

**KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 21 DISEMBER 2013 (SABTU)**

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KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (DALAM NEGERI) : MUKA SURAT 06
TARIKH: 21 DISEMBER 2013 (SABTU)

**Cuaca diramal
baik menjelang
persekolahan**

KUALA LUMPUR 20 Dis. - Keadaan cuaca di negeri Pantai Timur dan Johor dijangka baik menjelang pembukaan sesi baharu persekolahan Januari ini.

Pegawai Kaji Cuaca Pusat Cuaca Nasional, Jabatan Meteorologi Malaysia (JMM), Khairul Najib berkata, Kelantan, Terengganu, Pahang dan Johor dijangka mengalami hujan di beberapa kawasan berhampiran pantai di sebelah pagi.

"Arah pergerakan angin monsun timur laut sentiasa berubah menyebabkan cuaca di sebelah petang di kawasan pantai kembali normal manakala kawasan pedalaman pula mengalami hujan.

"Hujan bagaimanapun normal dan bukan berterusan atau lebat yang boleh menyebabkan banjir," katanya ketika dihubungi *Utusan Malaysia* di sini hari ini.

Menurut Khairul, bagi negeri lain di Semenanjung, Sabah dan Sarawak pula, cuaca dijangka cerah pada sebelah pagi manakala hujan di sebelah petang.

Katanya, fenomena itu juga tidak menyebabkan gelombang kedua banjir di Pantai Timur dan Johor.



Kerajaan Akan Usahakan Bantuan Tambahan Untuk Mangsa Banjir - Najib

KUALA LUMPUR, 21 Dis (Bernama) -- Perdana Menteri berkata kerajaan akan berusaha mencari sumber dan bantuan tambahan bagi membantu meringankan beban mangsa banjir, disamping bantuan RM500 yang diumumkan sebelum ini.

Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak berkata berdasarkan pemerhatian sekitar lawatan banjir di Pahang, telah memberi gambaran kepadanya mengenai kerugian yang terpaksa ditanggung setiap keluarga.

"Walaupun kerajaan pusat telah meluluskan bantuan khas bernilai RM500, saya akui jumlah tersebut tidak memadai.

"Atas kesedaran ini, pihak kerajaan akan berusaha mencari sumber dan bantuan tambahan untuk disalurkan kepada mangsa dalam usaha untuk meringankan beban mereka," kata Najib dalam status terbarunya di laman Facebook.

Awal bulan ini, Pahang, Terengganu, Kelantan dan Johor dilanda banjir buruk susulan hujan lebat berterusan serta limpahan air sungai di beberapa kawasan, menyebabkan ribuan penduduk terpaksa berpindah selain kehilangan harta benda.

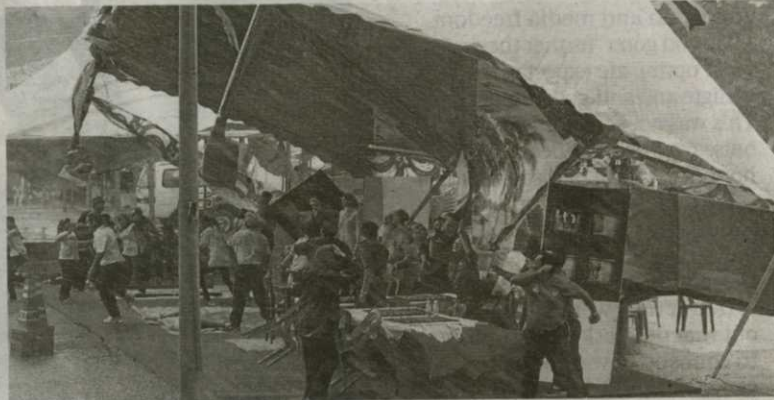
Dalam pada itu, [Jabatan Meteorologi](#) meramalkan penduduk di kawasan Pantai Timur bakal berdepan kemungkinan berlakunya gelombang kedua banjir antara 25 hingga 28 Dis ini ketika air laut pasang yang disertai ombak besar.

-- BERNAMA

Improve warning system

WHILE the nation anxiously awaits the arrival of the second wave of monsoon floods, they should also be aware of another potentially devastating weather phenomenon that normally arrives at the end of the year — tropical cyclones. Although cyclones bring floods and strong waves to coastal communities, they have another devastating effect which can affect people living further inland, and that is severe landslides.

Although academics claim the country is free of tropical cyclones since we are located near to the equator, we have been struck by two devastating tropical cyclones in the last two decades — Tropical Storm Greg (Dec 26, 1996) in Sabah and Typhoon Vamei (Dec 27, 2001)



Tropical cyclones bring floods and strong waves to coastal communities, as well as create severe landslides.

in Johor.

Many lives were lost and many homes were damaged. In both cases, the **Meteorological Department** reportedly failed to warn the public that a cyclone was approaching the

mainland "in order not to cause panic".

Although the department claimed it would revamp the criteria to severe weather warning about a year ago after the dangers

of cyclones were highlighted, nothing seems to have been done.

Hence, the department's website's information about possible impacts of a typhoon is still stated as "swift water currents can be dangerous to children playing besides monsoon drains and river banks".

Nothing is mentioned about the possible occurrences of landslides.

Since cyclones can penetrate deep inland, as Greg and Vamei showed, severe landslides can cause many casualties among those living in the highlands and near hillslopes.

Let us hope that the authorities are better prepared in case another rogue tropical cyclone decides to make a landfall in this country.

Zahar, Kuala Lumpur

Prepare for devastating cyclones

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Although tropical cyclones bring floods and strong waves to coastal communities, they can have devastating effect on people living further inland and that is severe landslides.

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Tropical Storm Greg (Dec 26, 1996) in Sabah and Typhoon Vamei

(Dec 27, 2001) in Johor.

In both these cyclones, many lives were lost and many homes were damaged.

In these events, the **Meteorological Department** reportedly failed to warn the public that a tropical cyclone was approaching the mainland "in order not to cause panic". (http://weather.ou.edu/~spark/AMON/v1_n1/GREG.html; <http://news.sciencemag.org/2003/04/rarest-typhoon>)

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ZAHAR
Kuala Lumpur

