

# Flash floods wreak havoc in Kuala Kedah

**ALOR STAR:** Flash floods wreaked havoc on 2,500 people from 500 families in Kuala Kedah here yesterday.

Floodwaters reached knee-deep in some places, causing massive traffic jams as people left their home in the morning.

Checks showed floodwaters rose quickly at the Kuala Kedah public housing scheme after a downpour that started at 2am.

Although it subsided to a drizzle about five hours later, floodwaters began to rise at Taman Desarina and Taman Sri Putra.

Residents blamed the flash floods on the poor irrigation and drainage system.

Taman Desarina resident Haminah Osman, 51, said: "Although flash floods are nothing new here, today's (yesterday) is the worst to date. My family and I had to stay up all night when floodwaters entered our house."

In Langkawi, SMK Kedawang and Dewan Ayer Hangat were turned into temporary shelters after about 150



**Traders removing their goods from the Padang Matsirat market in Langkawi after it was inundated yesterday. Pic by Eizairi Shamsudin**

residents in Kedawang, Ulu Melaka and Ayer Hangat were hit by flash floods.

In Kedawang and Ulu Melaka, the floodwaters reached waist-high levels, forcing the authorities to evac-

uate the victims to SMK Kedawang.

A Malaysian Meteorological Department spokesman said Kedah would experience continuous rain but it was not expected to cause any major flooding.