

Flood-prone river banks to be raised

Selangor DID preparing for impact of coming monsoon

KLANG: The Selangor Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) is increasing the height of riverbanks in Kuala Selangor in anticipation of a second wave of heavy flooding.

Kuala Selangor district officer Shamsul Shahril Badlisza Mohd Noor said this was to prevent water flowing out of the river into low lying areas.

He said the authorities believed a second bout of flooding might occur in the district due to unusually high tides that would be hitting its coastline. These were expected to begin soon and would last until the end of the month.

This phenomenon is caused by the Northeast Monsoon winds that will start this Thursday or Friday, he said.

Floods hit parts of the district last week.

Shamsul advises residents of

other low lying areas to be cautious and to prepare for the situation.

He said that wave forecasts by the Malaysian Meteorological Department could reach a minimum of 5m in height.

On the situation in Kuala Selangor, Shamsul said that water was being pumped out of the area into the rivers with eight pumps.

Close to 600 people were being housed in temporary flood relief centres in schools, mosques and community halls in the district.

"We are waiting for the water levels to recede and once this happens we will send them home," Shamsul said.

In Pasir Puteh, the Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) said it would monitor tide control gates at Geting, Tumpat and Tok Bali because of the high tides, which can cause flooding, Bernama reported.



Bridge over troubled waters: Members of the Public Civil Defense Department lending a hand to to flash flood victims this morning. — Bernama

"High tides which coincide with heavy rainfall on the mainland can prevent river water from flowing to the sea, thus causing floods," Kelantan DID director Shahimi Sharif said.

The Meteorological Department warned about the possibility of

heavy rain on Nov 26 or 27 in the east coast states.

In Sungai Petani, 60 flood victims were evacuated to the Kampung Jerung relief centre here following floods that began on Sunday.

More than 10 areas around the Kuala Muda district here were

inundated by flash floods yesterday following heavy rain in the afternoon.

Among the areas affected were the Sultan Abdul Halim Hospital, Taman Nuri, Taman Serindik, Jalan Air Mendidih and Jalan Batu Lintang Kampung Hutan Gelam.