

Strengthening flood defences

Disaster agency reinforces bunds with over 30,000 sandbags at several districts in S'gor

ABOUT 30,000 sandbags had been supplied to Kampung Tok Muda in Kapar by the National Disaster Management Agency to fortify the bunds at the village in the wake of tidal waves expected to cause flooding from Sunday to Friday.

State infrastructure committee chairman Zaidy Abdul Talib who visited the village yesterday said the sandbags had been added to a 350m stretch at the village where the previous bunds gave way last month during an earlier tidal wave that had caused flooding on Sept 19, 20 and 21.

“Staff from the Drainage and Irrigation Department and other agencies including volunteers are helping to place the sandbags over the bunds in a move to minimise the amount of seawater flowing into the village,” he told reporters after inspecting the strengthening of the bunds yesterday.

Zaidy also said RM4.3mil was allocated to repair, widen and increase the height of the bunds placed along rivers and the sea in anticipation of the tidal waves expected to hit the coast of Selangor from Oct 15 to Oct 21.

He said the strengthening of the bunds were carried out mainly at the Klang, Kuala Selangor and Sabak Bernam districts.

“The weather forecast by the Meteorological Department says that Oct 17 will be the highlight of



The Special Malaysian Disaster Rescue Team (SMART) stacking sandbags at Kampung Tok Muda, Kapar.

the phenomena as the tidal waves are expected to rise to 5.7m.

“We have widened and increased the height of the bunds by 1.25m,” he told reporters during a visit to Kampung Tok Muda in Kapar which was one of the areas that was badly hit by floods during last

month's tidal phenomena.

Zaidy said the evacuation centres were made available for people to be housed even before the flood hit.

“This is to prevent people from having to go through the hassle and stress when the floodwaters enter their homes,” he said.

Despite sufficient measures put in place by Federal and state agencies to deal with the flooding, Zaidy said there was concern with the rainy season that started recently.

“We hope there will be less rain especially during the rise in tidal waves,” he said.