

EMPLOYEES AT THE TAARAS BEACH & SPA RESORT EMBARK ON BEACH CLEAN-UPS ON REDANG ISLAND

REDANG ISLAND, TERENGGANU, 16 AUGUST 2021 – As part of The Taaras Beach & Spa Resort's efforts to maintain a clean and safe environment on Redang Island, employees of the resort embarked on a series of beach clean-ups to collect washed up rubbish which included tons of plastic from the shorelines and surrounding areas of Redang Island.

Preserving and caring for the sustainability of the marine environment is a conservation initiative close to the heart of the Founder and Chairman of Berjaya Corporation Berhad, Tan Sri Dato' Seri Vincent Tan. With his guidance, the beach clean-ups were carried out by employees of the resort, led by the resort's Area General Manager, Mr. Pravir Mishra. Among the clean-up locations were The Taaras beach, Teluk Kerma, Teluk Sauh, Pulau Lima, Mat Simpang, Tanjung Lang, Pasir Akar, Batu Tok Kong, Tanjong Leboh, Teluk Mat Deloh, Tanjung Gua Kawah, Batu Berole, Batu Chak, Air Jemuruh, Teluk Siam and Teluk Tigi.

From a total of 20 clean-up initiatives, 1,832 trash bags with an estimated weight of 54,960kg were collected and sorted for recycling and disposal at the mainland of Kuala Terengganu. In the history of beach clean-up initiatives carried out by the resort, this has been, by far, the most amount of trash collected.

The collected trash comprised a huge amount of plastic waste, polystyrene and fishing nets discarded by fishermen at sea, ropes and containers - a result of intentional littering and dumping into the ocean. Some trash is also littered on land, which gets washed away by rain into streams, rivers and eventually the ocean. The currents and waves then carry the debris and wash them ashore. It is crucial to ensure that washed up trash is cleared from the beaches to prevent them from going back to sea which could affect the growth of corals and endanger the marine life.

Mr. Pravir Mishra said, "The Taaras Beach & Spa Resort is very supportive and proactive when it comes to conservation and sustainability. It is crucial that we continuously protect and preserve the marine environment together with our beautiful beaches on Redang Island for our future generations. To protect the local marine life is to ensure that visitors from all over the world can continue to enjoy the stunning natural beauty of Malaysia for generations to come."

THE TAARAS BEACH & SPA RESORT, REDANG ISLAND - MALAYSIA

managed by Berjaya Hotels & Resorts owned by The Taaras Beach & Spa Resort (Redang) Sdn Bhd (189508-H) P.O. Box 126, Main Post Office, 20928 Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu, Malaysia. • + 60 (9) 630 8888 • + 60 (9) 630 8898 • info@thetaaras.com

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"The ocean is another world beneath the waves and coral reefs provide an important ecosystem for life underwater. They are a source of nourishing food and needful medicines, and add to the beauty of vacation sites, thus contributing to a sustainable economy. Coral reefs also provide a protective buffer against tsunamis and tropical storms. Hence, it is the responsibility of every individual to keep our beaches and islands clean and safe," he added.

The Taaras Beach and Spa Resort, managed by Berjaya Hotels & Resorts, is the only 5-star luxury resort in Redang Island with a private beach. Among the other sustainability and conservation efforts carried out by the resort include the establishment of the SEATRU Turtle Lab which provides conservation and education on the plight of the sea turtle; retrieving and recycling ghost nets into beach cabana roofing; replacing plastic straws with paper straws and replacing plastic drinking water bottles with reusable glass bottles for refills from alkaline water filters, and introducing a paperless check-in system.

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For further information, please contact Ms. Maya Kaur, Manager, Corporate Marketing & Communications, Berjaya Hotels & Resorts at <u>maya.kaur@berjayahotel.com</u> or 03-2149 1867.

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