

**KEMENTERIAN TENAGA, SAINS, TEKNOLOGI, ALAM SEKITAR DAN PERUBAHAN IKLIM**

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LAMPIRAN 1
NEW STRAITS TIMES (NATION): MUKA SURAT 04
TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

UP UNTIL NEXT MONTH
MORE RAINFALL, FLOODS EXPECTED

Local authorities urged to check drainage

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THE transition phase of the ongoing monsoon, which is expected to last until early next month, is expected to lead to increased rainfall, resulting in low-lying areas being vulnerable to flash floods.

Several states in the peninsula, such as Selangor, Perak and Pahang, have been hit by flash floods, requiring families to be evacuated.

In Perak, 241 people were evacuated to flood relief centres in Teluk Intan, Sungkai and Lenggong. In Ijok, Selangor, some 200 residents of Kampung Sentosa had to contend with repeat flash floods in a span of 48 hours.

In Kampung Kuala Repas, Bentong, 13 villagers had to be evacuated after their houses were inundated on Saturday night.

The Water, Land and Natural Resources Ministry said the possibility of flash floods was higher for people in coastal areas if continuous rainfall occurred simultaneously during the high tide phenomenon.

"According to the weather forecast by the Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia), the country is experiencing the transition period of the monsoon until early next month.

"Frequent thunderstorms within a short period, especially in the evenings, are expected in the west coast of the peninsula during the (monsoon transition) period. The same weather forecast applies to Sarawak and Sabah."

The ministry confirmed that cases of flash floods had been reported in Perak, Selangor and here.

It urged local authorities to inspect drainage systems and

monitor rainfall in their respective areas during the transition period.

This, it said, was to ensure that the drainage systems were not clogged by garbage or waste that could contribute to flash floods.

"Residents in flood-prone areas are advised to constantly check the weather situation, especially when there are showers during the transition monsoon period."

Last month, the New Straits Times quoted MetMalaysia director-general Jallan Simon as saying that thunderstorms were expected to hit the west coast and interior of the peninsula this month.

He had said that floods were expected to hit Kelantan and Terengganu in the middle of the month and would hit Pahang by the end of next month.

He said flooding in Johor would begin in December up to early January, while flooding in Sabah and Sarawak would start in January.

Johor and Kelantan are already bracing for the impact of the monsoon, with police and emergency services personnel placed on standby.

In Johor Baru, 1,250 firefighters and officers of the state Fire and Rescue Department have been preparing for the flood season.

Its director, Datuk Yahaya Madis, said they would be on duty during the Tanjung Piai parliamentary by-election as well as the upcoming school examination season next month.

He said the department was also prepared to freeze the leave of its personnel.

"The rainy season has started and in the event of floods during the by-election, we may be asked to help transfer ballot boxes in inaccessible areas.

"During the examination period, we might be requested to transport the exam papers," he said after officiating the department's monthly assembly in Jalan Kangkar Tebrau.



Rising floodwaters have been reported in Changkat Jong, Teluk Intan. PIC BY:RAWALE SAVARINATHAN

Police chief: Kelantan ready for flood season

PASIR MAS: The leave of all police officers and personnel in Kelantan will be frozen as preparations for floods, expected to hit the state at the end of next month, shift into high gear.

State police chief Datuk Hasanuddin Hassan said those who were on leave during the flood period would be recalled.

He said various measures had been put in place to ensure a smooth evacuation during the flood season.

"Police are ready to face any eventuality of floods hitting Kelantan.

"Our preparation covers all aspects from logistics to the machinery.

"However, we will seek other agencies' help if our logistic equipment is not enough during the monsoon season,"

he said at the handing over of duties ceremony for the new Pasir Mas district police chief here yesterday.

Kelantan and Terengganu are no stranger to floods.



Datuk Hasanuddin Hassan

They usually bear the brunt of the monsoon season.

Low-lying areas in Kelantan, including residential areas along Sungai Golok, are normally the worst hit during floods and residents would be evacuated to relief centres.

In December 2014, flash floods forced more than 24,000 people in Kelantan and 21,000 people in Terengganu to flee their homes.

LAMPIRAN 2  
THE STAR (NATION): MUKA SURAT 08  
TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

# Ministry issues flood warning

## Heavy rain expected in low-lying areas during monsoon transition

By FATIMAH ZAINAL  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Communities in low-lying areas and coastal parts of the country are urged to be alert during the transitional phase of the monsoon, which is bringing heavy rainfall and with it risks of flash floods and structural damage.

