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(From left) Datuk Zaal Azha Yusuf, Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid and Datuk Azyiah Mohamed planting saplings Kinrara Golf Club. — Picture by L. Manimaran

200 saplings planted for a greener Malaysia

PUCHONG: Two hundred saplings were planted at Kinrara Golf Club recently under the "Trees to Green" initiative.

The project was I&P Group chairman Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid's response to the Natural Resources and Environment Ministry's call to the company to carry out its corporate social responsibility by increasing the acreage of green areas in the country.

The Forest Research Institute Of Malaysia (FRIM) helped by identifying 20 suitable tree species, including *ke-lat*, *kekatong*, *assam gelugor*, *kandis* and *tembusu*.

I&P Group chairman Tun Ahmad Sarji Abdul Hamid, the ministry's chief secretary Datuk Zaal Azha Yusuf and deputy secretary-general (1) Datuk Azyiah Mohamed, I&P Group managing director Datuk Jamaludin Osman and other dignitaries planted saplings at the launch.

"We are always aware of and attentive to the need to balance devel-

opment with the preservation of the environment. It has become our culture at I&P to ensure that every project of ours places emphasis on environmental quality," said Sarji.

Zaal thanked the I&P Group and Kinrara Golf Club for cooperating with the ministry and FRIM to make the tree planting programme a success.

"It cannot be denied that Malaysia, as a developing nation, needs planned growth to ensure that we are not left behind in terms of economy, technology and social development when compared to other nations.

"We should be aware of our responsibility to protect nature and the environment."

Zaal said Malaysia was blessed with great bio-diversity but without proper conservation and systematic management of its natural resources, the negative impact of development would not only be felt by the country but also by the world. — *By Naveen Mathew Menon*