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Friday October 1, 2010

RM6.5mil for 26 orang asli families

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SHAH ALAM: Twenty-six orang asli families from the Temuan tribe in Bukit Tampoi, Dengkil, near here whose customary land was acquired to build the Nilai-Banting highway to the KL International Airport 15 years ago, have received RM6.5mil in compensation.

High Court judge Datuk Nurchaya Arshad ordered that RM5,956,600 of the sum be deposited with Amanah Saham Nasional Bumiputera and distributed to the families involved.

The balance, he said, would be given to the Bukit Tampoi Temuan community to, among others, build a community hall, set up a trust fund and for village committee use.

The matter was decided after all the families agreed with Nurchaya's advice on the best way to manage the compensation due to them.

Also present were lawyers Jerald Gomez and Valerie Chong who assisted the court in the proceedings, non-governmental group Pusat Keprihatinan Orang Asli coordinator Dr Colin Nicholas and Shah Alam ASNB head Razali Mohd Zain.

On May 26, after a long legal battle, the Federal Court recorded a consent judgement whereby the Federal Government, Lembaga : Lebuhraya Malaysia and contractor, United Engineers (M) Bhd (UEM), agreed that LLM would pay the families RM6.5 million as full compensation for their land.

In April 1996, seven members of the community filed the compensation suit against the defendants after 15.2 acres of their land was taken to build the highway in 1995.

They were Sagong Tasi, Kachut Tunchit, Dabat Chabat, Kepal Kepong, Sani Saken, Ilas Senin, and Tok Batin Tukas anak Siam. However, Tunchit, Senin, Kachut and Tukas Siam have since died.

Sagong, 79, when met by reporters afterwards, said: "After 15 long years our ordeal is finally over. We are very thankful to our lawyers." – Bernama

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