The transition phase, which started late September and will last until early next month, puts the coastal areas at risk especially if continuous heavy rainfall coincided with the high tide, said the Water, Land and Natural Resources Ministry.

It also warned that the frequency of flash floods occurring will increase especially in low-lying areas, with flash floods having been reported in Perak, Selangor and Kuala Lumpur of late.

"According to the Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia) weather forecast, the country is experiencing the monsoon transition period until early next month.

"During this phase, thunderstorms, heavy rainfall and strong winds within a short period of time especially in the late evenings, will occur frequently.

"The east coast of the peninsular and parts of Sabah and Sarawak will be exposed to the same situation," said the ministry in a statement yesterday.

The ministry urged state authorities to conduct frequent inspections on drainage systems in their areas and also on the rivers and drains to ensure the water flow is free of blockage.

"Those staying in areas prone to flash floods and also in low-lying areas are urged to always be on alert about the rainfall throughout this period," said the ministry.

Rainfall and river water levels can be monitored via website [publicinfobanjir.water.gov.my](http://publicinfobanjir.water.gov.my).

The regional haze situation affecting Malaysia is improving during the monsoon transition phase as most areas in the country will receive weak winds from various directions, said MetMalaysia.

Most states in the peninsula are expected to receive average rainfall levels between 150mm and 350mm, said MetMalaysia in its weather report for October to March next year.

However, Perlis, Perak, Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya are forecast to receive above average rainfall levels between 300mm and 420mm.

Kedah and Penang are also expected to get a lot more rain than other states, between 350mm and 500mm.

In Sarawak, most areas are expected to receive average rainfall levels between 200mm and 450mm except around Kuching, Sri Aman



**Marooned:** A flash flood that inundated Segambut last week after heavy rain in Kuala Lumpur.

and Samarahan, which are expected to receive less rainfall, at between 200mm and 300mm.

In Sabah, Kudat, Keningau and Tawau are expected to get average rainfall levels between 100mm and 250mm with other parts expected to receive between 200mm and 400mm.

MetMalaysia said that the north-east monsoon will start early next month and end in March next year, bringing heavy rains to the east coast states.

"During this monsoon period, episodes of comprehensive, heavy monsoon rains are expected to occur especially in the east coast states of the peninsula.

"Terengganu and Kelantan will get average rainfall levels between 350mm and 850mm," said MetMalaysia.

Meanwhile, the east of Pahang and Johor are expected to receive average rainfall levels between 300mm and 450mm during the north-east monsoon.

States like Perlis, Kedah, Penang, Perak, Selangor, Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya are expected to get a little less, between 250mm and 450mm.

In Sabah, most parts are forecast to have an average rainfall level between 250mm to 500mm while in Sabah and Labuan, most parts will receive between 200mm and 400mm.

LAMPIRAN 3  
 THE STAR (NATION): MUKA SURAT 04  
 TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

Nation  
 Johor DoE vows  
 to clean up the  
 dirtiest river in  
 Malaysia. >4

# Bringing dirtiest river back to life

## Johor DoE confident it can clean up Sungai Tukang Batu

By REMAR NORDIN  
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**JOHOR BARU:** Authorities in Johor will continue to work around the clock to change the status of Sungai Tukang Batu in Pasir Gudang, currently dubbed Malaysia's dirtiest river.

Johor Department of Environment (DoE) director Mohd Famey Yusoff said a joint cooperation between agencies had been conducted to clean the river.

"DoE has always worked together with other agencies such as the state Drainage and Irrigation Department (DID) and the local council so that we can improve the condition of the river.

"Sungai Tukang Batu is one of the most polluted rivers in our country.

"It has been contaminated for a long time. DoE will play its role in ensuring that the river will be in a better condition," he said after attending the launch of the Environmental Day celebration in Hutan Bandar Iskandar Puteri City Council (MBIP) Mutiara Rini yesterday.



**Dirty record:** Some of the most polluted rivers in Malaysia are located in Johor.

He was commenting on *The Star's* special report on the state of the country's rivers, with some of the most polluted located in Johor, including Sungai Tukang Batu.

"We are aware of the news report and we wanted the public to know the real situation so that we can work together to change the status of the river," he added.

