

Newspaper	THE STAR
Date	10/12/2010

Flood victims to get RM90.6mil in aid

ALOR SETAR: Some 30,000 padi farmers and 32,000 families affected by floods in Kedah and Perlis last month will receive RM90.6mil from the Government.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said each family would receive RM500 while farmers would get RM876 per hectare instead of RM573 per hectare as announced previously.

He said the aid to the families would cost the Government RM30.6mil and RM60mil for the farmers.

The aid would be given to the Federal Village Security and Development chairmen to be distributed to the victims in both states.

Najib announced the allocation during an aid presentation ceremony for flood victims at Sultan Abdul Halim Stadium here yesterday.

Also present were his wife Datin Seri Rosmah Mansor, Perlis Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Md Isa Sabu, Deputy Agriculture and Agro-Based Industries Minister Datuk

Mohd Johari Baharom and Muda Agriculture Development Authority (Mada) chairman Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid.

Najib said that for padi farmers, RM13.5mil was allocated for Perlis while RM46.5mil would go to Mada.

He hoped the RM303 increase in flood aid for farmers would cover the cost of padi seedlings, fertiliser and also planting.

He said 49,889ha of padi land in the two states were hit by the floods.

"The aid will enable farmers to carry out their padi-planting work quickly," he said.

Najib also flagged off 50 container-loads of 10,000 mattresses and 5,000 cooking stoves donated by Putera 1 Malaysia Club.

He announced that an additional 10,000 mattresses and 5,000 stoves for flood victims in Kedah and Perlis would be distributed in the coming weeks.

Earlier, Najib presented cash aid, mattresses and stoves to 11 families from Kedah and Perlis.



Warm gesture: Najib presenting a gas stove to flood victim Haton Osman, 67, at Stadium Sultan Abdul Halim in Jalan Suka Menanti, Alor Setar, yesterday while Rosmah (left) looks on.