

0364

B E155 AAE

MAHATHIR-FLOODS 2'Q'Q'

BN

KUALA KERAJ, NOV 24 (BERHAMA) -- PRIME MINISTER DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD TODAY APPROVED IMMEDIATE AID OF \$200,000 TO THE STATE GOVERNMENT OF KELANTAN, THE STATE WORST HIT BY THE CURRENT FLOODS IN PENINSULAR MALAYSIA.

HE SAID THE FLOODS THIS TIME WAS ABNORMAL AND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WAS GIVING SERIOUS ATTENTION TO THE FLIGHT OF THE FLOOD VICTIMS.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SPENT THE WHOLE DAY TOURING FLOOD-STRIKEN AREAS IN KELANTAN TODAY TO HAVE A FIRST-HAND LOOK AT THE SITUATION OF THE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WHO HAD TO FLEE THEIR HOMES.

TWENTY-FIVE PEOPLE HAVE DIED SINCE THE FLOODS HIT KELANTAN, TERENGGANU, PAHANG, KEDAH, PERLIS, JOHOR AND SOME PARTS OF MELAKA, NEGERI SEMBILAN AND PULAU PINANG FIVE DAYS AGO.

HE ANNOUNCED THE IMMEDIATE AID TO KELANTAN WHEN HE MET FLOOD VICTIMS HOUSED AT THE SEKOLAH MEMENGAH PAHI HERE. -- MORE
1643HST 24 11 88

B E159 AAE

MAHATHIR-FLOODS 2 KUALA KERAJ 2'Q'Q'

HE SAID THAT IF NECESSARY, THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD CONSIDER GIVING OTHER FORMS OF ASSISTANCE, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE WHO LOST THEIR HOMES.

AMONG THOSE WHO ACCOMPANIED THE PRIME MINISTER WERE DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASMAH MOHAMAD ALI, KELANTAN MENTERI BESAR DATUK MOHAMAD YAACOB, INFORMATION MINISTER DATUK MOHAMAD RAHMAT AND WELFARE MINISTER ENCIK MUSTAFFA MOHAMAD.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S DELEGATION ARRIVED HERE ON A MURI HELICOPTER FROM THE SUA MUSANG DISTRICT IN WHICH THEY VISITED KAMPUNG TIONS WHERE MANY OF THE FLOOD VICTIMS LOST THEIR HOMES.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR SAID THE FLOODS WERE ABNORMAL BECAUSE PLACES WHICH WERE NOT HIT BEFORE BY THE DISASTER WERE UNDER WATER THIS TIME. -- MORE
1658HST 24 11 88

B E167 AAE

MAHATHIR-FLOODS 3 KUALA KERAJ 2'Q'Q'

HE SAID HIS HOUSE AT TITI SAJAH, KEDAH WAS ALSO HIT BY THE FLOODS FOR THE FIRST TIME, EVEN THOUGH IT WAS ON HIGHER GROUND.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR LAUDED THE EFFORTS OF GOVERNMENT STAFF WHO WORKED TIRELESSLY IN PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO FLOOD VICTIMS.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID HE WAS HAPPY TO NOTE THAT EARLY PREPARATIONS WERE MADE TO OVERCOME THE FLOOD PROBLEM, ADDING THIS WAS VERY EFFECTIVE.

→ IF NOT FOR THE EARLY PREPARATIONS, WE MAY BE FACING A BIGGER PROBLEM, → HE SAID.

HE ADVISED FLOOD VICTIMS TO ADHERE TO THE DIRECTIVES OF THE AUTHORITIES AND BE PREPARED TO MOVE WHEN ASKED TO DO SO. -- MORE
1920HST 24 11 88

8 E171 AAE
MAHATHIR-FLOODS 4 KUALA KERAJ 9'9'9'

+ I AM THANKFUL THAT FLOOD WATERS HAD RECEDED IN MANY AREAS AND MANY HAVE RETURNED TO THEIR HOMES. BUT THEY SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE ON THE ALERT,+ HE SAID.

HE ADVISED FLOOD EVACUEES TO REMAIN CALM.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR AND DELEGATION THEN LEFT FOR KOTA BAHARU ON THE SAME HELICOPTER. IN KOTA BAHARU, THEIR BOARDED A POLICE TRUCK TO VISIT FLOOD VICTIMS AT SEKOLAH MENENGAH PUTRI.

MANY ROADS IN THE KELANTAN CAPITAL WERE UNDER WATER. FOOTBALL FIELDS LOOKED LIKE LAKES.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR AND DATUK SERI DR SITI HASHAH DID NOT SHOW ANY SIGNS OF FATIGUE DESPITE SPENDING THE WHOLE DAY TOURING FLOOD-STRIKEN AREAS. -- MORE

1952HST 24 11 88

8 E175 AAE
MAHATHIR-FLOODS 5 KUALA KERAJ 9'9'9'

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, SHOWING HIS CONCERN OVER THE FATE OF THE FLOOD VICTIMS, ENQUIRED ABOUT THEIR WELFARE AT THE EVACUATION CENTRES.

AT A BRIEF CEREMONY AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE MENTERI BESAR LATER, DATUK SERI DATIN PADUKA DR SITI HASHAH, WHO IS ALSO PRESIDENT OF BAKTI, THE WELFARE ORGANISATION OF WIVES OF MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS, DONATED 40,000 TO DATUK MOHAMAD YAKUB FOR THE FLOOD VICTIMS. -- BERHANA

1952HST 24 11 88