Pollution in Sungai Tukang Batu, said Mohd Famey, not only came from industrial activities but was also due to nearby residential sewage.

DoE, he said, would continue to monitor the situation of the river and pledged to take stern action against any individual or industry found guilty of contributing to its pollution.

Sungai Tukang Batu is so polluted that a *Star* reporter taking pictures and video of the river could not stand the odour despite wearing a face mask. It is listed in Class 5, meaning its water is so dirty that it is not suited for use either to supply water or even for irrigation.

In the latest Environmental Quality Report 2018, the DoE had increased the number of rivers it tracks continuously to 638 last year compared to 477 in 2017.

Sungai Tukang Batu continues to hold the record for having the worst Water Quality Index (WQI) with a reading of 22.

The WQI divides rivers into three categories: Polluted (0-50), Slightly Polluted (60-80) and Clean (81-100). The report also separates rivers into five Classes with Class 1 being pristine and Class 5 the most polluted.

Of the 638 rivers monitored last year, 357 or 56% showed clean water quality, 231 (36%) were slightly polluted while 50 (8%) were polluted.

A higher WQI reading shows a better water quality.



LAMPIRAN 4  
THE SUN (SUNBIZ): MUKA SURAT 13  
TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

## Energy- and money-wasting policies

DO we speed up organic growth of sustainability to achieve higher output? Not really, we actually will waste more resources and money. Inept minister and officers makes inefficiencies at full scale and this is something I have been seeing until today.

There is no shortcut to achieve sustainability because we are not wizards that can do magic. Awer has been critical over some wrong policies that were introduced by the government for almost a decade now.

We are surprised that some wrong policies are now being brought forward and you can hear the same lame duck reasoning that you used to hear being repeated.

One of the core issues is boosting renewable energy (RE) first before going full scale on energy efficiency (EE) drive. Implementing EE is to optimise the energy input to get more output or you reduce the energy input to achieve the same output. So, it is actually optimisation and reduce energy wastage.

Why is it a serious issue? Why Malaysia cannot venture into RE too much?

Total electricity generated in 2017 is 162,184 GWh (Gigawatt hour). In addition to that, there are direct use of energy input such as petrol, diesel, coal and natural gas in industries, transportation and domestic use.

Let's assume that there is about 10% to 15% inefficiency in the energy usage (electricity and raw resources) of equipments, vehicles and factory operation.

For example, if we boost 10% EE in electricity, we can prevent 16,218 GWh of electricity from being generated. If power plants are operating at 55-61% efficiency, we will save more energy resources. It also means lower fuel cost being passed through to electricity. Furthermore, by boosting 10% EE, we do not need a power plant close to 2000 MW.

This simple explanation is excluding direct energy resource usage in

domestic, industrial and transportation sector. We can save more via EE.

So, in the end when government goes full steam ahead to boost more RE, we are actually feeding it to be wasted. In any investment strategy, cost-benefit analysis is vital. In Malaysia, we have experienced cooked up numbers and personal interest playing quite a substantial role in setting policies.

For example, Sustainable Energy Development Authority (Seda) existed due to office politics in the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA) between energy sector and green technology sector. We have raised this issue many times.

In the end, Malaysia cannot afford to form a new agency for micro managing. This must be corrected and the controversies involving Seda must be investigated transparently.

During a meeting with the relevant minister last year, we were told that there is no problem with Seda according to info they received from the former first CEO.

In 2011 and 2012, there were so many reports related to Seda and how the costs were derived and alleged discrepancies. We did announce publicly that Seda will fail to meet its objective because it simply exists for the wrong reason with cooked up projections.

Seda did fail and is still allowed to operate. Is it right to let the wrong not to be corrected?

We need to address these issues prudently compared to many publicity stunts before the wound becomes septic and amputation is the only solution left.

*This article was contributed by Piarapakaran S, president of Association of Water and Energy Research Malaysia (Awer), a non-government association involved in research and development in the fields of water, energy and environment.*

LAMPIRAN 5  
BERITA HARIAN (NASIONAL): MUKA SURAT 08  
TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

# 14 inovasi terbaik dibentangkan

Asia Innovates 2019 beri peluang penyelidik serta bidang keusahawanan berpotensi

Oleh Mohd Zaky Zainuddin  
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Asia Innovates 2019 anjuran Kumpulan Industri - Kerajaan Malaysia Bagi Teknologi Tinggi (MIGHT) dan Royal Academy of Engineering (RAEng), United Kingdom (UK) menampilkan 14 inovasi penyelidik terbaik yang dipilih daripada tujuh negara untuk dibentangkan di hadapan pelabur dan institusi kewangan dari Malaysia dan Asia.

