

WELCOME NOTE BY DATUK MARIMUTHU NADASON



Dear Friends of Bukit Larut,

I wish to welcome all of you to this website. In deed it is my pleasure to continue the struggle that started in 1990s. Back then in 1997, it was a battle of RM 200 million worth project which cable car was one component of it. Later in 2007, the cable car was put forward as a separate project worth RM 60 million. Now in 2009, the same RM 60 million plus others are suggested. There is no ending.....

We are continuing the effort of Taiping Consumer Association and ERA Consumer which included FOMCA as a partner to protect the ecosystem of the hill and more importantly the water catchment area there. A biological study was done and the results can be viewed in this website.

Being an NGO activist and strong supporter of Sustainable Development, I personally do not feel that this project will benefit any one in Taiping except the hawkers and fees collectors for proposed cable car. Soon to be 'White Elephant of Taiping' should not be encouraged.

My good friend, DM Ponnusamy written a good piece on **31 Firsts in Taiping**. This is historical heritage that are being abandoned not highlighted. In fact many historical buildings are being eaten up by development.

In my recent visit to Bukit Larut, I manage to take a walk in Bukit Larut. I noticed that erosion, landslides are 'easy to spot' along the way to top hill. Solid waste management is at its worst condition for this sensitive area. If with this low tourist flow the hill is not managed, what will happen if 1000 people start to move in?

We condemn the proposed planning in the area not because we got nothing better to do; it is to make sure rakyat's interest is well taken care of. This Bukit Larut preservation effort will be an effort of all of us. I urge all of you to join this course to save Bukit Larut and many other hills from falling as a prey to development. Destruction of highlands is destroying our own future.

More programmes will be done in Larut, Matang and Selama to improve the understanding of the issues pertaining Bukit Larut. This district depends on Bukit Larut. Save Bukit Larut, say no to hill development. Leave a legacy to our children and their's. Support this web, join our facebook as well as email you support to **info@bukitlarut.com.my**.

Yours sincerely,

Datuk Marimuthu Nadason

NGO activist since 1981

14 February 2009