

# Floodwaters hit 158 homes



**TO SAFETY:** Residents at Seri Klebang Tambahan walking through floodwaters to get to higher ground yesterday.

**IPOH:** Eight residential areas along Sungai Pari here were hit by a flood following a five-hour downpour, forcing about 100 people to evacuate.

All the evacuees are from Kampung Manjoi, among the worst hit areas, which saw about 40 houses affected when the water rose to about 2.5m.

A further 118 homes from seven residential areas along the riverbank were also flooded during the rain, which stopped at 4am yesterday.

Villager Saidin Chin, 53, who lives about 200m from the riverbank, said he heard the first warning siren at 3.30am.

"At that time, I noticed that

only my compound was flooded. About 10 minutes later, the water had already risen to waist level," said the odd-job worker.

All evacuees are housed at the Manjoi Community Hall.

About 100 rescue personnel from the Civil Defence and the Fire and Rescue Department were deployed to the various neighbourhoods as early as 4am with rescue boats to take senior citizens and children to higher ground.

Besides Kampung Manjoi, other areas affected were Seri Klebang, Seri Klebang Tambahan, Desa Seri Chepor, RPT 10 Ulu Chepor, RPT 10 Ulu Chemor, Kampung Tengku Hussein

and Merdeka Garden.

Farmer Liew Yuk Peng, 48, said he suffered about RM50,000 in losses after his vegetable farm and three fish ponds at Klebang Jaya were damaged in the flood.

Manjoi assemblyman Datuk Nadzri Ismail said it was the worst flood after completion of the Sungai Pari flood mitigation project seven years ago.

He said he would investigate claims that the flood was due to the absence of floodgates at Sungai Pari.

Villagers claimed that some of the iron floodgates had been stolen by drug addicts, he said.

"I will check with the department concerned," he said.