

KERATAN AKHBAR-AKHBAR TEMPATAN
TARIKH: 21 JULAI 2016 (KHAMIS)

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KERATAN AKHBAR
HARIAN METRO (SETEMPAT) : MUKA SURAT 47
TARIKH : 21 JULAI 2016 (KHAMIS)



MADIUS (kiri) pada majlis pelancaran ekspedisi ke Artik bersama antara peserta.

Guru, dua pelajar ke Artik

■ Sertai ekspedisi selama dua minggu

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Sepang

Saya menggalas sa-
tu tanggungjawab
yang besar apabila
dipilih Yayasan Penyelidi-
kan Antartika Sultan Mizan
(YPASM) untuk menyertai
ekspedisi ini kerana per-
tama kali membawa nama
Malaysia ke persada anta-
rabangsa," kata seorang da-
ripada pelajar Program Stu-
dent On Ice:Arctic Educa-
tional Expedition 2016, Ha-
nifah Mohd Rofiq, 16.

Pelajar tingkatan empat
dari Sekolah Menengah Ke-
bangsaan Agama (SMKA)
Sheikh Abdul Malek, Kuala
Terengganu itu berjaya di-
pilih menyertai program
berkenaan selepas melalui
beberapa peringkat pemil-
han.

Antaranya termasuk uji-
an saringan pengetahuan
sains dan isu polar, kebo-
lehan berkomunikasi dalam
bahasa Inggeris (secara lisan
dan bertulis) serta tahap
kreativiti dan keupayaan fi-
zikal.

"Saya sangat bangga dan
bertuah apabila terpilih un-
tuk menyertai program ini
yang bukan sahaja mampu
memberi pengalaman bah-
aru malah dapat menero-
ka dunia sains dengan le-
bih mendalam bersama pak-
ar sains di sana.

"Melalui program ini saya
dapat bertemu dengan rak-
an daripada negara lain
yang mempunyai minat

“Dapat meneroka dunia
sains dengan lebih
mendalam bersama
pakar sains di sana”
Hanifah Mohd Rofiq

yang sama dan malah
memberi peluang kepada
saya melihat kehebatan
sains dengan lebih jelas la-
gi," katanya ketika ditemui
selepas majlis menghantar
guru dan pelajar bagi me-
ngikuti program berkenaan
di sini, semalam.

Majlis disempurnakan
Menteri Sains Teknologi dan
Inovasi (MOSTI) Datuk Seri
Panglima Madius Tangau.

Selain Hanifah, seorang
lagi pelajar Muhammad
Arif Mohd Robi, 16, dari
Sekolah Menengah Agama
Atas Sultan Zainal Abidin,
Kuala Terengganu dan se-
orang guru Nurul Ain Jo-
har, 26 dari Sekolah Me-
nengah Kebangsaan
(SMK) Seberang Marang,
Marang, Terengganu turut
dipilih mengikuti ekspedisi itu.

Program selama dua
minggu bermula semalam
hingga 5 Ogos ini akan
memberi pendedahan ke-
pada peserta berkaitan per-
sekitaran artik dan hubung
kait dengan budaya pen-
duduk.

Hanifah berkata, apabila
ekspedisi berkenaan tamat
kelak, dia berharap dapat
membawa pulang pengeta-
huan yang amat bernilai se-
perti perubahan di Artik
yang mempengaruhi iklim

di negara ini bagi mem-
bantu kerajaan dan masya-
rakat menangani masalah
pemanasan global.

Sementara itu, Madius
berkata, program tahunan
yang dilaksanakan kemen-
terian melalui YPASM itu
bertujuan memupuk minat
pelajar dalam bidang sains.

Katanya, ia sekali gus da-
pat melahirkan lebih ramai
penyelidik yang dapat
membantu perkembangan
sains dalam negara.

Menurutnya, ekspedisi ini
dapat mewujudkan evolusi
baru dalam menarik minat
pelajar untuk mendekati
bidang sains sekali gus me-
ningkatkan peratus pelajar
yang memilih bidang sains
berbanding sastera.

"Mereka akan diberi pen-
dedahan untuk memahami
dan meneroka penyelesaian
isu perubahan iklim global
melalui aktiviti yang akan
dilaksanakan sepanjang
program itu.

