

COPING WITH PANDEMIC, FLOODS

# PM ON HOW NATION RISES ABOVE CRISES

Strong cooperation, greater coordination of resources among govt agencies the key

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**S**TRONG cooperation and greater coordination of resources among government agencies is key for Malaysia to rise above the crises brought about not only by the Covid-19 pandemic but also by the northeast monsoon.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Is-

mail Sabri Yaakob said Malaysia was now in a “*bencana dalam bencana*” (disaster within a disaster) situation where the monsoon, from Nov 3, brought along episodes of heavy rain at a time when the country is still in the process of battling the pandemic as well as eradicating new emerging variants associated with the virus.

Such a situation, he said highlighted the importance of govern-

ment agencies assuming the role of a good responder during rescue operations or in the management of evacuation centres.

“In the spirit of *Keluarga Malaysia*, I urge all quarters to work together to realise the plans rolled out by the government during any form of disaster,” said Ismail Sabri in his speech during the #*KeluargaMalaysiaSiagaBencana* 2021 National Preparedness Month in Putrajaya.

Preparedness to face disasters, he said, was a continuous process which must be updated so that it remained inclusive and was able to produce a resilient community as outlined under *Maqasid Syariah* (objectives of the syariah), such as the protection of the

mind, life and property.

The National Disaster Management Agency (Nadma), he said, had taken proactive measures to formulate a Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) policy which not only prepares infrastructure but also formulates all preventive actions to reduce the risk within all cycles of disasters.

“The National Risk Register (NRR) study was carried out to increase understanding of the risk of disasters or the extent of a disaster when it occurs.

“This will assist us with planning and making decisions based on information, in line with the objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals.”

Ismail Sabri said several initia-

tives were being undertaken with strategic partners such as Mercy Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Mara, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia and the Japan International Cooperation Agency to strengthen disaster risk reduction efforts.

These include e-sumbangan contribution platforms, NRR, Community-based Disaster Risk Management-Pandemic and surveys on DRR and Management Capacities of the states and local governments in Malaysia.

“What is important here is that planning and execution of the plan requires cooperation from all quarters to ensure the sustainability of economic and social activities,” he said.



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob launching the #*KeluargaMalaysiaSiagaBencana* National Preparedness Month 2021 programme in Putrajaya, yesterday. BERNAMA PIC