

Another round of flooding in S'gor

Residents in coastal areas told to prepare for possible evacuation between Oct 15 and 21

By **EDWARD RAJENDRA**
edward@thestar.com.my

RESIDENTS living along Selangor's coastline will have to face another round of flooding due to high tide set to occur next Sunday onwards.

Residents are warned to keep away from the seaside, rivers and even huge monsoon drains as a high-tide phenomenon is expected between Oct 15 and Oct 21.

On Sept 19, 20 and 21, several locations along Selangor's coastline were thrown into chaos after high tide measuring up to 5.6m, with strong waves, crashed onto the shoreline.

According to a state government circular to all local authorities and schools in five districts, the high tide occurrence is expected to worsen with waves forecast as high as 5.7m.

Infrastructure, Public Amenities and Agro-based Industry chairman Zaidy Abdul Talib said during the period, the highest level of the tide swell would be from 5.22m to 5.7m on Oct 17, 18 and 19.

"Those living close to the seaside or river mouth must be alert and prepared for the possibility of evacuation.

"We have set in place the temporary relocation centres to move people if their homes are hit by flood.

"Flood alerts have been sent to all authorities on the tide occurrence, as there is a threat to life and property," he said.

The Selangor Disaster Management Unit (SDMU) with 11 local authorities including Civil Defence Department Klang, Klang Municipal Council (MPK), Klang Fire and Rescue Department, Klang



Leong says sluice gate No. 38 at Jalan Tepi Sungai, that helps to avert floods, is on alert mode for the high-tide phenomenon

Health Department, Klang District Office and representatives from Klang police headquarters, inspected flood-prone areas and sluice gates in Klang, yesterday.

"The Selangor Government has alerted all schools close to the river mouth, seashores and even near huge monsoon drains that lead to sluice gates.

"We are also asking people living close to the seaside and rivers to be vigilant.

"Just stay out of the water and this includes boating activities, fishing trips or tours along the coastline," he said.

Zaidy added that districts on the high-risk flood list were Klang, Sabak Bernam, Kuala Selangor, Kuala Langat and Sepang.

"Areas in Klang that have been put on alert are Taman Melawis, Sungai Serang, Kampung Tok

Muda, Pandamaran, Taman Selat Damai, Kampung Sungai Pinang, Kampung Sungai Lima and Pulau Ketam. For the Sabak Bernam district, two areas that will be monitored are Kampung Sungai Air Tawar and Sungai Tengar," he said.

Residents in Pasir Penambang, Bagan Pasir and Pantai Remis in Kuala Selangor, Pesisir Pantai Bagan Lalang in Sepang and Pantai Kelanang and Pesisir Pantai Tanjung Sepat in Kuala Langat have been advised to be cautious as these areas are expected to be affected by the high tide.

Spring tides occur when the moon is either new or full, and the sun, the moon, and the earth are aligned.

When this is the case, their collective gravitational pull on the Earth's water is strengthened.

Zaidy said the state was worried

about any unusual and strong current that could lead to a worse scenario.

"Zaidy added that all local authorities have been ordered to desilt drains and monsoon drain outlets before Oct 16.

"Selangor has approved an allocation of RM4.5mil to repair damaged barriers, rock bunds and raise the bund heights.

"We want MPK to remove the silt that has choked monsoon drain outlets at both ends of Persiaran Seraya in Taman Chi Liung," he added.

On residents' complaints that the Persiaran Seraya monsoon drain outlet was silted, MPK councillor Tony Leong, who visited the site, said he would get MPK's Cleaning Department to remove the silt soon.

For details, members of the public can call 03-5544 7324 (SDMU).

perfect livin[®] '16
Home & Lifestyle Exhibition

6-9 Oct

@PWTC KL

10am - 9pm

www.perfectlivin.com