

Bracing for more floods

NO END: Residents in low-lying villages in Sabah to evacuate if water levels continue to rise

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THREE more districts are bracing for floods with little signs of the skies clearing up in the interior and east coast of Sabah.

Floodwaters had subsided in Sandakan and Kudat, but rising river levels had been recorded in Beluran, Kinabatangan and Keningau yesterday.

In **Beluran**, low-lying villages such as Pinampadan, Lakang, Lubang Buaya, Maidan, Tanjung Nipis, Langkabau, Simpangan and Tangkarason were being closely monitored by the authorities.

Its district officer, Yusop Osman, said villagers had been warned and told to be prepared for evacuation if the water levels of Sungai Labuk, Sungai Paitan and Sungai Sugut rose to danger levels.

In **Kinabatangan**, residents are also on alert because of a downpour in the Ulu Kuamut area.

A spokesman of the Kinabatangan District Office said rain was recorded in the Tongod district but the main river, Sungai Kuamut, flowed into Sungai Kinabatangan.

Similarly in **Keningau**, the water level of the main river, Sungai



A Fire and Rescue Department lorry transporting **flood victims** to a relief centre in **Kudat**, Sabah, yesterday.

Pegalan, had risen with intermittent rain in the last 24 hours, putting the district on alert for floods.

Meanwhile, 64 evacuees from 18 households were still at the Gum-Gum community centre which was turned into a relief centre over the weekend.

A spokesman said 294 victims

from 85 families had returned to their homes after floodwaters subsided.

In **Kudat**, all 561 victims from 139 families who fled their homes when water levels rose in villages in Jalan Tamalang, Sikuati, had returned home.

However, district officer Sebastian Lim said 64 victims from 14 fam-

ilies fled their homes after the Limbuak Darat area in Pulau Banggi were flooded yesterday afternoon.

"The water level rose in the village because of the high tide and heavy rain," Lim said, adding that most of the families fled uphill to the homes of their relatives or friends.