

COUPLE SUFFERS RM60,000 IN LOSSES

Floodwaters
damage house,
destroy crops

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WHEN it rains, it pours. This was the situation faced by an elderly couple, who suffered RM60,000 in losses due to the floods in Kampung Paya Teh here.

Not only was their house in 5 metres of floodwaters, but their crops and chickens were also destroyed by the flood.

Rojas Harun, 66, and his wife, Aminah Awang Hitam, 62, never thought that the floods could devastate nearly all of their property again after suffering a similar experience during the 2014 floods.

"Every time the floods hit, I will suffer losses amounting to thousands of ringgit when my crops and farm animals are destroyed.

"This time it is worse as the water rose up to 5m, damaging furniture and other belongings," Rojas said.

The couple earned a living by selling chickens, vegetables and fruits.

Rojas said his losses were from banana and sugar cane plants planted on a 1.6ha plot of land, as well as from the death of 30 chickens.

"I feel like crying as I cannot take this anymore. I leave it all to Allah. I don't know where else to go as this is our only home."

Rojas said he had six children who no longer stayed with him as they



Rojas Harun throwing away damaged furniture in Kampung Paya Teh, Jerantut, on Sunday. PIC BY AMIR HAMZAH NORDIN

had their own families.

Meanwhile, Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) said it would carry out upgrading work at all substations in Pahang in stages to ensure they could function during floods.

In the latest floods, 62 substations in Temerloh and here were inundated and this disrupted electricity supply to 3,273 consumers.

However, as of yesterday, only one substation in Triang, eight in Temerloh and three here were not functioning.

State TNB general manager Datuk Sharuddin Mohd Simin said substations were inundated every time floods hit.

"Past experiences have taught TNB to make early preparations,

such as providing 53 5kw portable generators to vital places, such as hospitals, police stations, public halls and flood relief centres.

"This year, eight large and small power generators were placed in this district."

Pahang Civil Defence Force director Zainal Yusoff said as of noon yesterday, the state's flood situation

had improved with the number of evacuees dropping to 5,455.

The evacuees, from 1,461 families, were located at 82 flood relief centres in seven districts.

Temerloh recorded the largest number of evacuees with 2,241; Pekan (1,122); Maran (948); Bera (585); Jerantut (387); Lipis (90); and Rompin (82).