Presiden yang juga Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif MIGHT, Datuk Dr Mohd Yusoff Sulaiman, berka-

ta inovasi itu bakal diketengahkan kepada syarikat pelaburan yang berminat serta institusi kewangan untuk tujuan pembiayaan dan fasilitasi bagi membolehkan ia mampu dikomersialkan di pasaran tempatan dan global.

Katanya, program tiga hari yang berlangsung pada 15 Oktober itu bakal memberi peluang kepada lebih 150 penyelidik Asia untuk terbahit dalam bidang keusahawanan dan menimba lebih banyak ilmu pengetahuan dalam bidang berpotensi.

"Asia Innovates 2019" bukan saja program yang dapat memberi peluang kepada mereka untuk meningkatkan rangkaian pada peringkat antarabangsa tetapi juga untuk mengukuhkan keyakinan penyelidik ini berjaya dalam bidang keusahawanan.

"Di samping itu, program ini menjadi platform strategik untuk mengukuh dan mengeratkan ekosistem inovasi dan keusahawanan negara dan serantau.

"Pembabitan institusi kewangan, agensi kerajaan dan pihak swasta penting bagi memastikan



Mohd Yusoff berucap pada program Asia Innovates 2019 di Kuala Lumpur.

pelaburan daripada pihak kerajaan dalam membangunkan inovasi di kalangan penyelidik dapat dikomersialkan seterusnya dipasarkan di persada antarabangsa," katanya dalam satu kenyataan.

Asia Innovates 2019 turut disokong rakan strategik seperti CIMB Islamic, Pusat Kreativiti dan Inovasi Global Malaysia (MAGIC), Yayasan Usahawan Baharu

(MyNEF), Beta-Foundation dan Persatuan Pengurus Inovasi dan Teknologi (ITMA).

Program tahunan yang menjadikan Malaysia sebagai tuan rumah kali ini turut disertai rakan strategik antarabangsa dari China, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Filipina dan Vietnam.

Antara aktiviti menarik yang bakal dianjurkan sepanjang pro-

gram berkenaan ialah perbincangan panel yang turut dihadiri oleh pakar tempatan dan juga dari UK, bengkel, pertandingan pitching (peringkat akhir) dan sambutan ulang tahun kelima program Leaders in Innovation Fellowships (LIF).

Mohd Yusoff berkata, LIF menjadi program di bawah Newton-Ungku Omar Fund adalah program dua hala antara Malaysia dan UK dalam bidang sains dan teknologi.

Katanya, program Newton-Ungku Omar Fund memberi penekanan kepada tiga teras utama iaitu pembangunan modal insan, penyelidikan & pembangunan (R&D) dan aspek translasi.

"Program lima tahun ini membuka banyak peluang kepada penyelidik dan syarikat tempatan berkolaborasi dengan entiti di UK. Hubungan kerjasama ini mampu menyumbang kepada pembangunan ekonomi dan sosial negara.

"Malaysia adalah di antara 17 negara membangun yang menyertai skim Newton," katanya.



# LAMPIRAN 6 SINAR HARIAN (BISNES SINAR): MUKA SURAT 26 TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

## Geng Eco Frenz bersih pantai

LEBIH 300 KILOGRAM SAMPAH DIKUTIP MELALUI PROGRAM ANJURAN PERANGSANG SELANGOR, CPI BHD



KUMPULAN Belia 4B Sungai Batu ceria dapat menyumbang tenaga untuk program pemuliharaan alam sekitar.

