

370 flee floods in Terengganu

FIRST WAVE: Besut hardest hit as Orange alert goes out

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THE flood situation in Terengganu yesterday worsened with some 370 people evacuated to eight relief centres in Besut, Setiu and Hulu Terengganu and closure of two roads in Hulu Terengganu to all vehicles from 4.30pm onwards.

Besut was the hardest hit with 175 people evacuated after Sungai Besut rose to 20.68 metres, 1.48 metre above the danger mark.

Of the 175, 115 were from Kampung Keruak, while another 60 people from 14 families were from Kampung La.

In Setiu, evacuees from Kam-

pung Merbau Menyusut who returned home on Monday were among the 115 people evacuated in the district yesterday.

The state government flood information portal <http://etindakan.terengganu.gov.my> showed that Sungai Setiu, Sungai Berang and Sungai Marang had breached the danger level.

Hulu Terengganu saw the heaviest rainfall with 238mm recorded in Kampung Menerong and Besut with 209mm recorded in Kampung La in the past 24 hours.

The Meteorological Department issued an Orange alert yesterday of sporadic heavy rain throughout Terengganu which could cause floods in low-lying areas. The weather condition is likely to last until today.

In **KOTA BARU**, 26 people were moved to a relief centre when floods hit Kampung Tasek in Pasir Putih.

State Secretary Datuk Zainuddin Ibrahim said they were the first group of evacuees since heavy

rains began lashing the state on Sunday.

In **KUANTAN**, **M. Hamzah Jamaluddin** reports that state agencies were on alert after intermittent rains and thunderstorms were reported in the coastal areas from Monday.

Though no areas were affected yet by floods, the residents in flood-prone villages and housing areas in the state had started stocking up food supplies and essential items to prepare for the worse.

In **MALACCA**, **Jason Gerald John** reports that 24 people from five families from Parit Penghulu Benteng in Sungai Rambai, Jasin, were evacuated after their homes were hit by flash floods.

All the victims are currently seeking refuge at the SK Parit Penghulu.

In **ALOR STAR**, **Nadia Badaruddin** reports that 31,000 Malaysian Red Crescent Society volunteers are on standby to be deployed throughout the country in the event of major floods.



Sharipah Abdullah, 73, (left) helping her neighbour **Midah Hamzah**, 80, brave floodwaters as they make their way to an evacuation centre in Kampung Tasek, Setiu in Terengganu yesterday. **Pic by Rozainah Zakaria**