



UTAR NEW VILLAGE COMMUNITY PROJECT REPORT

NAME OF NEW VILLAGE:
PEKAN NENAS 北干那那
PERAK

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ABSTRACT

Pekan Nenas is located at Johor state. It is famous for its pineapple plantations which provide many opportunities for employment and economic development in the new village. Pekan Nenas has primary and secondary schools to cater for the needs of the local population. However, its road and communication infrastructure need to be upgraded.



Signboard of Pekan Nenas

Symbolic of Pekan Nenas

HISTORY

Pekan Nanas, which means Pineapple Town, is located in the southwest of Johor. It is situated in Pontian district, Johor. The headman of Pekan Nenas is Mr. Tay Boon Kwee. This new village was established in the year of 1950. It is Malaysia's largest producer of pineapples. The majority of its 10, 000 residents are Chinese.

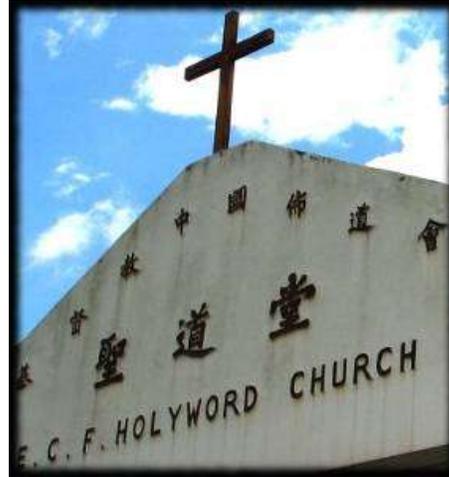
The main modes of transport in Pekan Nenas are motorcycles and cars. Traditional transport like bicycles are now rarely used. Similarly, most traditional houses made of wood are now replaced by brick structures like those in the cities.

Pekan Nenas is located 55km from Singapore. Many from the younger generation have left Pekan Nenas for better work opportunities in big cities, especially Singapore. Pekan Nenas' neighbouring areas, villages and towns include Pulau Orchid Valley (6.5km away), Taman Pulau Indah (7.5km away), Masjid Kampung Melayu Kangkar Pulau (8.5km away), SK Kangkar Pulau (8.6km away) and Bukit Resam (9.2km away)



Houses at Pekan Nenas

CULTURE, SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS PRACTICES



ECF Holyword Church

Religion

There is an ECF Holyword Church in Pekan Nenas. The church has 3 main groups: the Ministry of Foreign Workers, the Youth Fellowship and the Children's Sunday School.

MCA Lifelong Learning Centre

MCA Tanjung Piai Lifelong Learning Centre launched its first centre in 2005. This centre focuses on providing technical training and skill-based courses namely, automobile repairs and baking. This is followed by the second and third centres which are located in Pekan Nenas, Johor and officially launched in October 2006 and January 2008 respectively. These centers' focus on the public talks, short courses such as UK City & Guilds English classes, Hip-hop dances, as well as Yoga.

Lions Club of Pekan Nenas 北干那那狮子会



Logo of Lions Club

The Lions Club of Pekan Nanas was established in December 2007. The purpose of this club is to develop a caring society and to contribute to society in terms of the services provided. The newly elected President for 2010 is Chong Lee Fong.

EDUCATION

Pekan Nenas has primary and secondary schools. Among the primary schools are SJK(C) Yu Ming 1, SJK(C) Yu Ming 2, Sekolah Kebangsaan Pekan Nenas and a Sekolah Agama.

SJK(C) Yu Ming 1 has about 998 students. There are 56 teachers in the school which has a total of 31 classrooms. One of its classrooms is used as a kindergarten. Datuk Wee Jeck Seng, “Timbalan Menteri Belia dan Sukan and Ahli Parlimen Tanjung Piai” is an alumnus of the SJK (C) Yu Ming 1. This shows that Pekan Nenas capable of producing leaders for the country.

Secondary schools in this new village are the SMK Pekan Nenas and SMK Dato’ Mohd Yunos Sulaiman. The schools have uniform, sport and club activities. They also take part in competition in various fields, e.g; taekwondo, cooking, baking and dancing.

The residents in Pekan Nenas understand the importance of education. They want their children to go to school and to have the opportunity to further their studies and seek employment in sectors beyond the traditional plantation industry. Many villagers are also sending their children to the cities for further education.



SJK(C) Yu Ming



Sekolah Agama



SK Pekan Nenas



SMK Pekan Nenas

ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

In the past, pineapple plantations dominated the landscape. Currently, there is a mixture of rubber and pineapple plantations. One of the established companies producing pineapples in Pekan Nenas is Aqina Pineapple Sdn. Bhd. It is located at No.92A, Jalan Utama 3, Taman Utama, 81500 Pekan Nanas, Johor.

Next is the Pineapple Cannery of Malaysia Sdn.Bhd which is at Batu 26, Jalan Nanas, Pekan Nenas, 81500, Pontian, Johor, Malaysia. Its pineapple products bear the brand name “Malapine” and it specializes in canning of pineapple. Malapine is known for its high quality pineapples which are popular among consumers.

PROBLEMS

The income of pineapple plantations is declining as a result of several factors: drop in price of pineapples, increase in number of suppliers, and uncertainties during the period of growth of each new crop.

Pekan Nenas' close proximity to Singapore and the easy availability of buses to the island has posed a problem. Gamblers from Pekan Nenas often travel to Singapore's Casino.

In terms of health facilities, Pekan Nenas has only one clinic: Clinic Desa. This clinic deals with minor health problems. Residents with serious health problems need to go to either Pontian Hospital which is 16km from Pekan Nenas or Johor Hospital which is 30km away.

In terms of security, Pekan Nenas has witnessed several crimes lately.

RECOMMENDATION

More job opportunities need to be created in Pekan Nenas to reduce the flow of its younger population to the cities. It needs to retain its talented youngsters who can help to bring up economy in Pekan Nenas. Pekan Nenas also needs to get the attention of outside investors. By bringing up these investors, the village will have more job opportunities for its younger population.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Pekan Nenas is only a short distance from Singapore. It can leverage on this advantageous location to attract international investors.

APPENDIXES



A picture with the Headman of the Pekan Nenas



A picture with the Headmaster of SJK (C) Yu Ming 1

DISCLAIMER:

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