

**Flood: DPM calls for more efficient warning system**  
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Deputy Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin wants the relevant government agencies to discuss and come out with a more efficient early warning system for flood disaster.

Muhyiddin, who is also the national disaster management committee chairperson, said the discussion should be carried out at the National Security Council level.

"The early warning system not only allows us to anticipate the flood, but also ensure a more efficient evacuation of flood victims and deployment of rescue assets," he told reporters after visiting a flood evacuation centre at Sekolah Agama Labis in Labis.

The centre currently houses 830 people from 137 families.

Muhyiddin (photo: wearing blue cap) said the floods which hit Labis, Segamat, Kluang, Ledang and several other districts since two days ago were due to unusually high rainfall.

He said that government agencies, including the Welfare Department, had been mobilised to evacuate the victims and to provide assistance.

"Yesterday, I discussed with Menteri Besar Abdul Ghani Othman, and I asked him to do what we can to help the flood victims," he said.

The deputy prime minister said he had also asked Defence Minister Ahmad Zahid Hamidi to mobilise assets of the armed forces to facilitate the evacuation process.

He added that the experience in handling the major floods in 2006, which affected tens of thousands of people in the state, would be utilised in facing the disaster this time around.

- Bernama

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