

FLASH FLOOD HAVOC IN 3 STATES

Hundreds seek refuge at relief centres after continuous rainfall leads to floods

MOHAMED BASYIR
AND MOHAMED FARID NOH
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

FLASH floods wreaked havoc in various parts of the country on Monday, forcing hundreds of people to seek refuge in relief centres.

In **Johor Baru**, 1.52m-deep floodwaters left 15 homes in Kampung Ulu Pulai and Kampung Pulai in disarray after five hours of continuous rain since Monday morning.

Skudai Fire and Rescue Department operations chief Suraini Adnan said the state operations centre personnel were dispatched to the two locations to assist in relief efforts.

"Water levels are still rising as Sungai Pulai has spilled over into low-lying areas. We are working with the police, Civil Defence Force and People's Volunteer Force (Rela) to evacuate victims."

A Larkin Fire and Rescue Department spokesman said flash floods measuring 1m in depth struck Jalan Lurah 19, Kempas, Johor Baru and inundated three houses.

In addition, 42 people from nine

households were affected when their homes in Kampung Parit Basilam and Kampung Maju Jaya in Pontian were hit by a flash flood.

The victims have been housed in a temporary relief centre in Madrasah Parit Silam and Home-stay Kampung Maju Jaya.

In **Penang**, continuous down-pour since yesterday morning triggered floods and inundated homes and roads on the mainland.

Almost 200 victims were evacuated to relief centres as floodwaters rose between 0.3 and 0.74 metres.

Five major roads in the Central Seberang Perai district were closed to traffic after they were submerged in 0.1 to 0.45 metres of water.

The roads affected were Jalan Tembikal, Jalan Kulim, Jalan Kebun Sireh, Jalan Permatang Tok Subuh and Jalan Perindustrian Bukit Minyak. The situation eased in the evening.

State Welfare, Caring Society and Environment Committee chairman Phee Boon Poh said only two flood relief centres were opened.

He said 66 people seeking shelter at the Kampung Pisang surau had been transferred to the Kampung Telok community hall.

At the Kampung Permatang Tok Suboh surau 96 victims who had sought shelter there returned to their homes on Monday evening.

The Dewan Perda Timur relief centre, which initially housed 11 flood victims including a new-



Faulty drainage systems caused several houses to be flooded after heavy rain at Jalan Lurah 19, Kempas Baru, Johor Baru, yesterday. PICTURE COURTESY OF FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

born, was closed at 3.20pm.

In **Perak**, 265 flood victims from the Hillir Perak and Kerian districts are being housed in temporary relief centres.

A Perak Fire and Rescue Department spokesman said that of the total, 235 victims were placed in the relief centre at SK Changkat Jong, Teluk Intan.

"The victims comprised 114 men and 121 women," the spokesman said.

He added that 30 more victims from seven families, comprising 14 men and 16 women, were seeking refuge at SK Changkat Lobak.

The relief centre at the Parit 13 community hall in Titi Gantong to accommodate five people from four families in Central Perak was closed at 11am yesterday.



Several flood victims at a relief centre in Kampung Permatang Tok Suboh, Bukit Minyak in Penang yesterday. BERNAMA PIC