

Waiting for waters to recede

Klang and Shah Alam flood victims to stay in relief centres for a few more days

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Photo by IZZRAFIQ ALIAS



FLOOD victims in Pekan Meru, Klang, and Padang Jawa, Shah Alam will only be able to return home in a couple of days as floodwaters have yet to recede.

They are currently putting up at the Meru and Padang Jawa community halls after their homes were flooded during a downpour on Tuesday.

A total of 15 families comprising 53 people living in Persiaran Hamzah Alang are being housed at the Meru community hall, while seven families comprising 24 people from Kampung Air Kuning are in the Padang Jawa community hall.

Siti Aishah Abdullah Sani, 41, said they moved to the relief centre on Wednesday afternoon as their two-storey home in Jalan Berkat, Klang was flooded.

"The water rose up to knee level and did not go down. I tried to move as many items as I could upstairs.

"I expect my kitchen, toilet and two bedrooms on the lower floor to be badly damaged," she said, adding that none of her immediate neigh-



Flood relief: Tents and food have been provided by various agencies for flood victims being housed in the Meru community hall.

bours' houses were affected.

The mother-of-eight is also worried about the health of her six-month-old baby.

"This is my second time at a relief centre. I had to spend three nights in another relief centre when my house was flooded in December," said Siti Aishah.

Khatijah Harun said this was the second time her house had been

flooded and the water had yet to recede.

"The flood damaged my cupboards and TV. Only six adults from my house are staying at the relief centre. My mother is putting up at my brother's house," said the housewife from Taman Seri Puteri, Klang.

Klang Municipal Council member Kahar Muzakir Munawir said Persiaran Hamzah Alang, Taman Seri



Soaked: D. Thanaletchumy checking on her home in Kampung Air Kuning.

Puteri and Taman Berkat are prone to floods as they are low-lying areas.

"Unfortunately, the river is shallow," he said, adding that there are plans to widen Sungai Binjai and remove bridges that prevented water from flowing.

Kampung Air Kuning resident D. Thanaletchumy has lost count of the number of times her village had been flooded over the past 10 years.

"The sofa, fridge and motorcycle at my house were damaged.

"My mother and three children moved with me to the Padang Jawa

community hall while my two younger brothers are staying back to keep an eye on the house," said the 35-year-old contract cleaner.

Padang Jawa village chief Saian Asmari said Kampung Air Kuning was prone to floods as it was located in a low-lying area.

Ongoing construction work at Section 7 had also contributed to the floods.

"A large drain is being built here and work is expected to be completed by the middle of this year," added Saian.