

224 evacuated in Selangor

HIGH TIDE:

13 areas inundated, victims placed at 3 relief centres

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THE high tide phenomenon has forced the evacuation of 224 flood-hit victims from 52 families to three relief centres here.

As of 5pm yesterday, 13 areas in Klang, Kuala Selangor and Sabak Bernam were inundated, but the situation was improving, said Selangor Fire and Rescue Department assistant director of operations Mohd Sani Harul.

In **Klang**, the flooded areas were Kampung Tok Muda, Kampung Sungai Pinang, Pulau Indah, Jalan Klang-Banting, Pandamaran, Taman Selat Damai and Port Klang. A relief centre in Kampung Tok Muda, which was opened on Monday, houses 152 victims from 34 families.

In **Kuala Selangor**, the affected ar-

eaes were Kampung Tok Adam in Tanjung Karang and Pekan Bagan Pasir Penambang. The district's relief centre at Balairaya Lorong Hamzah 2, which was opened on Sunday, houses 14 victims from three families.

In **Sabak Bernam**, the inundated areas were Kampung Sungai Air Tawar, Tebuk Mendeleng and Sungai Lang, with 57 victims from 15 families being placed at Dewan Orang Ramai Sungai Air Tawar, which was opened on Monday.

Selangor Fishermen Association chairman Mat Jaman Haris said many fishermen had chosen not to go out to sea due to the high tide.

"There are strong winds and big waves. They do not want to take risks as they have to be extra careful, especially at night."

Mat Jaman said it was normal for the water level to reach 5.6m and that it happened several times a year.

Bad weather is not expected in the state as floods in the coastal areas were caused by the phenomenon, which is expected to continue until Saturday.

The high tide would recede by next week, said an official from the Department of Survey and Mapping Malaysia (Jupem).



The high tide phenomenon triggered floods in areas near Port Klang yesterday. Pic by Faiz Anuar

"We expect the phenomenon to continue until Saturday. However, we do not know if there will be other factors involved, such as excess water, because our predictions are based only on the high tide," the official told the *New Straits Times*.

The Malaysian Meteorological Department told the NST that there was nothing extraordinary about the amount of rainfall in Selangor and other states, hence, it would unlikely affect the flooding situation in other parts of the country.

An official from the department said more rainfall was recorded in the early morning as it was still the southwest monsoon season.

He said the country would experience the inter-monsoon season by early next month, followed by the northeast monsoon, one of the major causes of year-end floods in the east coast. He said the high tide phenomenon was normal and it occurred twice a year due to the moon's phases.

The high tide forecast for Port

Klang, as seen on Jupem's website, yesterday showed that as of 1.18am, the water level was at -26cm, 473cm at 7.20am, -26cm at 1.45pm and 451cm at 7.39pm.

The forecast for today shows that at 1.54am, the water level is expected to be at -17cm, 462cm at 7.56am, -10cm at 2.22pm and 433cm at 8.16pm.

Coastal areas, such as Sabak Bernam, Klang and Kuala Selangor, are prone to floods due to the phenomenon.