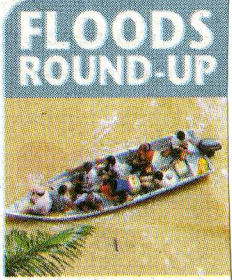


Shahrizat: Help the govt rebuild lives of flood victims



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MUAR: Show your corporate citizenship by adopting flood-hit villages or relief centres.

Women, Family and Community Development Minister Datuk Seri Shahrizat Abdul Jalil made the call to multinational corporations and non-governmental organisations yesterday and urged them to provide much-needed aid to flood victims.

She said they could help lessen the government's financial bur-

den by rebuilding damaged houses and properties and replanting crops damaged by the floods.

The government, she said, could not shoulder such a heavy burden alone and the sharing of responsibility was necessary to enable victims to recover from their traumatic experiences and losses suffered due to the floods.

Shahrizat said the government hoped the victims would be able to return home soon to rebuild their lives.

"We have stored up sufficient foodstuff and other basic necessi-

ties to prepare for the worst," she said after handing over a cheque for RM5.1 million in financial aid to Menteri Besar Datuk Abdul Ghani Othman at the community hall in Kesang Laut here yesterday.

The aid is to enable the Johor government to provide immediate assistance to flood victims and manage the disaster.

Shahrizat said another RM3.5 million had been distributed to 17,413 families who received RM200 each.

She said the victims needed

support and sympathy to rebuild their lives.

She urged donors to adopt rehabilitation programmes to enable victims to get back on their feet quickly.

The minister said those who wished to donate should register or telephone the Welfare Department in the respective districts so that they would know what was needed by the victims.

Members of NGOs and Umno Wanita are also being mobilised on a large scale to help the victims.



Shahrizat (front row, centre) with Ghani (right) helping flood victims prepare a meal.