

More evacuated as floods worsen

KANGAR: The number of residents evacuated here rose to 3,474 as floodwaters continue to rise in some areas.

Eighteen schools in Kangar, Padang Besar and Arau remained closed as they have been turned into relief centres to accommodate the victims.

Floods have inundated the nation's smallest state for the second time in six months and the authorities are blaming the release of water from Timah Tasoh Dam as one of the causes.

Most parts of the state capital are flooded, including landmark areas such as in front of the Putra Palace Hotel, the state traffic police headquarters and the Tuanku Fauziah Hospital parking area.

For now, there is no need to relocate the

patients, a spokesman from the state flood relief operations centre said.

Six main roads are closed, including the Jalan Kangar-Arau route and Jalan Santan.

Meanwhile, the number of evacuees in Arau and Padang Besar dropped to 104 and 205 respectively as at 5pm yesterday.

Universiti Teknologi Mara Arau branch undergraduate Mohamad Hairuniza Amir, 19, said the entire campus was closed since Wednesday due to rising floodwaters.

He said some of his college friends have been relocated to relief centres.

Hairuniza who returned to his home town in Bagan Serai, Perak, to escape the floods, said he was told that the campus would reopen on Monday.



Wet and without power:

A woman making a call from a booth. She could not charge her mobile phone as electricity in Kangar was cut off yesterday.