

KERATAN AKHBAR

NAMA AKHBAR: NEW SUNDAY TIMES (NEWS/ NATION)

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PREPARED

FIRE DEPT SET TO FACE FLOODS

Rainy spell may worsen effects of high-tide phenomenon in Sarawak

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THE state Fire and Rescue Department is ready to deploy its personnel and assets to areas that may experience flooding

during the high-tide phenomenon, which is expected to occur between 6pm yesterday and 5am today.

The department's flood operations room will monitor low-lying areas every two hours and update residents on high-risk locations.

"According to the telemetry system (of the state Drainage and Irrigation Department), there has been an increase in water levels in Batu Kitang here and Dalat, Mukah.

"And, based on previous incidents, Batu Kitang will continue to see a rise in water levels, which is why the department is closely monitoring



Nor Hisham Mohammad

the area.

"The department is keeping tabs on the situation in Ulu Baram, where the flow of water in rivers in the area has slowed," said the department's director Nor Hisham Mohammad.

Although the situation is under control, authorities fear that the rainy spell will worsen the ef-

fects of high-tide phenomenon.

"Our concern is that the heavy rain will slow the flow of water from hilly areas to the sea (which can result in flooding).

"But the department is prepared for any eventuality."

The state Natural Disaster Management Committee secretariat said 11 people from four families were evacuated after their houses in Kampung Sungai Batu here were inundated.