

## MITIGATING FLOODS

# Perak gets RM250m for anti-flood projects

**LENGGONG:** The Federal Government has approved the allocation of more than RM250 million for the implementation of flood-mitigation projects in Perak over the next few years.

Deputy Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Hamim Samuri said this came under the Sungai Perak Integrated River Basin Management (IRBM).

He said the allocation would be spent on programmes in Teluk Intan costing RM60 million, Kampung Gajah (RM50 million), Sungai Siput Chandan (RM16.9 million) and here (RM20 million).

"The funds will also be used to beautify and strengthen river banks, as well as building environmentally friendly drains in Kuala Kangsar, which cost RM107 million," he said here yesterday.

Hamim instructed the Drainage and Irrigation Department



*Datuk Hamim Samuri*

(DID) to find a long-term solution to the issue before implementing the programmes.

"The weather can drastically change due to the global warming phenomenon. It has caused states, including Perak, to get more rain."

For instance, he said, it had always been forecast that the monsoon season would occur in December, but it had moved to the subsequent month.

He said in the future, a new list of important projects would be made necessary and district officers should assist in their implementations.

"This is necessary so that they can be implemented based on the National Blue Ocean Strategy, in collaboration with other agencies."

He said DID had guidelines on IRBM, and Urban Stormwater Management Manual on flood retention and measures to reduce the speed of water running off from areas under development.