

# Villagers brace for 2nd flood wave

**ON ALERT:** Water level rises to 1m in Sungai Lembing and Gambang, Kuantan

**M. HAMZAH JAMALUDIN  
AND FADZRUL HANIF**  
KUANTAN  
news@nst.com.my

**R**ESIDENTS in flood-prone areas here are bracing for another round of floods.

Continuous rains from Thursday night have affected several areas and two families were evacuated yesterday.

The blaring sound of sirens in Sungai Lembing and Sungai Kuantan at noon yesterday sent shivers down residents' spines as they were still traumatised by the first wave of floods that saw more than 30,000 people here evacuated.

Although the weather improved later in the afternoon, the water level rose to one metre in Sungai Lembing town and Gambang, forcing the closure of the stretch at Km36 of Jalan Kuantan-Maran,



**Residents wading through floodwaters in Sungai Lembing, Kuantan, yesterday. Pic by Halim Mat Ali**

near the Bukit Gambang Resort City, near here.

The affected stretch, however, was later re-opened for vehicles.

As of 7pm yesterday, five flood victims from two families in Kampung Batu 8 Lepar were still seeking shelter at the multi-purpose hall in the village.

Bukit Kenau and Bukit Sagu villagers, near Sungai Kuantan, had been asked to make necessary preparations as rainfall in their areas

had exceeded the dangerous level at 4pm.

According to the Drainage and Irrigation Department's *Public Infobanjir* portal, the rainfall in Bukit Kenau had reached 66cm while Bukit Sagu recorded 72cm.

Those affected by the first wave of floods had also taken precautionary measures, including relocating important items to higher ground.

"I hope the second wave of floods

would not occur as I've just received a new mattress, pillows and electrical appliances from the authorities. I don't know where to keep these items if my house is flooded again," said Rashidah Osman, 63, who lives in Jalan Bukit Ubi.

Rashidah, sought shelter at a relief centre when her home was inundated early last month.

She had problems travelling to the haemodialysis centre as the van that used to pick her up was

being repaired after it was submerged last month.

Sungai Isap Damai resident Saiful Nizam Othman said they had made preparations for a possible second wave of floods after they heard the siren at 12noon yesterday.

"It is bad news for us as we are supposed to get new mattresses, pillows, furniture and food items on Sunday. I will move to my parents home in Alor Akar if my home is affected again," said the 40-year-old Mara technician.

Sungai Lembing resident Salamah Mohammad, 63, said water rose about 0.5m in her house at 2.30pm before the siren was sound.

"My family immediately moved our important belongings to safer place. Luckily, the water subsided but we have to be alert as the worst has yet to come."

The Meteorological Department had also issued a yellow warning yesterday, predicting intermittent rain, occasionally moderate, to occur in Pahang (Kuantan, Pekan, Rompin, Jerantut, Temerloh, Maran and Bera) and Johor (Mersing, Kota Tinggi and Segamat) until today.

The department said the condition could cause floods in low-lying areas.