LEBIH 300 kilogram (kg) sampah berjaya dikutip oleh 150 sukarelawan yang menyertai Eco Frenz Perangsang Selangor. Menghormati Alam Semula Jadi yang diadakan di Pantai Teluk Bayu, di Bayan Lepas, Pulau Pinang Ahad lalu. Program tersebut dianjurkan oleh Kumpulan Perangsang Selangor Berhad (Perangsang Selangor) dengan kerjasama CPI (Penang) Sdn Bhd, Kariah, Persatuan Nelayan Sungai Batu dan Belia 4B Sungai Batu. Teluk Bayu adalah lokasi ketiga selepas Johor Bahru dan Pulau Ketam, Selangor di mana, ketiga-tiga aktiviti melibatkan penanaman pokok dan pengagihan sisa pepejal. Pengarah Bersekutu, Perhubungan Pelabur dan Komunikasi Strategik Perangsang Selangor, Mohd Fauzi Mohd Ghazali berkata, berkata kesemua

sampah yang dikutip hanya terdiri daripada sampah yang boleh dikitar semula iaitu kertas, kaca dan plastik. Menurutnya, jumlah sampah itu dikutip di sepanjang 250 meter kawasan pantai tersebut selama 30 minit. "Program ini disertai 150 sukarelawan yang terdiri daripada komuniti setempat, pelajar universiti, pelajar sekolah, kakitangan Perangsang Selangor dan CPI (Penang) Sdn Bhd. Banyak aktiviti diadakan antaranya mengutip sampah sepanjang pantai ini. "Selama 30 minit, kita berjaya mengumpul 343 kg sampah yang akan dikitar semula dan ini amat memberangsangkan kerana program kita ini, bukan sahaja untuk menjaga alam sekitar tetapi lebih kepada mewujudkan kesedaran dalam kalangan masyarakat.



PELAJAR Sekolah Menengah Teluk Kumbar memasukkan sampah yang boleh dikitar semula ke dalam tong 3R.



PROGRAM Eco Frenz Perangsang Selangor di Pantai Teluk Bayu mendapat sokongan daripada pelbagai lapisan masyarakat.

"Dengan adanya program ini juga, kita dapat mendidik masyarakat betapa pentingnya menjaga kebersihan dan alam sekitar. Dari situ, mereka boleh mempraktikkannya dalam kehidupan seharian mereka," katanya pada sidang media selepas Program Eco Frenz Perangsang Selangor, baru-baru ini. Mohd Fauzi berkata, program tersebut merupakan usaha pihaknya dalam memelihara dan memulihara alam semula jadi. "Sebagai sebuah badan korporat yang bertanggungjawab dalam memastikan kelestarian dalam aspek ekonomi, alam sekitar dan sosial, kita menganjurkan

program seperti ini dengan kerjasama komuniti setempat dan CPI (Penang) Sdn Bhd. "Di sini, kita memberi pendedahan berhubung penjagaan alam sekitar melalui amalan kitar semula dan pengasingan sisa pepejal kepada masyarakat di Sungai Batu. Pendedahan ini diberikan kepada generasi muda dan nelayan demi masa depan yang lebih sihat dan bebas pencemaran," katanya. Jelasnya, usaha menjaga alam sekitar perlu dijalankan secara berterusan dalam memastikan kawasan perairan tersebut terus dipelihara dan kekal untuk generasi akan datang. "Kebersihan pantai amat penting agar ekosistem tidak terganggu dan dapat mengelakkan kejadian tidak diingini berlaku. Kita juga mahu masyarakat lebih peka dengan kesan pencemaran selain menerapkan budaya 3R (reduce, reuse dan recycle). "Melalui aktiviti seperti ini, kita boleh memastikan mesej kesedaran sampai kepada sasaran kita. Dalam program ini juga Perangsang Selangor menyerahkan 10 unit tong sampah kepada wakil penduduk Sungai Batu untuk kegunaan komuniti di sini. Selain itu, kita juga menyumbang 50 unit mangkuk tingkat kepada nelayan terpilih," katanya. Mohd Fauzi berkata, siri program tersebut akan diteruskan di Kampung Sungai Sireh, Klang, Selangor pada pertengahan November ini dengan memberi penekanan kepada pembersihan tebing sungai.



PARA sukarelawan dan wakil pengurusan Perangsang Selangor serta CPI Bhd melaukan ikrar untuk terus memulihara alam sekitar.



LAMPIRAN 7  
THE STAR (NATION): MUKA SURAT 8  
TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

## Fire Dept to freeze leave if Perak floods worsen

**IPOH:** The Perak Fire and Rescue Department will freeze leave of its personnel if the flood situation worsens.

State director Azmi Osman said currently, only between 10% and 20% of personnel were allowed to go on leave, following the recent flash floods in several districts.

“Our strength now comprises 1,100 officers, 220 auxiliary and 880 volunteer firefighters.

“In the event we need extra help, we will seek assistance from neighbouring states, including boats and trucks,” he said.

