

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

Guru, dua pelajar ke Artik

■ Sertai ekspedisi selama dua minggu

Nursyahrah Marzuki
am@hmetro.com.my

Sepang

Saya menggalas satu tanggungjawab yang besar apabila dipilih Yayasan Penyelidikan Antartika Sultan Mizan (YPASM) untuk menyertai ekspedisi ini kerana pertama kali membawa nama Malaysia ke persada antarabangsa," kata seorang daripada pelajar Program Student On Ice: Arctic Educational Expedition 2016, Hanifah Mohd Rofiq, 16.

Pelajar tingkatan empat dari Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Agama (SMKA) Sheikh Abdul Malek, Kuala Terengganu itu berjaya dipilih menyertai program berkenaan selepas melalui beberapa peringkat pemilihan.

Antaranya termasuk ujian saringan pengetahuan sains dan isu polar, kebolehan berkomunikasi dalam bahasa Inggeris (secara lisan dan bertulis) serta tahap kreativiti dan keupayaan fizikal.

"Saya sangat bangga dan bertuah apabila terpilih untuk menyertai program ini yang bukan sahaja mampu memberi pengalaman baharu malah dapat meneroka dunia sains dengan lebih mendalam bersama pakar sains di sana.

"Melalui program ini saya dapat bertemu dengan rakan daripada negara lain yang mempunyai minat

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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 lagi," katanya ketika ditemui selepas majlis menghantar guru dan pelajar bagi mengikuti 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 seorang guru Nurul Ain Johar, 26 dari Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan (SMK) Seberang Marang, Marang, Terengganu turut dipilih mengikuti ekspedisi itu.

Program selama dua minggu bermula semalam hingga 5 Ogos ini akan memberi pendedahan kepada peserta berkaitan persekitaran artik dan hubung kait dengan budaya penduduk.

Hanifah berkata, apabila ekspedisi berkenaan tamat kelak, dia berharap dapat membawa pulang pengetahuan yang amat bernilai seperti perubahan di Artik yang mempengaruhi iklim

di negara ini bagi membantu kerajaan dan masyarakat menangani masalah pemanasan global.

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

Katanya, ia sekali gus dapat 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 meningkatkan peratus pelajar yang memilih bidang sains berbanding sastera.

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

"Peserta bukan saja terdedah kepada keadaan baharu, malah dapat berkenalan serta bertukar pendapat dan mengeratkan perhubungan dengan peserta dari negara lain," katanya.

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

Ekspedisi ini turut disertai kakitangan sokongan yang terdiri daripada saintis, ahli sejarah, pengembara, 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.

KERATAN AKHBAR
UTUSAN MALAYSIA (ALBUM HARI INI) : MUKA SURAT 02
TARIKH: 21 JULAI 2016 (KHAMIS)



AIDILFITRI UTEM MERIAH

YANG Dipertua Negeri Melaka yang juga Canselor UTeM, Tun Mohd. Khalil Yaakob meraikan majlis Aidilfitri UTeM di Durian Tunggal, Melaka, semalam. Turut hadir Timbalan Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Datuk Dr. Abu Bakar Mohamad Diah (kiri) dan Naib Canselor UTeM, Profesor Datuk Dr. Shahrin Sahib. - UTUSAN/AZLI AHAD