

UPSR is on in flood-hit Perlis

By Sharanpal Singh Randhawa
sharanpal@nst.com.my

KANGAR: The Perlis Education Department has postponed the ongoing Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia and Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia trial examinations because of the floods which hit some parts of the state since Sunday.

However, the Ujian Pencapaian Sekolah Rendah examination will go on as scheduled starting today, even though some schools had been closed on the directive of the department because of the floods.

Its director, Dun Kasa, said the decision to postpone the SPM and STPM trial examinations was made to give priority to the UPSR examination.

"We have provided secondary schools as relief centres without disturbing the conduct of the UPSR examination."

Speaking to reporters yesterday, Dun said even though two primary

schools — Sekolah Kebangsaan Tengku Budriah, Arau, and Sekolah Kebangsaan Padang Melangit in Beseri — had been ordered to close, the UPSR examination for the Year Six pupils would go on as scheduled unless the department received further instructions from the Malaysian Examination Board to postpone it.

A total of 4,594 pupils throughout the state will be sitting the UPSR examination today at 75 centres.

The department had met with 20 primary school headmasters whose schools were identified to be in flood-risk areas and the students had been told they could sit for the examination at any other convenient centre.

The Education Department's operations room will monitor the situation of the schools and provide transportation for those who find it difficult to reach their respective examination centres.



Year 4 pupils of SK Tengku Budriah in Arau, Perlis, helping to rearrange chairs and tables after floodwaters hit their classroom. — NST picture by Eizairi Shamsudin

Royal sympathies for thrice-hit communities

KANGAR: Raja Muda of Perlis Tuanku Syed Faizuddin Putra Jamalullail expressed his sympathies to the people in the state who were hit by three floods in 10 months.

Syed Faizuddin, during his visit to the flood-affected areas yesterday, said besides the floods experienced last November and March this year, the rakyat had to undergo yet another "pain" when their homes were flooded again yesterday because of heavy rain throughout the state, which started on Sunday.

"I hope the people here will be patient.

"What we need to focus on is to

ensure there are no fatalities and damage to property."

Syed Faizuddin, accompanied by the Raja Puan Muda of Perlis Tuanku Lailatul Shahreen Akashah Khalil, was visited flood-affected areas in Titi Tinggi and Panggas Besar, near here and met victims placed at relief centres around Padang Besar.

As of 4pm, 513 flood victims from 110 families were evacuated to 13 relief centres throughout the state.

On Sunday, 150 victims were placed at two relief centres.

It is learnt that the floods around Padang Besar is improving.



Residents in Pokok Sena, Kedah, taking the opportunity to catch freshwater fish as floodwaters rise. — NST picture by Syaharim Abidin