Azmi said they have mobilised 10 trucks, 30 four-wheel drive vehicles and 44 boats for flood operations around the state.

He said they have identified several high risk areas such as Sungai Siput, Kerian and Hilir Perak, and have been monitoring the areas regularly.

In Johor Baru, a total of 1,250 firemen were ready to face the coming flood season in the state.

Johor director Datuk Yahaya Madis said apart from the flood, they would also be on duty during the Tanjung Piai by-election as well as the upcoming school examination period next month.

He said various preparations had been made, including equipment, machinery, training, monitoring in areas of potential impact, as well as the possibility of freezing the leave of personnel. — Bernama

LAMPIRAN 8  
NEWS STRAITS TIMES (NEWS): MUKA SURAT 4  
TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

## Police chief: Kelantan ready for flood season

**PASIR MAS:** The leave of all police officers and personnel in Kelantan will be frozen as preparations for floods, expected to hit the state at the end of next month, shift into high gear.

State police chief Datuk Hasanuddin Hassan said those who were on leave during the flood period would be recalled.

He said various measures had been put in place to ensure a smooth evacuation during the flood season.

"Police are ready to face any eventuality of floods hitting Kelantan.

"Our preparation covers all aspects from logistics to the machinery.

"However, we will seek other agencies' help if our logistic equipment is not enough during the monsoon season," he said at the handing over of duties ceremony for the new Pasir Mas district police chief here yesterday.

Kelantan and Terengganu are no stranger to floods.



*Datuk Hasanuddin Hassan*

They usually bear the brunt of the monsoon season.

Low-lying areas in Kelantan, including residential areas along Sungai Golok, are normally the worst hit during floods and residents would be evacuated to relief centres,

In December 2014,

flash floods forced more than 24,000 people in Kelantan and 21,000 people in Terengganu to flee their homes.

LAMPIRAN 9  
 NEWS STRAITS TIMES (NEWS): MUKA SURAT 5  
 TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

226 people housed at Perak relief centre

NSG (m/15)  
 Monday to 21/10/19.

**IPOH:** Perak, which has been hit by a series of flash floods over the past week, is still dealing with the inclement weather.

Official figures showed 226 people from 63 families were seeking shelter at the SK Changkat Jong flood relief centre.

However, it marked a reduction from the 241 flood victims listed earlier in the day, all from Hulu Perak, Hilir Perak and Batang Padang.

Changkat Jong sub-district head Azizul Abd Aziz said floodwaters in Kampung Batu 9, Batu 7, Batu 8, Lorong Mesra Batu 7 1/2, Batu 8 (Lorong Sidang Osman)

and Batu 8 had yet to recede.

"Various agencies are monitoring the situation in the areas and are on standby."

The relief centre was opened at 11pm on Friday after Sungai Sungkai and Sungai Bidor burst their banks due to continuous rain, causing flooding in nearby villages.

The state Disaster Management Committee Secretariat said a relief centre was opened in Hulu Perak on Saturday night after Tasik Raban overflowed.

Another centre was opened in Lenggong.

The state Fire and Rescue

Department said it would freeze the leave of its personnel and officers if the flood situation in the state worsened.

Its director, Azmi Osman, said only 10 to 20 per cent of personnel were allowed to go on leave following the recent flash floods in the state.

"The department comprises 1,100 officers, 220 auxiliary and 880 volunteer firefighters.

"In the event of insufficient



Azmi Osman

personnel, we will seek help from neighbouring states," he told Bernama.

He said to date, the department had mobilised 10 trucks, 30 four-wheel drives and 44 boats for flood operations around the state.

He said the department had identified several high-risk areas, such as Sungai Siput, Kerian and Hilir Perak, and had been monitoring them.

In Pahang, 13 villagers from

Kampung Kuala Repas, Bentong, were evacuated to a temporary flood shelter after their houses were inundated on Saturday night.

Pahang Civil Defence Force (APM) director Zainal Yusoff said the 20-minute rainfall that started at 8pm caused three houses in the area to be flooded.

"After receiving information from APM at 8.45pm, a relief centre was set up at the Kampung Kuala Repas surau at 10.15pm.

"It is housing three families," he said yesterday.

There were no injuries reported, he said.

