

East coast hit

Star 8/1

EVEN though the cyclone has weakened to a 'monsoon disturbance', heavy rain fell on the East coast of peninsular Malaysia and caused flooding in two states. The monsoon rains are expected to last till Wednesday.

- > **Floods in Terengganu and Kelantan**
- > **About 400 evacuated so far**
- > **Flood situation in Sabah worsens**
- > **Water in Johor is safe for consumption**

> Stories and pictures on P3 and 22

400 flee flooded homes

Kelantan and Terengganu hit by monsoon rains

KUALA LUMPUR: Floods have hit the east coast states of the peninsula, with nearly 400 people having to evacuate their homes in Terengganu and Kelantan.

In the interior Sabah district of Nabawan, some 20 people at Kampung Salong were made homeless when three houses were swept away by a swollen Sungai Logongon. Waters in the state continue to rise at "dangerous levels."

In Johor, water levels have subsided and there were now only 16,389 evacuees in 57 relief centres in Batu Pahat, Muar and Segamat.

The meteorological department has warned of strong winds from the South China Sea lashing at the east coast of the peninsula, which could cause high waves of up to six metres.

The northern part of the Straits of Malacca will also see waves as high as 3m to 4m as monsoon rains strike Perlis, Kedah, Penang and northern Perak.

As at 8pm yesterday, some 300 villagers have been evacuated from their homes in Terengganu and 87 in Kelantan.

In **KUALA TERENGGANU**, a spokesman of the police flood operation centre said waters were now ankle deep in Dungun, Setiu, Hulu Terengganu and Besut districts.

"We have yet to receive an accurate report on how many people have so far been evacuated as some of these affected parts are secluded and difficult for rescuers to access.

Two major trunk roads, km76 Jerangau-Jabor road and km11 Jerangau-Kuala Jengai road have been closed to all vehicles until further notice.

The following stretches have been closed to light vehicles: km36 Jalan Kampung Cherating; km38 Petronas Mercang stretch in Marang; and km8 Pasir Akar stretch in Besut.

In **KOTA BARU**, continuous downpour of 10 hours from 10pm on Saturday in most parts of



Damaged again: The bridge connecting Kampung Dura and Jenagor in Terengganu was washed away due to strong currents for a second time. The previous bridge was washed away last year. — Bernama

Kelantan caused 87 people to be evacuated to flood relief centres in Kuala Krai and Pasir Mas by 8pm.

State drainage and irrigation department director Lim Chow Hock said the water levels at Sungai Kelantan in Kuala Krai, Sungai Golok in Rantau Panjang and Sungai Lembing in Tualang had exceeded the alert levels.

In **KOTA KINABALU**, Beaufort assistant district officer Mohd Shaid Othman said Water Department technicians were working round the clock to repair equipment at the district's two water intake stations that were damaged after being submerged in the floodwaters since Friday.

▶ See Nation 22

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Floods at danger level in Sabah

KOTA KINABALU: Rain over parts of Sabah have kept waters at the danger level, including in the southwestern Beaufort district where taps have been running dry over the past three days.

Though floodwaters continue to surround their houses, taps have however been running dry for Beaufort's 80,000 residents.

Beaufort assistant district officer Mohd Shaid Othman said Water Department technicians were working around the clock to repair equipment at the district's two water intake stations that were damaged after being submerged in the floodwaters since Friday.

In Kinabatangan district, constant rain was causing floodwaters in Kinabatangan river to rise to 8.63m. The danger mark is 9m.