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Situation in Terengganu has improved in certain areas, says MB

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Underwater: Maahad Muhammadi boys' school in Rantau Panjang was forced to close due to the floods.

SETIU: There is no need to declare a state of emergency as the situation has improved in Terengganu, says Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Ahmad Razif.

Although the situation in some low-lying areas remained the same early yesterday, Ahmad Razif said it was not as serious as the 2013 and 2014 floods.

“We do not see a need to declare a state of emergency,” he told reporters after visiting flood victims at Kampung Tasek here yesterday.

However, Ahmad Razif said that if the need arose, the state government would seek the advice of relevant agencies.

Evacuees at relief centres want nothing more than to see the flood waters subside.

A mother of two, Salmah Lazim, 41, feared for her family when waters started to rise Tuesday night.

“We were so scared as we waited for help to arrive. We’re told waters had risen to chin level.

“We can’t wait to go home,” she said at the centre here.

State Education, Science, Technology and Transformation Committee chairman A. Latiff Awang said 27 schools would remain closed today.

He said the closure would affect 5,806 students and 705 teachers in five districts.

As the downpour continued yesterday, some 50 employees from the Hulu Terengganu Hospital had to be ferried to their work place on a tractor provided by the district operations room.

State Health Department director Dr Mohammad Omar said: “Both sides of the road will be closed, but in case of an emergency, we will use a lorry or an ambulance to ferry patients to the hospital.”