

Three flood evacuation centres reopen

KOTA BARU: Three flood evacuation centres were reopened here and in Pasir Puteh to cater for 52 people following a second wave of floods on Monday.

The last flood centre in Tumpat was closed at noon on Monday after all victims returned home when flood receded in their villages.

However, the centres in the two districts were reopened after midnight as water inundated their villages following a heavy downpour since morning.

As at 4pm yesterday, the state official flood portal reported that 17 people from four families had

sought shelter at SMK Kedai Mulong centre here, while 35 people from 10 families at SK Bukit Awang and SMK Kamil in Pasir Puteh centres.

Water levels in several rivers in the state had risen with three measuring points breaching the warning level.

The water level at Sungai Lebir in Tualang, Kuala Krai, was at 31.50m (warning level 31m), Sungai Kelantan in Kuala Krai was at 14.28m (warning level 14m) and Sungai Golok in Rantau Panjang was at 8.36m (warning level 8m).

In **Rantau Panjang**, more than 60 National Service Volunteer Brigade (BSKN) members spent about four

hours yesterday cleaning SK Sri Rantau Panjang 1 which was badly affected by the flood.

The BSKN members were joined in the gotong-royong exercise by 40 trainers from the Batu Jong national service camp in Kuala Krai.

National Service director general Datuk Abdul Hadi Awang Kechil, who was present, said BSKN members, who were former National Service trainees, provided assistance during disasters like floods as the spirit of volunteering was instilled in them during their three-month training at various camps.

"Another group of volunteers

from Kuala Lumpur will be going to Kemaman and Kuala Terengganu in to assist flood victims."

Abdul Hadi said BSKN members, who numbered about 60,000, would be put on stand-by as there was a possibility that several states would be hit by a second wave of floods.

SK Sri Rantau Panjang 1 headmaster Rosanah Abdullah said the school appreciated the efforts of the volunteers as pupils had started their classes yesterday.

"The school is affected by floods every monsoon season as it is located close to Sungai Golok. The water rose to between 1m and 1.5m."

In **Pahang**, two evacuation centres ceased operations as at 4pm on Monday and all 50 evacuees from 13 families in Kampung Seberang Balok and Kampung Haji Wan Hussin returned to their homes yesterday.

Kampung Balok Development and Security Committee chairman Mohd Zainol Ali said most of the flood victims were eager to return to their homes on New Year's eve but were told to remain at the centre as it was still raining.

Tengku Puan Pahang Tunku Azizah Aminah Maimunah also visited the centre to help volunteers prepare lunch for the flood victims.