

INCLEMENT WEATHER

WARNING ON ISOLATED STORMS

They will hit northern states, the East Coast, Sabah and Sarawak until Saturday

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ALTHOUGH recent reports show lower floodwater levels, the Malaysian Meteorological Department yesterday warned northern states, east coast states, Sabah and Sarawak to expect isolated rains in the morning

and isolated thunderstorms in the evening until Saturday.

Its director-general, Datuk Che Gayah Ismail, said Sabah and Sarawak should brace themselves for up to five downpours given the northeast monsoon, which was expected to last until early March.

"During the northeast monsoon, flooding is normal, especially for East Coast states," she told the *New*

Straits Times.

She said a low-pressure system, which was increasingly active in the Andaman Sea, was expected to move north-northwest before hitting Myanmar on Wednesday.

"Another low-pressure system will hit central Philippines today (yesterday) and is expected to move northwest towards South China Sea.

"The presence of these active systems has resulted in the trough line shifting to the northern region past our country."

Yesterday, Bernama reported that

the water level in Sungai Kelantan at the Guillemard Bridge, Tanah Merah, Kelantan, had dropped to 12.53m, compared with 12.83m on Saturday, while the water level at other rivers had returned to normal.

Kelantan recorded a slight drop in the number of flood evacuees to 4,695 people as of 8am yesterday, compared with 4,770 people the night before.

In Terengganu, the situation improved with the number of evacuees decreasing to 1,342 people on Saturday night compared with 1,430 victims in the afternoon.



Datuk Che Gayah Ismail