

4,000 EVACUATED

NO DISRUPTION TO EXAMS: Muhyiddin says government is prepared for any eventuality

KUALA LUMPUR

THE flood alert went out yesterday after the situation worsened following the non-stop downpour in four west coast states.

The authorities warned that it would become worse in the coming days as it could rain continuously for between three and eight days. This weather pattern is expected to last until March next year.

At press time, almost 4,000 victims in Johor, Selangor, Perak and Malacca have been evacuated as floodwaters rose to

danger levels.

There were no reports of disruptions to the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia examination which began with the Bahasa Melayu Papers 1 and 2 yesterday.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the government was prepared for any eventuality, even if the floods became worse than last year.

He also said there would be no disruptions to the SPM and Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia examinations as contingency plans had been put in place if the examination centres were hit by floods.

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- **Johor, Selangor, Perak and Malacca badly affected**
- **5,068 relief centres ready to accept up to 1.3 million victims**

Police, army on standby to help flood victims

GEARED FOR THE WORST: Adequate stockpile of food, says Muhyiddin

KUALA LUMPUR

WITH the start of the rainy season, it's all systems go for government agencies as they prepare to deal with the problems that come with it.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the government was closely monitoring the situation and getting regular reports from the relevant agencies on the flood situation nationwide.

"We are prepared for all possibilities. Even if it is bigger this time around."

He said the government had put the police, army and volunteer groups on standby to help deal with

the situation.

Muhyiddin, who is also the National Disaster Management Committee chairman, said the government had also stockpiled food so that it could be dispersed to people displaced by floods.

"We are also closely monitoring the water levels in the rivers. We hope the public will listen to any advisory that we may issue. If we ask them to evacuate, I hope they will do so as we don't want any untoward incidents."

Muhyiddin said the Education Ministry had also prepared contingency plans to ensure that the Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia and the Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia examinations go on uninterrupted.

He said specific orders had been given to schools on handling the flood situation and alternative places had been identified for students to sit for their exams.

With measures taken, he said no interruptions were expected during the examinations this year.



Housewife **Asiah Ab Rahman, 47**, and **her children** rearranging plates and other items **after a downpour flooded her house in Kampung Semarang, Dengkil, yesterday.** Pic by Ahmad Irham Mohd Noor