

Downpour closes school

Over 1,000 villagers affected by floods in Perlis and Kedah

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ALOR SETAR: The authorities closed SK Padang Melangit in Besei, Perlis, after heavy rain inundated the school and surrounding areas in ankle-deep water.

Perlis Education Department director Rooslee Ismail said the directive to close the school was issued at 8am even though the morning session had started.

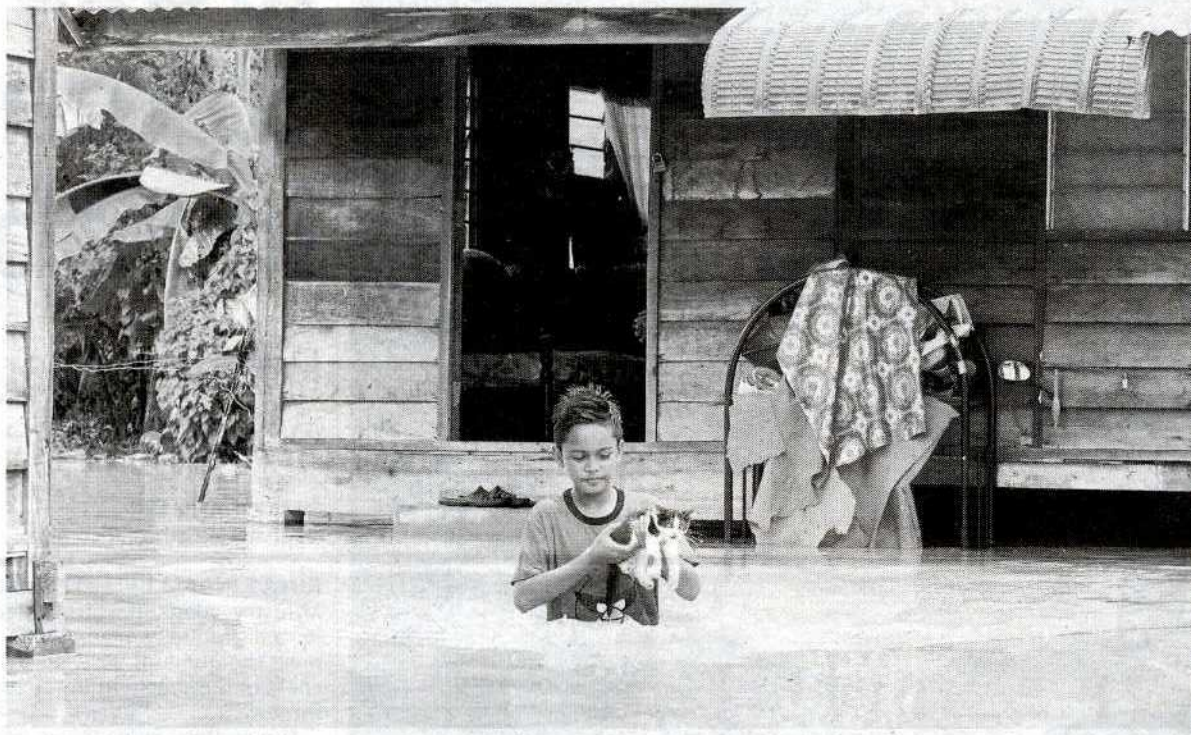
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Rooslee Ismail.

"Flood water had been flowing into the school compound since Wednesday night and the downpour (yesterday morning) made it worse.

"We are monitoring the situation and will see if other schools are also affected," he said.

In Chuping, Perlis, 63 villagers from Kampung Panggas Besar and Kampung Air Timbul were evacuated to two flood relief centres nearby.



Cat out of the water: Muhammad Haikal Aqasyah Taib, 11, carrying a kitten to safety after his house was flooded in Changlun, Kedah. — Bernama

The Sri Malau hall, Masjid Banggol Sena, the service centre of Mata Ayer assemblyman Khairi Hasan and the Gial Selatan community centre have also been prepared as evacuation centres to receive flood victims.

In Changlun, Kedah, the down-

pour saw eight villages flooded after Sungai Changlun burst its banks at 4am yesterday.

About 1,000 villagers living in 600 houses in Pekan Changlun, Taman Rasa Sayang, Kampung Paya Nomi, Kampung Belukar, Kampung Bendang Cheruk, Kampung Padang

Pasir, Kampung Rantau and Kampung Sungai Petani have been affected.

"Flood relief centres will be opened if the flood situation gets worse," said Bukit Kayu Hitam assemblyman Datuk Ahmad Zaini Japar.