

Johor on high alert after heavy rainfall prediction

JOHOR BARU: The state is on high alert for possible floods due to predicted heavy rainfall and high tide this weekend.

Johor Health and Environment exco chairman Datuk Ayub Rahmat advised those staying in low-lying areas and places with high risk of flood to be ready to relocate to flood relief centres if the water levels continued to rise.

"Do not be stubborn and think you can weather out the heavy rain. Prioritise your life and your family's over materialistic belongings if floods occur.

"Heed the advice of the authorities if they ask you to relocate," he said yesterday.

He added that the relevant agencies and departments in all districts throughout the state had been briefed on the situation.

Ayub said they had also conducted training for rescue teams.

The Meteorological Department issued an orange alert for Johor and Pahang yesterday, which signifies continuous moderate rain that lasts for more than a day, with an average rainfall of 0.5mm to 4mm per hour.

The affected districts in Johor are Mersing, Kota Tinggi, Segamat, Kluang, Kulaijaya and Johor Baru.

Ayub said he would be chairing a flood action plan meeting on Dec 8 to identify flood-prone areas to come up with short-term and long-term solutions to tackle the problem.

"The state government has allocated RM1mil for these efforts and this includes looking into flash floods that have been affecting the Johor Baru city centre over the past two weeks," he added.