

Flood mitigation projects get off the ground in Kerian

IPOH: Work has started for nine out of the 23 flood mitigation projects planned for the Kerian district.

State Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) director Datuk Abdul Razak Dahalan said another 11 projects were in the process of being evaluated.

He said another three special

projects were directly supervised by the DID headquarters.

"I hope work on the remaining 11 projects will start on schedule. Only after the projects are completed in 2015 can the full impact of the mitigation projects be felt," he told reporters at his office yesterday.

The Federal Government allocat-

ed RM340mil for the purpose under a two-year rolling plan.

The allocation is to carry out flood mitigation work in the Kerian district, which is considered one of the worst flood-prone areas in the state.

Abdul Razak said the current work being carried at the area include the

construction of bund walls along Sungai Kerian, Sungai Kurau, Sungai Selama and Sungai Ijok and also excavation activities.

He added that the on-going work has started to show a slight impact in Kerian and its surrounding areas.

During the recent floods in several

parts of the state, Kerian was spared.

However, the full impact would be seen three years from now when the work has been fully completed.

At the same time, he said, mitigation work at the Bukit Merah dam would also be carried out to minimise flooding there.