



*Kampung Tersang resident **Che Omar Che Ismail**, 54, and **his daughter** crossing a bamboo bridge as they return home in Kelantan yesterday. Pic by Zaman Huri Isa*

Flood eases in Kelantan

RANTAU PANJANG: The flood situation in Kelantan is improving.

The state's flood assessment point at Sungai Golok is no longer near the danger level.

According to the state Drainage and Irrigation Department, Sungai Golok recorded a water level of 7.48m as of 5pm yesterday compared with 8.68m on Thursday.

The danger level for Sungai Golok is 9m.

Villagers in low-lying areas here, such as Kampung Tersang, Kampung Siram, Kampung Bukit Lata and Kampung Lubok Jong, have begun to clean their homes that have been submerged since last week.

Meanwhile, five more victims of last year's flood received new homes under the state government's flood recovery initiative at Taman Firdaus in Kampung Berlian, Tumpat, yesterday.

Menteri Besar Datuk Ahmad Yakob said the recipients were among 391 who had been allocated new homes following the floods in Kelantan last December.

"The state government was supposed to build only 600 houses for those whose homes

were destroyed in last year's flood, but recently, we found 36 victims in Kuala Krai who lost their houses in the flood.

"So now, the state government will build 636 houses," he said after handing over the newly-built houses to the families.

The houses, with three bedrooms and two bathrooms, were built by Kelkon Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary of the Kelantan State Economic Development Corporation, on state land.

Ahmad said so far, the state government had built and handed over 391 houses, mostly in Kuala Krai, Gua Musang and Dabong.

"While some 86 houses are in the works, we are having some difficulty finding land to build houses for the remaining 159 victims due to a lack of land."

Ahmad said the state government hoped to address the matter in due time and deliver the new houses to those affected next year.

The houses built under the state government's flood recovery programme were fully furnished.

Last December, 1,827 houses in the state were damaged due to floods.