

MINIMISING IMPACT

Govt to speed up tender process for flood mitigation projects, says PM

PUTRAJAYA: The government will fast-track the tender process for flood mitigation projects.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said he had instructed the Treasury to expedite the process to minimise the impact of floods in the future.

"Immediate steps have been taken. We've purchased water jets (for cleaning)," he said before flag-

ging off civil servants involved in post-flood volunteer work in Johor here yesterday.

Previously, Anwar announced that the government would re-tender six flood mitigation projects in June, including the flood mitigation work in Sungai Johor, Kota Tinggi, the construction of the Sungai Klang-Sungai Rasau dual-function reservoir and the Sungai

Golok Integrated River Basin Development Phase 3.

A total of 1,520 civil servants will participate in the two-day effort that focuses on medical and educational facilities, government buildings and public spaces.

Anwar, who is also finance minister, thanked the volunteers for going beyond their work duties.

"I am here to say thank you to

you all. Post-flood efforts are challenging. Departments in Segamat or Batu Pahat cannot deal with it themselves without extra help.

"The chief secretary to the government told me thousands of public servant volunteers are serving beyond their duties.

"I express my deepest appreciation."

Apart from clean-ups, volun-

teers will also hand out food baskets, cleaning equipment, school items, carry out vehicle maintenance and electrical work, as well as provide psychological support and counselling.

A total of 153 vehicles, comprising 26 buses, 16 vans, eight lorries, 64 four-wheel drives and 39 cars, were mobilised for the operation.