a professional motivator from Learning Edge Consultants to give a motivational talk to the teachers and students.

The Maybank PEERS programme aims to help improve the standards of education among rural schools through various programmes that provide academic support, as well as encourage personal development and capacity building.

This programme is among the key initiatives under Maybank Foundation's focus on educational development especially among disadvantaged communities.

Under this programme, Maybank Foundation has committed to assist schools to improve their academic and extracurricular standards as well as enhance the personal development of the students. This includes recognising eligible students for their academic achievements in key examinations, supporting the schools with ICT facilities, helping students improve their English proficiency and creating a competitive and engaging learning environment.

Maybank works with programme partners such as British Council, MoneyTree Malaysia, NST and Learning Vista to deliver these programmes. Initiatives include teacher training programmes with British Council, Financial literacy programmes with MoneyTree, providing educational tools via

collaboration with NST (educational workshops and weekly reading supplements) and ICT literacy programmes with Learning Vista.

Maybank Group currently has 15 adopted schools throughout Malaysia under the PEERS programme, which is very much in line with its commitment to being at the heart of the community as part of its mission in humanising financial services. For the last two years, Maybank Foundation has invested close to RM3 million for its PEERS programme. During this period, it has seen the number of students attaining straight As in the UPSR examinations increase from 46 (in 2012) to 52 (in 2013) in its PEERS schools.