LAMPIRAN 10  
NEWS STRAITS TIMES (NEWS): MUKA SURT 05  
TARIKH: 21 OKTOBER 2019 (ISNIN)

# MORE RAINFALL, FLOODS EXPECTED

Local authorities urged to check drainage

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**T**HE transition phase of the ongoing monsoon, which is expected to last until early next month, is expected to lead to increased rainfall, resulting in low-lying areas being vulnerable to flash floods.

Several states in the peninsula, such as Selangor, Perak and Pahang, have been hit by flash floods, requiring families to be evacuated.

In Perak, 241 people were evacuated to flood relief centres in Teluk Intan, Sungkai and Lenggong. In Ijok, Selangor, some 200 residents of Kampung Sentosa had to contend with repeat flash floods in a span of 48 hours.

In Kampung Kuala Repas, Bentong, 13 villagers had to be evacuated after their houses were inundated on Saturday night.

The Water, Land and Natural Resources Ministry said the possibility of flash floods was higher for people in coastal areas if continuous rainfall occurred simultaneously during the high tide phenomenon.

"According to the weather forecast by the Malaysian Meteorological Department (MetMalaysia), the country is experiencing the transition period of the monsoon until early next month.

"Frequent thunderstorms within a short period, especially in the evenings, are expected in the west coast of the peninsula during the (monsoon transition) period. The same weather forecast applies to Sarawak and Sabah."

The ministry confirmed that cases of flash floods had been reported in Perak, Selangor and here.

It urged local authorities to inspect drainage systems and

monitor rainfall in their respective areas during the transition period.

This, it said, was to ensure that the drainage systems were not clogged by garbage or waste that could contribute to flash floods.

"Residents in flood-prone areas are advised to constantly check the weather situation, especially when there are showers during the transition monsoon period."

Last month, the *New Straits Times* quoted MetMalaysia director-general Jailan Simon as saying that thunderstorms were expected to hit the west coast and interior of the peninsula this month.

He had said that floods were expected to hit Kelantan and Terengganu in the middle of the month and would hit Pahang by the end of next month.

He said flooding in Johor would begin in December up to early January, while flooding in Sabah and Sarawak would start in January.

Johor and Kelantan are already bracing for the impact of the monsoon, with police and emergency services personnel placed on standby.

In **Johor Baru**, 1,250 firefighters and officers of the state Fire and Rescue Department have been preparing for the flood season.

Its director, Datuk Yahaya Madis, said they would be on duty during the Tanjung Piai parliamentary by-election as well as the upcoming school examination season next month.

He said the department was also prepared to freeze the leave of its personnel.

"The rainy season has started and in the event of floods during the by-election, we may be asked to help transfer ballot boxes in inaccessible areas.

"During the examination period, we might be requested to transport the exam papers," he said after officiating the department's monthly assembly in Jalan Kangkar Tebrau.

## LAMPIRAN 11

## NEWS STRAITS TIMES (NEWS): MUKA SURT 05

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## Village hit by floods 10 times, claim residents

**KUALA SELANGOR:** Since early this month, some 200 villagers of Kampung Seri Sentosa have been experiencing sleepless nights, thanks to the wet spell triggered by the ongoing monsoon transition.

They claimed that the village in Ijok here had been hit by floods 10 times this month.

On three occasions, they were forced to seek shelter at a temporary evacuation centre.

They experienced yet another nightmare when they endured another round of flash floods following the continuous downpour on Saturday night.

Hairul Razid Mohamed Seri, 36, said he was watching televi-

sion with his family in the living room when he heard the sound of water gushing into the house from the kitchen at 9pm.

"Within a few minutes, the kitchen was submerged."

He said the latest incident occurred 24 hours after the village had been hit by yet another flood.

"We are exhausted from all the cleaning work from previous flood incidents. Now we have to go through the same thing again."

Another villager, Mohamad Wagiman, 71, blamed housing projects near the village for the flood situation.

He claimed that a river near the village had become narrower due

to the construction.

"The situation has resulted in water from the river flooding our village," said Mohamad, who has been living in the village for 35 years.

Both of the villagers hoped the state government could help address the problem.

Mohamad said: "We understand that development is inevitable. At the same time, the respective groups should not forget about us, the villagers."

"We hope the authorities will launch a flood mitigation initiative, such as deepening and expanding the river as well as building flood-proof fortifications to avoid a recurrence."



The Sungai Gadut train station was inundated following a three-hour downpour in Senawang, Seremban, on Thursday. Many cars were damaged. PIC COURTESY OF NST READER