

## Broga Hill Hike under Super Moonlight



by Ir. Siew Yaw Jen

HIGHWAY AND TRANSPORTATION TECHNICAL DIVISION

**BROGA** Hill is located between Kg. Sri Broga in Semenyih and the University of Nottingham campus. The hill is about 400m high and is mainly covered with tall, green 'lalang'. It is a very popular trail for an early morning hike with a chance to capture the sight of a mesmerising sunrise over the towns of Kajang and Semenyih.

Early Sunday morning on 20 March 2011, 14 IEM members and friends gathered at a petrol station next to the main road between Kajang and Semenyih. We then headed towards an oil palm estate opposite a rabbit farm where we parked our cars. With close to 40 cars ahead of us, we expected the hill to be rather crowded. It was between 5.00am to 6.00am then; with our headlamps on, we started our trail through the oil palm estate towards the hill.

The first section of the trail was very dark thanks to the cover of trees. After about 15 minutes of rather steep climbing, we reached a clearing. The path is well defined

and earth had been carved out from the surface of the hill to form steps which made the climb easier. The steep climb led us to a flat area for a welcoming pit stop. There were already many people at this stop, not to mention some aspiring photographers with their tripods. The previous night, the phenomenon of the "Super Moon" occurred. That is when the Super "perigee" Moon is about 50,000km closer to Earth than any other ellipse. Even at this low altitude, the rare sight of a full Super Moon over the town of Kajang and Semenyih was stunning.

The trail leading towards the peak of Broga Hill was rather gentle passing through very tall 'lalang', some taller than the average man's height. The crowd dwindled down as we approached the peak. Finally, we reached the peak after climbing over a steep rock face. A large signboard next to a rock welcomed and informed us that we have reached the peak at 400m. We soaked up the beautiful scenery



Super Moon light over Kajang town



Sunrise



Moon light over Kajang town



Members that reached the peak



*Queuing to descend*



*Group photo at the car park*

before us amidst low lying mist while sipping hot cups of coffee. The peaceful quiet serenity made it all worthwhile to sacrifice a Sunday morning sleep-in. It was unfortunate that thick clouds had covered the hills, so the sunrise was not that spectacular. Nevertheless, it was still an amazing view to behold irrespective of the number of times that one has been there.

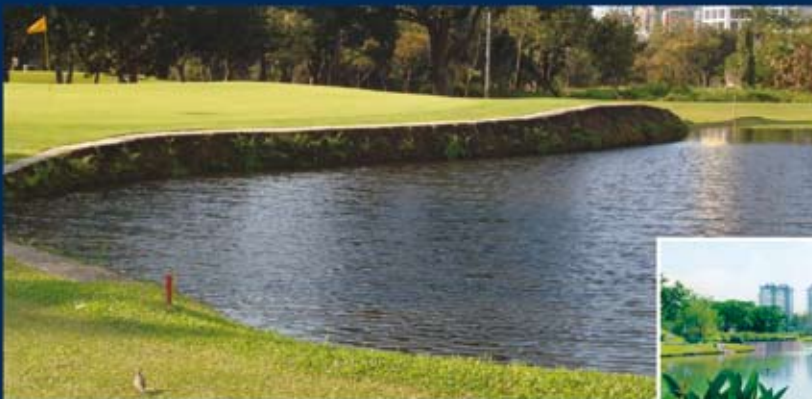
The journey downhill was much faster, although some stretches had long queues due to the steep slope and wet surface. After a quick change of clothes as well as a group photo, some headed for Broga town for some well deserved Sunday brunch. The hike was indeed a welcome respite from the hustle and bustle of city life. It was a chance for us to take a step back and enjoy the beauty of nature. ■



## Design for a green environment

Engineer nature into a work of art with geosynthetics from TenCate. Replace ugly concrete with visually stimulating vegetation. Straight lines easily become curved lines. Flat slopes become steep slopes. Steep slopes become safe.

To save space, improve aesthetics and reduce costs, call TenCate for a variety of environmentally friendly soil reinforcing and erosion protection solutions.



**TenCate Geosynthetics Malaysia Sdn Bhd** (264232-U)  
 14, Jalan Sementa 27/91, Seksyen 27  
 40400 Shah Alam, Selangor Darul Ehsan, Malaysia  
 Tel: +60 3 5192 8568, Fax: +60 3 5192 8575  
 info.asia@tencate.com, www.tencategeosynthetics.com

**TENCATE**  
 materials that make a difference