

No school yet for 12,000

31 schools in Terengganu remain closed due to second wave of floods

KUALA TERENGGANU: About 12,000 children had to cancel their first day of school for the new year after 31 schools in Terengganu remained closed due to the second wave of floods which hit the state on Monday.

State education officials estimate that the affected schools might only be open for classes at the earliest by next Sunday.

Twenty-three of the schools were primary schools and the remaining eight were secondary schools, said State Education, Higher Education, Science, Technology and Human Resource Committee chairman Datuk Ahmad Razif Abdul Rahman.

He added that 13 of the schools were located in the Hulu Terengganu district, 12 in Besut and three each in Kemaman and Setiu.

"We are not certain when these schools will reopen. We hope the second wave of floods will recede soon. The schools will have to hold replacement classes on a Saturday.

"Some of the schools are flooded, some are cut off by floods, while others are being used as relief centres or are being cleaned up," he said yesterday.

He said SK Lubuk Periok, SK Tengku Ampuan Intan, SM Agama (SMA) Mahmudiah and SM Imtiaz Kuala Berang, all in Hulu

Terengganu, and SK Pasir Akar, SK Tok Raja, SK Bukit Jerok, SK Alor Keladi, SK Kampung Nangka, SK Tok Dor and SK Keruak, all in Besut, remained flooded.

He was speaking to reporters after meeting Year One pupils at SK Tok Jembal here yesterday.

Ahmad Razif said SK Anak Ikan in Setiu and SK Seri Payong and SK Tenang in Besut were being used as flood relief centres.

He added that SMK Bukit Mentok in Kemaman was being cleaned after it was used as a flood relief centre.

Schools that have been cut off by floodwaters are SK Kuar, SK Felda Tersat, SK Bukit Taduk, SK Matang, SK Tengkawang, SMK Menerong, SMK Matang and SMK Jenerih, all in Hulu Terengganu; SK Padang Kubu and SK RKT Seberang Tayor in Kemaman; SK Pak Ba and SK Sungai Las in Setiu; and SMK Bukit Payong and SMK Putera in Besut.

Ahmad Razif said parents could contact the respective schools or the district education offices to find out when the schools would reopen.

Terengganu deputy education director Hashim Mohd Zin said 19,878 pupils had registered to attend Year One yesterday at 350 schools in the state. — Bernama



Have boat will travel: A postman handing over a letter to a resident who has to use a boat as his house is inundated at Kampung Matang, Hulu Terengganu. — Bernama