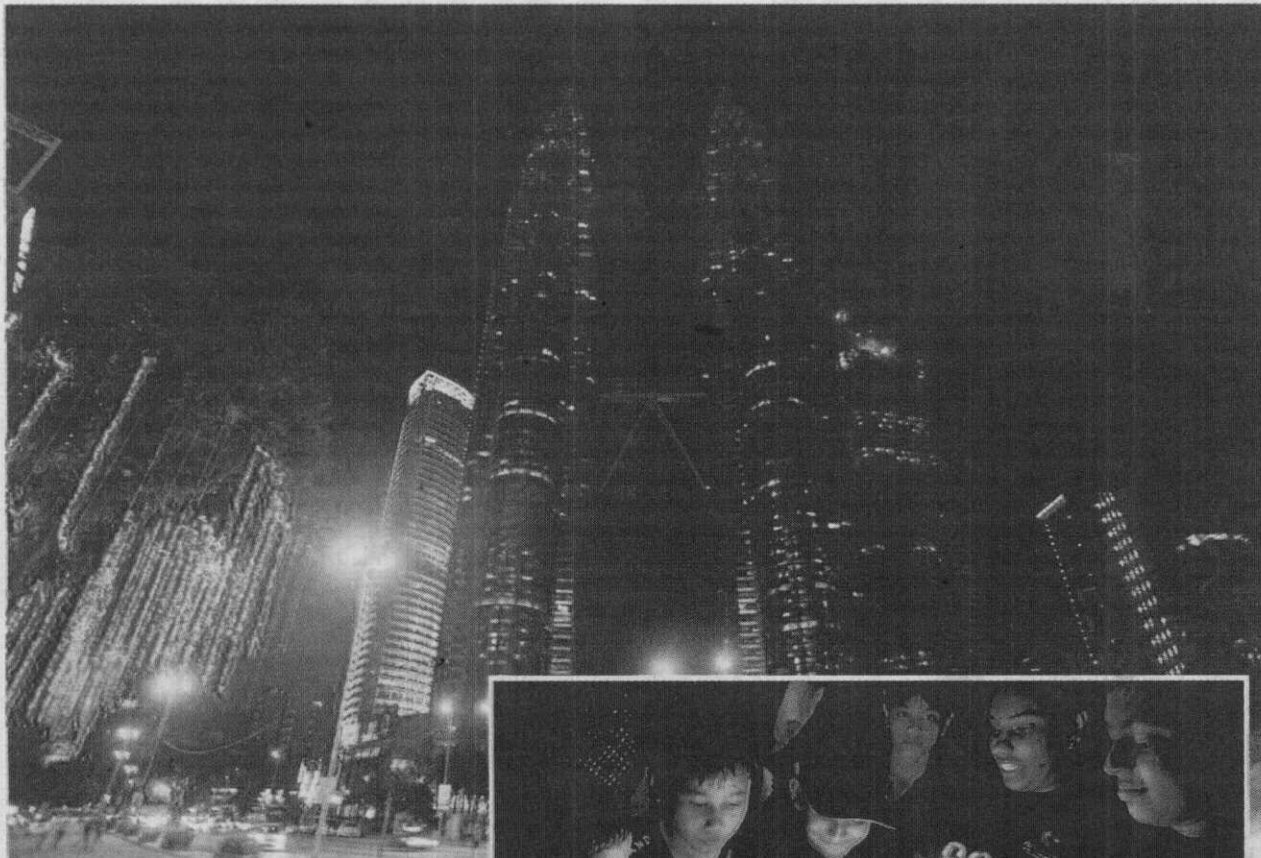


Climate change issue brought to light with an hour of darkness



Seeing the light: The Petronas Twin Towers became the centre of attention when the building switched off the lights from 8.30pm to 9.30pm in support of Earth Hour 2011 last night. (Inset) Children at the Esplanade, Penang, lighting candles after the lights were switched off.



KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysians joined millions around the world last night in switching off lights and electrical appliances in a symbolic gesture in support of Earth Hour 2011 – the campaign to create awareness about climate change.

They switched off the lights from 8.30pm to 9.30pm.

In Petaling Jaya, the Sunway Pyramid turned dark for an hour last night in an event jointly organised by WWF-Malaysia.

Cheers of “Save the World” were heard before the crowd started singing the famous Michael Jackson song *Heal the World* with lighted candles in their hands.

“We did not inherit this Earth from our ancestors, we simply borrowed it from our children,” Sunway Pyramid CEO H.C. Chan said.

More than 120 youths also gathered at the Sunway Giza Mall in Kota Damansara to observe Earth Hour.

Participants of the Earth Hour Youth Fest lit organic candles and entertained shoppers with performances.

They also gave away custom-made bookmarks and explained the importance of energy conservation.

The event was the brainchild of 15-year-old Ravyna Jassani, who wanted to do more than

just switch off the lights for an hour.

In Sepang, 30% of the lights in some areas of KL International Airport (KLIA) were switched off from 8.30pm to 9.30pm.

The airport management turned off the terminal lights at the main terminal building, contact pier, satellite building and the LCCT-KLIA station.

Malaysia Airports (Sepang) Sdn Bhd general manager Mohammad Suhaimi Abdul Mubin said this would help KLIA conserve 194 kilowatts of electricity.

LCCT-KLIA would see savings of 43.5 kilowatts.

In **GEORGE TOWN**, the lights at iconic places, including the High Court building, City Hall and Town Hall, were switched off from 8.30pm to 9.30pm.

A downpour failed to dampen the spirit of the people observing Earth Hour at the Esplanade.

Several thousand organic candles were placed at the Esplanade field to make out the figure “60” (to represent 60 minutes) and the words “Earth Hour 2011”.

Earth Hour, which kicked off in Sydney in 2007, was organised by World Wide Fund For Nature for concerned individuals around the world to take a stand against climate change and global warming.