

Families move out as high waves batter coastal areas of Sabah

KOTA KINABALU: High waves battered the coastal areas of Sabah, causing floods in parts of the state.

At least 57 families from 12 houses temporarily moved out of their homes in Kampung Tinosa II in Sandakan while some stilt houses in coastal villages were damaged.

There were no reports of serious

damage or injuries to people during the occurrence on Sunday.

According to villagers in Kampung Tinosa II, the waves were as high as 2.7m and at least three wooden houses were damaged.

Many other coastal villagers moved out of their homes as a precautionary measure.

They only returned to their homes after midnight when the tide ebbed.

At the popular Anjung Selera hawker stalls in Likas Bay in the state capital here, hundreds of patrons fled the area when waves of up to 2m slammed into the food court at about 9pm.

The stall owners were forced to

close while the police, fire department officers and Rela personnel monitored the situation.

Stall owner Jumariah Menahu, 32, said the waves were strong since 7pm but became dangerous after 9pm.

"We had no choice but to close our stalls as the sea water had flowed into our kitchen and food," she said.

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— JUMARIAH MENAHU