

Newspaper	New Straits Times
Date	16 March 2016

# PM: Schools' closure up to ministry

NST-16/3/2016

**URGENT:** Education Ministry can cancel lessons if hot spell worsens, says Najib

## KUALA LUMPUR

**P**RIME Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak said the Education Ministry will decide on whether to close schools if the heat-wave continues after the end of the first-term holidays this week.

He said existing procedures gave school heads the authority to cancel outdoor activities if conditions warranted it.

"The government will take all measures to cope with the extreme heat," he said on his blog yesterday.

Najib said he was concerned about the effects of the heat-wave.

"The heatwave can be dangerous, especially to children and the aged," he said.

The school session in Kedah, Johor, Kelantan and Terengganu is set

to resume on Sunday, while in other states, on Monday.

Najib urged the public to seek immediate medical treatment if they experienced symptoms such as headaches, foot eczema, rapid heartbeats, rashes, cramps or body pain.

He also advised them to take precautions against fires, especially in dry areas, such as playgrounds near housing estates, farms, bushes and forests.

Malaysia is experiencing extraordinary hot weather and reduced rainfall due to the El Nino phenomenon.

On Monday, Natural Resources and Environment Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar said a special meeting would be held to discuss the steps to be taken during the hot and dry spell. **Bernama**

