

Sultan grateful for flood project

FEDERAL GOVT AID:

Work on Sungai Kedah and Sungai Anak Bukit will be done in phases

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SULTAN of Kedah Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah has expressed his appreciation to the Federal Government for approving a flood-mitigation project for the state.

Tuanku Abdul Halim, who is also the country's 14th Yang di-Pertuan Agong, said this during his 85th birthday celebrations at Istana Anak Bukit here yesterday.

In his speech, read by Sultan of Kedah's Council of Regency chairman Tan Sri Tunku Annuar Sultan

Badlishah, Tuanku Abdul Halim said the state was inundated by major floods several years ago.

"The people suffered losses after their belongings were damaged.

"To ensure flooding doesn't recur, the state government proposed a flood mitigation project for Sungai Kedah and Sungai Anak Bukit.

"*Alhamdulillah* (praise to God), the project was approved by the Federal Government and it is now being developed in phases."

Tuanku Abdul Halim noted that the project may cause some inconvenience to residents living nearby and hoped the developer would gather input from those affected by the construction work.

"I also hope the residents affected will be patient and give full cooperation for the project's success."

Tunku Annuar, in his speech to congratulate the Sultan of Kedah, called on the people to reject any form of provocation that could trigger arguments or racial sentiments.

"I am glad the people in the state, of all races, are living in peace and harmony.

"I would like to call on the rakyat to continue preserving harmony as it is a gift from God."

Tunku Annuar later conferred awards on 87 recipients at the investiture.

Leading the list was Deputy International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir, who is also Jerlun member of parliament and state Umno liaison committee deputy chairman.

Mukhriz was one of the two recipients bestowed the Darjah Paduka Seri Setia Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah (DHMS), which carries the title Datuk Paduka.

The other recipient was Royal Malaysian Air Force chief Gen Tan Sri Rodzali Daud.

Five people were honoured with the Darjah Gemilang Seri Mahkota Kedah (DGMK), which carries the title Datuk Wira.

They were army field commander Lt Gen Datuk Seri Zulkiple Kassim, Defence Intelligence di-



Datuk Mukhriz Mahathir receiving the Darjah Paduka Seri Setia Sultan Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah from **Tan Sri Tunku Annuar Sultan Badlishah**. Pic by Lim Poh Chin

rector-general Lt Gen Datuk Abdul Hadi Hussin, state-owned Kolej Universiti Insaniah board member Prof Datuk Ismail Ibrahim, Badminton Association of Malaysia treasurer Datuk Lim Teong Kiat and former Bakar Arang state assemblyman and Langkawi Hainan Association chairman Datuk Tan Hong Eng.

Army headquarters chief of staff

Maj Gen Datuk Mohd Noor Daud, Second Infantry Division commander Maj Gen Datuk Azizan Md Delin, Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Management Planning Unit (Mampu) director-general Datuk Mohamad Zabidi Zainal were bestowed the Darjah Paduka Mahkota Kedah (DPMK) award, which carries the title Datuk.