"Peserta bukan saja ter-
dedah kepada keadaan ba-
haru, malah dapat berke-
nalan serta bertukar pen-
dapat dan mengeratkan
perhubungan dengan pes-
erta dari negara lain," ka-
tanya.

Lebih 100 pelajar dari se-
luruh dunia termasuk dari
Kanada, Amerika Syarikat,
Denmark, Sweden, Norway
dan Jepun akan menyertai
ekspedisi kali ini.

Ekspedisi ini turut disert-
ai kakitangan sokongan
yang terdiri daripada sain-
tis, ahli sejarah, pengem-
bara, penulis buku, guru
dan kru lain.

'Fewer rainstorms in coming days'

KUALA LUMPUR: Heavy rain, which lashed Penang and Kedah the last few days, leading to flash floods, is due to the northwesterly wind from the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal.

Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Datuk Seri Wilfred Madius Tangau said the wind, which brings moisture from both the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal, has caused Malaysia, especially the northern part of the peninsula, to experience wet weather conditions.

"Perlis, Penang, Kedah and northern Perak will experience wet weather conditions, but the rain will gradually become less starting from today (yesterday)," he told the *New Straits Times* yesterday.

"After today, rain is still expected to occur in several places, especially in the late afternoon and early evening, but the intensity is expected to decrease," he added.

Madius said such continuous heavy rain in Penang and Kedah would not likely occur elsewhere, other than the places mentioned above.

"The wet weather conditions throughout the country are expected to ease, but isolated rain and thunderstorm in the late afternoon and early evening are still expected to occur throughout the country."

Penang Meteorological Office in Bayan Lepas recorded 131mm (66 per cent) in rainfall on July 18 compared with 199mm of the mean monthly rainfall for this month.

It was reported on Monday that several parts in Penang and Kedah were brought to a standstill due to heavy rain on Monday, which caused low-lying areas to be inundated with knee-deep water.

As of Tuesday, a total 474 people in three districts had been evacuated in Kedah, while the situation in Penang was under control as most villagers had returned to their homes from the flood relief centres.

In **Alor Star**, 385 people are still staying at the five flood relief centres in the state.

Ninety-one of them are staying at the flood relief centre in Pendang, while 294 people are staying at four relief centres in Yan.

Seven flood relief centres, four in Kuala Muda and three in Baling, were closed yesterday.

Kedah Civil Defence Department Disaster Operation officer Major Imran Azemi said relief centres that were open were Surau Teroi Bukit, Surau Kampung Sungai Lintang, Surau Kampung Batu 22 and Surau Kampung Sungai Malai in Yan and Dewan Cenderawasih in Ayer Putih, Pendang.

Terengganu to hold meeting on flood relief

KUALA TERENGGANU: Terengganu, which was spared the big floods last year, has yet to hold its disaster management committee meeting, despite signs that the La Nina phenomenon is likely to cause early pre-monsoon storms and possible flooding in low-lying areas.

However, the agencies usually involved in disaster relief have begun flood simulation exercises to ensure they are well prepared and ready to be mobilised during emergencies.

"We may have our first meeting in the next couple of weeks. The agen-

cies and volunteers involved in flood relief operations are experienced. However, they may have to refresh their skills," said state secretary Datuk Othman Muda.

He said the state government was aware of the floods that have hit Penang and Kedah in recent days and was looking at the contributing factors, including studying the La Nina effect when it hit the east coast.

Othman said in the past, the Meteorological Department, the Drainage and Irrigation Depart-

ment, local authorities, the Fire and Rescue Department, police and army played a major role in flood management and operations.

"The important thing is to prevent loss of life and to minimise property damage. Terengganu experiences floods every year and the victims are usually from the same affected areas. As such, experience has created a high level of awareness."

Terengganu experienced three major floods in 2012, 2013, and 2014.

The floods in 2014 was the most disastrous as 50,000 victims were

evacuated to higher ground.

Following the floods in 2014, the government spent RM300 million to implement flood mitigation measures, including dredging to deepen rivers and widen monsoon drains.

Last year, the government identified 521 relief centres and 162 forward bases were supplied with boats, food and other necessities for flood victims.

It also identified four helicopter landing sites to transport food, medical supplies, and to provide evacuation for the critically ill.

