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The Headline (Front Page)

THE BRIBIN II PROJECT: The First and Latest of Such Kind in the World

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The water installation project is inaugurated by the Minister of Public Works, Ir. Joko Kirmanto on Thursday, March 11, 2010. Kirmanto says that the underground water utilization with turbine system is a pioneer project with the latest technology. This project is a grant from the Government of Germany and has been conducted in 2002-2009. It is expected to provide the residents of Gunungkidul with water supply especially during the dry season where the southern regions always experience severe drought. "This technology is the latest and operated the whole day without utilizing electrical energy, thus very effective" says Kirmanto. He hopes that this project will be well maintained so that it gives sustainable advantages and can be a pilot project for other regions to do the same matter in the future.

The inauguration of The Bribin II project is conducted at the same time with the inauguration of other infrastructure projects conducted in all regions of Yogyakarta. It begins with the signatory by Prof. Dr. Franz Nestmann from Karlsruhe University, Dr. Ruediger Furrer from BMBF Germany as the representative of the Federal Government of Germany, the Head of National Nuclear Agency (BATAN) Dr. Hudi Hastowo, and the Governor of Yogyakarta Sri Sultan Hamengku Buwono X in Sewokoprojo meeting hall. This signatory is witnessed by the Regent of Gunungkidul Suharto. Sultan says that the inauguration of the Bribin II project is an international event for the technology being operated is the first and latest of such kind in the world. Such technology is the answer to the water supply needs for Gunungkidul's residents as well as for technocrats and scholars who wish to develop it. In the future, Sultan says, Indonesia and Germany are going to continue cooperating in developing underground water utilization technology. It is so because there will be another project, i.e. Seropan Cave project with different technology. "We do hope for another success for the Seropan project" he adds.

After switching the tap, Prof. Nestmann says that the great success of a long journey started in 2002 is made by a mutual cooperation of some parties namely BATAN, Public Works Department, some universities, and the regional government and local people of Gunungkidul. With limestones in his hands, Nestmann says that it is because of those that some years before German geological experts made a long journey to Gunungkidul and worked hard pumping up the underground water.

The Head of BATAN says that the underground water with 106 meter deep is pumped up using turbine system, moved and generated by a dam, without electrical energy. Then, it is pushed to Kaligoro Hill with 140 high. It means that the underground water goes up about 250 meter high and is finally distributed with gravitational system to 80,000 residents in three districts of Semanu, Tepus, and Rongkop.