

144 seek refuge from floods

EVACUATION: More than 94 moved to three flood relief centres from 3pm yesterday

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THE number of people evacuated to flood relief centres increased to 144, with two more villages inundated by the floods as of 6pm yesterday.

A spokesman at the district flood operations rooms said the affected villages were Kampung Batu Riong, where 20 people from seven families had been evacuated, and Kampung Tok Kah, with 29 people from four families evacuated.

As of 3pm yesterday, a total of 94 people from 17 families had been evacuated to three flood relief centres here.

The evacuation started at 9pm on Saturday when 40 people from +Kampung Bukit Gedut, Pulau Serai, were sent to SK Pulau Serai.

According to the state government's flood information website <http://etindakan.terengganu.gov.my>, 34 people from seven families from Kampung Tanjung Pagar, near here, sought shelter at the Kampung Tanjung Pagar multipurpose building, while 20 people from Kampung Seberang Pintasan were evacuated to the Se-



Hafiq Ibrahim moving a television set to a safer place in his flooded home in Kampung Bukit Gedut, Pulau Serai, yesterday. Pic by Aswadi Alias

berang Pintasan community hall after continuous rain from 6am caused the water level to rise up to 1.5m in their homes.

The website also showed that Sungai Setiu had breached the eight-metre alert level as heavy rains had fallen on all districts in the state since Saturday.

In **Kota Baru**, continuous rain in Kelantan since Friday caused the water level in Sungai Golok in

Rantau Panjang to rise above the danger level yesterday.

Checks in Rantau Panjang yesterday showed that Sungai Golok had burst its banks, causing flooding in many areas.

The water reached 0.3m to 0.5m in some areas.

The affected areas included Kampung Terusan, Kampung Lubok Jong, Kampung Tok Deh and Pekan Rantau Panjang.

Villagers at these areas were spotted moving their belongings to higher grounds.

Zakaria Awang Besar said he had to move his cow and goats to another place so that they would not be swept away by flood.

"I normally tie my cow and goats near the banks of Sungai Golok but after the level of the river rose, I decided to move them elsewhere where they will be safer," said the

71-year-old who have been rearing animals over the past 40 years.

Kelantan National Security Council secretary Roslee Mamat said floods are expected to hit the state, especially the low-lying areas, if heavy rains continued.

"I advise those living in high-risk areas to take immediate measures so that they would not face any problems if their areas become flooded," he said.