

**Pahang Ready To Face Floods Of A Bigger Scale - Muhyiddin  
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KUANTAN, Dec 26 (Bernama) -- Pahang has made the necessary preparations to face floods on a bigger scale as the levels of the major rivers in the state are reported to have breached the danger mark, Deputy Prime Minister Menteri Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today.

Although the extent of the floods might not be as bad as last year's, preparations had been made, including increasing the supplies of food and essential goods, in the districts prone to floods, he said.

"These are Kuantan, Lipis, Maran, Jerantut and Pekan. I was informed at the briefing by the Drainage and Irrigation Department that 62 hours after floods occur in the state, Pekan will be badly affected.

"Already, people have been evacuated there," he told reporters after a visit to the flood relief centre set up at the Pahang Sports Complex.

Muhyiddin, who is chairman of the National Disaster Management and Relief Committee, was accompanied by Pahang Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Adnan Yaakob.

The deputy prime minister was briefed for almost an hour on the flood situation in Pahang at Wisma Seri Pahang. Also present was the Chief Secretary to the Government, Tan Sri Dr Ali Hamsa, and Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Kalid Abu Bakar.

The portal of the Drainage and Irrigation Department reported that the levels of major rivers at nine places in Pahang had breached the danger mark.

The level of Sungai Jelai in Jeram Bungor, Lipis, is at 65.92 metres (danger mark 62 metres); Sungai Pahang in Sungai Yap, Jerantut, 59.32 metres (52 metres).

Sungai Pahang in Kampung Chenor, Maran, 24.90 metres (23.50 metres); Sungai Pahang in Lubuk Paku, Maran, 20.27 metres (19 metres); Sungai Kuantan at the Kuantan Bypass, Kuantan, 4.90 metres (3.50 metres).

Sungai Jelai in Bukit Betong, Lipis, 74.86 metres (73 metres); Sungai Tembeling in Kuala Tahan, Jerantut, 77.52 metres (68 metres); Sungai Pahang in Temerloh, 35.05 metres (33 metres) and Sungai Pahang in Kuala Sungai Chini, Pekan, 17.15 metres (14.90 metres).

Muhyiddin instructed the preparations for floods in Pekan to be stepped up by sending the necessary supplies of food and other goods immediately and in larger quantities.

"If the supplies are usually for three days, we will have to send supplies necessary for five to seven days. This rules out the need to send supplies frequently and eases the burden of

those sending the goods. As for fresh water, we will provide this in a clean container for distribution to the areas without water supply," he said.

Muhyiddin expressed satisfaction with the overall preparations in Pahang in facing the disaster in terms of logistics and supplies of food and other goods.

He said it was left to Menteri Besar Adnan to determine whether more air, water and land transportation assets were needed for the relief operations.

The deputy prime minister advised the people in flood-prone areas to exercise caution and to evacuate once they were ordered to do so.

"We give the assurance that we will ensure your safety and welfare at the relief centres. We have provided the best that we can given the emergency situation," he said.

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