



Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim meeting flood evacuees at a shelter set up in SMK Agama Kedah, Alor Star, yesterday. PIC BY LUQMAN HAKIM ZUBIR

FEDERAL, STATE BODIES TO COORDINATE

RM13m FOR FLOOD REPAIRS, AID IN KEDAH

Funds for fixing infrastructure and farms, as well as for victims, says PM

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PRIME Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yesterday announced a RM13 million allocation for flood repairs and aid in Kedah.

He said the funds would be managed by the National Disaster Management Agency (Nadma), the Implementation Coordination Unit (ICU) and the State Secretary's Office.

"For Kota Setar alone, RM3 million has been set aside and RM10 million has been reserved for the rest of Kedah to ensure that any damage (would be repaired) and reasonable compensation (for victims) will be coordinated by Nadma, ICU and the state secretary, and this will be expedited.

"This is why we are here today (yesterday), to ensure smooth management and that all aid reaches the people, and repairs on infrastructure and padi farms

are expedited.

"The (RM10 million) allocation will be processed upon verification and will be coordinated by federal agencies and the state secretary," he said after visiting evacuees at SMK Agama Kedah.

Present was State Secretary Datuk Seri Norizan Khazali.

Anwar also visited relief centres set up in Sultan Abdul Halim Stadium and SK Titi Gajah during his half-day visit to the state.

He said the federal government would help farmers and livestock breeders recover from the floods.

Anwar said the aid was in addition to the RM1,000 provided to each evacuated family since the floods began on Monday.

"Yes, the RM1,000 aid has been disbursed. I also heard that the menteri besar (Datuk Seri Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor) has announced additional aid from the state.

"However, what's also important is addressing damage to the livestock sector and crops, and we must ease the burden of flood victims."

Anwar said the federal government would ensure four flood mitigation projects, in the state would be completed on schedule.

The prime minister expressed his appreciation to all federal and

state agencies in managing the floods and assisting victims.

The prime minister has also instructed schools being used as flood shelters to conduct online classes.

He said Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia candidates would be prioritised for in-person classes.

"For Form Five, classes will continue as usual. But for schools serving as flood relief centres, the education minister will make a detailed announcement.

"However, I have emphasised that this should not be an extended school break, but rather (online classes) should continue at home."

Anwar said he had discussed with Education Minister Fadhlina Sidek for the ministry to repair schools used as relief centres.

"There is bound to be some damage to schools serving as flood relief centres and I have discussed this matter with the education, minister to channel (funds) immediately.

"Not just schools under the ministry, but also those funded by the state government and private tahfiz schools."

Of the 42 flood shelters open, 37 are in schools.

Schools in the state are scheduled to reopen today after a week-long break.