

Rainy Christmas for four states

KUALA LUMPUR: The wet spell is expected to persist in Pahang, Johor, Kelantan and Terengganu on Christmas day while some places in Sabah and Sarawak will see rain and thunderstorms.

The Malaysian Meteorological Department said in a statement that Pahang and Johor Baru would receive intermittent rain the whole day.

There would be scattered rain in Kelantan and Terengganu throughout the day while Perlis, Kedah, Penang, Selangor and Negri Sembilan would have scattered rain at night.

In the afternoon, scattered thunderstorms are expected in Selangor.

Places in Sarawak that will have intermittent rain throughout the day are Kuching, Samarahan, Sri Aman, Sarikei, Betong and Mukah.

Sibu, Bintulu, Miri and Limbang will experience isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon, followed by Kapit with isolated showers. In the morning, Sabah is likely to see isolated rain in Labuan, Kudat and Sandakan.

The west coast, Kudat and Sandakan will have isolated thunderstorms in the afternoon and isolated rain at night.

The people here were also advised to avoid flood-prone streets. Drainage and Irrigation Department water resources management and hydrology division director Hanapi Mohamad Noor said the public should take precautionary measures while travelling by car in



*The Jalan Tun Ismail 1 area in Kuantan, Pahang, was **inundated** on Nov 23. The incident might recur as the **Malaysian Meteorological Department** has forecast that Pahang will receive intermittent rain the whole day today.*

and around the city centre.

“Avoid flood-prone areas, such as Jalan Tun Razak, Jalan Ampang, Kampung Baru and roads leading to the Smart Tunnel.”

There is a possibility that the tunnel will be closed if there is increased water flow from Sungai Ampang and Sungai Klang in the event of thunderstorms.

Hanapi said if heavy rain of more than 80mm occurred for two hours, flash floods were likely to occur.

The number of flood victims in Johor stood at 1,112 in 23 evacuation centres at Segamat, Mersing, Batu Pahat and Kluang, down from 2,655 evacuees yesterday.

However, several rivers, including Sungai Muar, Sungai Bekok and Sungai Senggarang remained above the critical level.

In **Pahang**, the flooding in Rompin continued to worsen with nearly 400 flood victims from three villages evacuated, bringing the number of victims to 474.