

31 schools closed, 12,000 affected

INUNDATED: Hulu Terengganu worst hit by second wave floods

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THIRTY-ONE schools in Terengganu were closed yesterday as they were inundated or rendered inaccessible in the second wave of floods which started on Monday.

State Education, Higher Education, Science, Technology and Human Resource Committee chairman Datuk Ahmad Razif Abdul Rahman said the closure involved more than 12,000 students.

"A total of 23 primary schools and eight secondary schools cannot start their school session in Hulu Terengganu, Besut, Kemaman and Setiu."

He said Hulu Terengganu had the most number of schools closed with eight primary and five secondary schools flooded.

"SK Lubuk Periuk, SK Tengku Ampuan Intan, SM Imtiaz Kuala Berang and SMA Mahmudiah were flooded, while SK Menerong, SM Menerong, SK Kua, SK Felda Tersat, SK Bukit Tadok, SK Matang, SM Kuala Jeneris, SK Tengawang were made inaccessible as the roads leading to the schools were flooded."

In **Besut**, 10 primary schools and two secondary schools were closed.

"Besut has seven primary schools that were flooded, namely SK Pasir Akar, SK Tok Raja, SK Bukit Jeruk, SK Alur Keladi, SK Kampung Nangka, SK Tok Dor and SK Keruak," he said, after visiting SK Tok Jembal here on the first day of school yesterday.

Two other schools, SM Bukit Payung and SM Putra, were inaccessible while SK Seri Payung



Mohd Asli Adam (right) and his brother, Mohd Jusoh Adam, **getting their boats ready to send their children to school** after their homes in Kampung Lanchang, Rantau Panjang, were inundated by a second wave of floods in Kelantan yesterday. Pic by Fathil Asri

and SK Tenang and SK Anak Ikan were used as flood relief centre.

In **Setiu**, SK Kampung Besut was used as a relief centre while SK Pak Ba and SK Sungai Las were cut off by the floods.

In **Kemaman**, SK Padang Kubu and SK RKT Seberang Tayor were cut off while SM Bukit Mentok was being cleaned up as the school was used to shelter more than 5,000 flood victims of the first wave of floods which ended on Sunday.

Razif said the schools would be reopened once the flood situation improved.

As at 5pm yesterday, the flood had subsided, with only 268 people still sheltering in nine evacuation centres, a significant improvement as the figure had been more than

1,700 in the morning.

In **Hulu Terengganu**, 110 people from 24 families were in four evacuation centres there while in **Kemaman**, only 60 people remained at the Kampung Seberang Tayor Hulu community hall.

In **Setiu**, 55 people in Kampung Sungai Pinang and Kampung Besut were still in relief centres.

State National Security Council public relations officer Ahmad Redza Arshad said the situation should improve further if the good weather continues.

"It was forecast that the heavy rains would last until Wednesday but it has stopped (yesterday). More evacuation centres will be closed as the flood subsided, unless the downpour returns."



Students from SMA Mahmudiah in Kuala Terengganu **returning home** after their school was flooded yesterday. Pic by Aswadi Alias