Doing their bit for charity at CIMP

By MARY CHEN

THE recent tsunami tragedy, which affected the lives of millions across the Indian Ocean, was an event that brought out the spirit of giving in many people, including the students, parents, lecturers and staff of the Canadian International Matriculation Programme (CIMP) at Sunway University College, Selangor.

"Seeing the devastating images daily on television, and how it took away so much from those who had so little to begin with, really saddened me," said CIMP lecturer Romona Tsao, who discussed ways to help the victims of the catastrophe with her students.

They then got together to raise funds, collect clothes, foodstuff and medical supplies for the victims by organising a four-day fund-raising event. Flyers and posters announcing their effort were soon plastered all over the campus's notice boards to raise awareness and to encourage donations and participation.

Sunway University College, which had already contributed RM5,000 to the Tabung Bencana Tsunami through the Higher Education Ministry, was still ever willing to support CIMP's fundraiser, placing cash-collection boxes at strategic areas of the campus for two consecutive weeks.

CIMP student, Glorie Low, also managed to convince her mother, Angie Low, and friend Rosemary Yeoh to chip in. They made nasi lemak and baked cookies for a charity sale after classes commenced.

Said Tsao: "I was gratified by the support of everyone involved, and was impressed by the initiative of the staff and students of CIMP, as well as the talents of the cooking group!"

Sunway University College's Victoria University Business Club also chipped in and donated RM2,000 to the fund. The money came from the cash pool collected from student subscription to the club.

At the end of the two-week charity drive, the collection totalled RM11,200 in cash and 14 large boxes of clothes and foodstuff.

The collections were then channelled to the Malaysian Red Crescent Society via the Sunway Group Tsunami Relief Fund.