

Projects not completed, but they are working

KUALA LUMPUR: The 20 flood mitigation projects that are being completed in stages in several parts of the country have been able to reduce flooding.

"The impact of the projects can already be felt," Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) division of river basin and coastal management Datuk Lim Chow Hock said in a statement.

Elaborating on *The Star* report yesterday, Lim said the projects, which were in various stages of completion, were able to mitigate flooding.

He also pointed out that it would be misleading to say that the projects were not ready, when the on-going projects were showing positive results.

On Thursday, Lim said low-lying areas in various parts of the country were at high risk of flooding as early as the end of this month as rainfall was expected to be heavier this time around.

The flood-prone areas in the country include Rantau Panjang, Kota Baru, Dungun, Pekan, Segamat, Kota Tinggi, Alor Setar, Perlis and Penang while the flood mitigation projects are being carried out in Pekan, Alor Setar, Kuching, Sibu and Segamat.

Lim estimated that damage could reach RM1.5bil this year if massive floods hit the country.

"This is excluding losses incurred due to the disruption of business and other economic losses," he said.