

'Gov't has no sense of emergency planning'

MalaysiaKini.com

Dec 31, 2014

Despite rejoicing the outpouring of aid for those affected by this year's monsoon floods, a PKR leader said it would have been unnecessary had the federal and state governments prepared better.

PKR secretary-general Rafizi Ramli (left) said the East Coast gets flooded every year, and hence better response measures should have been in place.

"Malaysians all came together to help (the flood victims), but it was so unnecessary and could have been avoided if only we learned something from last year's big floods.

"(If the emergency situation) happens again, it means that we didn't learn anything from last year, or nothing was done to rectify or put in place the right procedures for emergency response," Rafizi said in an interview with KiniTV yesterday.

He added that Putrajaya, and both BN and Pakatan state governments, don't "have any sense of emergency planning at all."

This, he said, includes ensuring that agencies such as the Fire and Rescue Department have enough assets, such as boats.

Rafizi also wants the Meteorology Department to issue flood warnings at least two months in advance so that those in affected areas can make early preparations.

The monsoon floods this year are the worst in a decade and have displaced more than 200,000 people.

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