

Floods worsen in northeast



Splash: Pupils of SK Cherating watching a boy playing in the rain while waiting for a bus as water levels rose in the school's compound yesterday. — Bernama

1,900 flee deluge in Kelantan, Terengganu

KUALA TERENGGANU: The flood situation in Terengganu has worsened with the number of evacuees reaching 1,638 from 450 families.

A National Security Council spokesman in the state said until 9am yesterday, 935 people from 283 families in Hulu Terengganu had been evacuated, while in Setiu the number rose to 403 from 102 families.

The situation in Kemaman has worsened with the number of evacuees rising to 265 from 19.

The spokesman said all roads linking Kuala Terengganu to Kelantan and Pahang, however, were passable to all vehicles this morning.

The water level of Sungai Besut at the Kruak Bridge is now at 35m, exceeding the danger level of 33m, at 19.2m in Kampung La (danger level – 17.2m) and 8.9m (7.3m) at Jertih Bridge.

Terengganu Education Department director Razali Daud said a total of 41 schools in Hulu Terengganu and Setiu had to be closed because of floods.

He said some of the schools were inundated by up to 2m of water while access roads to others were cut off by floods.

Meanwhile, more flood victims have been evacuated to relief centres in Kelantan.

The number of flood victims in the state at relief centres stood at 376 people yesterday morning but by afternoon the figure had risen to 866 people.

A spokesman at the Flood Operations Room at the Kelantan police headquarters here said so far 13 flood relief centres have been opened in five districts, namely Kota Baru, Bachok, Pasir Mas, Tanah Merah and Pasir Puteh.

The following roads are closed to light vehicles; third kilometre Jalan Pengkalan Rakit



Strong current: A mother holding on to her child as they wade through the water in Terengganu yesterday.

(Pasir Mas); ninth kilometre Jalan Pohon Tanjung-Rantau Panjang (Pasir Mas), Jalan Pohon Tanjung-Meranti (Pasir Mas), third kilometre Jalan Tendong-Bunut Susu-Gelang Mas (Pasir Mas), Jalan Tanah Merah-Kusial-Kampung Ipoh (Tanah Merah) and Jalan Cabang Cabang 4/Kampung Jambu/Meranti (Tumpat) while in Pasir Puteh, second kilometre Jalan Banir Belikong-Tasik Pauh is closed to all vehicles.

The water level at Sungai Golok still remains at 9.9m, 0.9m above the danger level while other major rivers in the state are at the alert level. — Bernama