

**Construction, Replacement Of Damaged Houses Must Be Expedited - Najib
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PUTRAJAYA, Jan 19 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak wants all programmes relating to aid for residents affected by the floods, including to construct and replace damaged houses, to be expedited.

He said the problems suffered by of the people affected by natural disasters were always the government's priority and must be addressed immediately.

"The floods have receded but the people's sufferings must be solved as soon as possible.

"Thank you also to government agencies and volunteers involved in assisting to address these flood woes," he said addressing the Prime Minister's Department (JPM) monthly assembly here Monday.

Najib said all parties needed to take a lesson from the recent exceptional floods and make preparations to face any eventualities more seriously.

Last Jan 15 Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the cabinet had agreed that houses which were only partially damaged would be given financial aid of between RM5,000 to RM10,000.

For victims, who owned land but whose houses were washed away or completely damaged, the cabinet agreed to rebuild the houses at the same site with a capital of RM425,236 per unit.

At the assembly, Najib also received donations for the Flood Disaster Fund, contributed by JPM staff, Wives of Civil Servants and Women Civil Servants Association (Puspanita) and individuals.

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