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PRESS RELEASE

PJV takes 'road safety' message along the Highlands Highway

PORT MORESBY, 10 DECEMBER, 2018, 0900HRS: The Porgera Joint Venture (PJV) recently carried out an awareness campaign on safety around big trucks targeting school children along the Highlands Highway.

To encourage a safety culture among the youngsters, PJV also launched a Road Safety Poster competition.

At least six schools between Laiagam and Porgera in Enga, were the target of the 29 October visit.

According to PJV Senior Community Relations Officer David Kaik, many students play on the road.

They also run after the big trucks such as semi-trailers and fuel tankers travelling to and from the Porgera gold mine.

He said due to the nature of the mine operation, sometimes these trucks transported dangerous goods, as a result, the awareness campaign by PJV was necessary to highlight the possible risks they were exposing themselves to, even death.

"Those of you who take the road to go back home, when you see those big trucks on the highway, you must know that these trucks carry different kinds of mining goods," Mr Kaik told students at the Koemal Seventh-day Adventist Primary School.

He also advised them to keep away from the trucks whether they were being driven on the highway, parked on the road side, or even those that were involved in accidents or incidents.

The other primary schools visited were Tumudan, Waimas, Kasap, Yakenda, and Aiyak, starting from Aiyak and up to Maip in the Laiagam District.

The message was the same to students at the respective schools.

The teachers were appreciative of PJV's efforts on road safety for the students.

"I always talk a lot on the subject but some children don't listen so it is good that different people are talking to them about the same subject", an appreciative Deputy Head Teacher of Kasap Primary School, Anna Mathius said.

The schools were also presented with basic stationery for the students to participate in the competition.

At the start of the 2019 academic year, the winners from each school will receive a K200 shopping voucher and their schools will also receive consolation prizes from PJV.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Porgera Gold Mine in Enga Province, Papua New Guinea, is operated by Barrick (Niugini) Limited (“BNL”)– through an equal partnership between Barrick Gold Corporation and Zijin Mining Group Company Limited – which owns 95 percent participating interest in the Porgera Joint Venture (PJV). The remaining 5% in PJV is owned by Mineral Resource Enga (MRE) Limited – a consortium consisting of the Enga Provincial Government and the Porgera landowners.

The Porgera Mine employs over 3,300 Papua New Guineans, and over the life of the mine has produced more than 20 million ounces of gold and contributed approximately 10% of PNG’s total annual exports.



Mr Kaik (left) talking to students at the Koemal SDA Primary School.



PJV community relation officers talking to the Yakenda students and some members of the community

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