

No respite in Kelantan, Terengganu

WORST-HIT: New relief centres set up to accommodate rising number of victims

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THE flood situation improved in most parts of the east coast states yesterday morning, but later in the afternoon, the situation in Kelantan and Terengganu took a turn for worse when the number of evacuees increased from 14,930 to 22,609 victims.

Yesterday morning, about 4,000 people were allowed to return to

their homes after the floods started to subside.

A Drainage and Irrigation Department spokesman said Sungai Golok in Rantau Panjang, Kelantan, and Sungai Dungun in Jambatan Jerangau, Terengganu, breached the danger level at 5pm yesterday.

According to the Kelantan flood operations centre, as of 4pm, 7,000 victims, involving more than 2,000 families, moved to relief shelters, up from 4,599 on Wednesday.

A spokesman said the affected



People transferring foodstuff to a flood relief centre in Kampung Bukit Rambutan, Besut. Pic by Mohamad Ishak



Floods inundating Kampung Bukit Mentok in Kemaman, Terengganu.

districts were Pasir Mas, Pasir Putih, Tumpat and Kota Baru.

"They are seeking shelter at 28 relief centres. Pasir Mas remains the worst affected, with the highest number of evacuees, followed by Tumpat and Kota Baru."

The spokesman said the water level in Sungai Golok was above the danger mark of 9m, as of 4pm. The river was measured at 10.25m.

"The other main rivers have receded below the danger mark."

Seven roads remained closed as they are submerged between 1m and 2m of water.

The routes included Jalan Pasir Mas-Pohon Tanjung-Rantau Panjang, Jalan Pengkalan Rakit and Jalan Rantau Panjang-Panglima Bayu.

In **Terengganu**, the number of victims at relief centres nearly doubled to 14,894 as of 5pm, compared with 8,173 in the morning.

Five new flood relief centres had been opened, according to the state government's flood portal, with a

total 76 centres now.

In the worst-hit district of Kemaman, the number of victims sheltered at relief centres was 9,601, followed by Dungun (4,026), Kuala Terengganu (935), Setiu (185), Hulu Terengganu (104), Besut (31) and Marang (12).

As of 4pm yesterday, three federal roads were submerged between 0.5m and 2m of water, and nine state roads in Hulu Terengganu, Dungun and Kemaman were inundated.

In **Pahang**, clear skies over the past two days have enabled more evacuees to return home, with only 448 people left at the five relief centres in Kuantan and Pekan yesterday.

A spokesman from the state police flood operations centre said all roads in the state were opened to motorists.

However, he cautioned owners of small vehicles from plying the stretch at Km18 of Jalan Jabor-Jerangau as it was still flooded.

TABUNG BENCANA



NSTP media prima

In aid of flood victims

Contributions can be sent to
NSTP Finance Department,
31 Jalan Riong, 59100 Kuala Lumpur
or any NSTP branch.
Make out the cheques to
"Tabung Bencana NSTP-Media Prima"
Maybank Account No. : 514105-320757
(write your full name and address at the back of the cheque)

To date, seven people have died from the floods, six in Terengganu and one in Negri Sembilan. **Additional reporting by Zarina Abdullah and Hidir Reduan**