

New flood system to be ready by 2017

KUALA LUMPUR: The new flood warning system is expected to be ready for use by 2017, according to Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar.

He said the ministry was assessing and discussing the proposed new system with the Department of Irrigation and Drainage.

“We have organised a seminar and we will choose between the systems from the United States and Britain.

“The system we want to use has been identified to have an accuracy of between 80% and 90%.

“If the Government accepts the proposal, it will be implemented in stages,” Dr Wan Junaidi said.

He said the existing system must be upgraded to enable the relevant agencies to make proper and more effective preparations for floods.

“With the existing system, we learn about the flood six hours before it hits, but what we want now is to know two days earlier.

“That is why we need a new calculation,” he said.

When asked about the Auditor-General’s Report claiming that the equipment for the installation of the flood mitigation systems in Kelantan and Sarawak worth about RM6mil were not being put into optimal use, Dr Wan Junaidi said he would table the memorandum paper on the matter to the Cabinet today.

— Bernama