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Passions burn bright as torch run advances

Telekom Malaysia and Ajinomoto staff
witness milestone with much excitement

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THE burning passion of the Kuala Lumpur 2017 Torch Run continued to fuel the spirit of togetherness as it passed through Menara Telekom Malaysia.

About 400 runners from Telekom Malaysia Bhd (TM) clad in Team Malaysia's bright orange and black jerseys were stationed across four checkpoints – the police station, Pullman Junction, Menara TM and Kerinchi LRT station – in support of the torch handover ceremony.

Flagging off at Tenaga Nasional, the torch was handed over to the TM Group torch bearers – brand and communication vice-president Izlyn Ramli, deputy group chief executive officer Datuk Bazlan Osman, group chief executive Datuk Seri Mohamud Shazali Ramly and enterprise sales executive vice-president Wan Ahmad Kamal Wan Halim.

The atmosphere was highly charged with loud cheers and music as supporters from TM Team Malaysia cheered on, while the staff were seen taking selfies and selfies with the Rimau mascot.

"Our jerseys are part of the limited edition merchandise for TM's platinum sponsorship for KL 2017.

"These pieces are available through Petronas Mesra outlets, TMpoint centres as well as vending machines," said Izlyn.

Wan Ahmad Kamal then handed over the torch to Lembah Pantai

Sports and Recreation Community Club representative Mohd Nazri Abdul Rahman at the fifth checkpoint at Wisma R&D Universiti Malaya.

After covering a 7.5km trail, the Torch Run ended at Ajinomoto (M) Bhd (AMB), Jalan Kuchai Lama, where the group was greeted by thunderous applause and whistles.

AMB chief administration officer Kamarudin Rasid, who led the last leg of the run, handed the torch over to managing director Naoko Yamamoto, who then passed it on to chairman Gen (R) Tan Sri Dr Mohamed Hashim Mohd Ali before symbolically placing it on the torch pillar.

The torch handover ceremony was truly a momentous affair for AMB staff as they had the opportunity to witness such a milestone.

In his speech, Mohamed Hashim said the Torch Run was a tradition in all major sporting events that reflected the inclusiveness of sports and its role in uniting communities of the country.

Ajinomoto Co Inc is the platinum sponsor of the 29th SEA Games and 9th Asean Para Games.

"We strongly believe in the development of youth through sports and will continue to support programmes or initiatives for this purpose," he said.

The sponsorship also commemorated 60 years of diplomatic relations between Japan and Malaysia.



(From right) TM Group torch bearers Izlyn, Mohammed Shazaili, Bazlan and TM staff cheering as the torch reaches the fourth checkpoint at Menara TM, Kuala Lumpur. — SAM THAM/The Star



Yamamoto (right) handing over the torch to Mohamed Hashim at the Ajinomoto headquarters in Jalan Kuchai Lama, Kuala Lumpur. — EBBY SAIFUL/The Star