



KERATAN AKHBAR

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Parts of Penang mainland and Baling hit by flash floods

BUKIT MERTAJAM: A combination of heavy rains and high tides brought flash floods to several low-lying areas on the Penang mainland and Baling in Kedah.

Seberang Perai City Council mayor Datuk Rozali Mohamad said the worst-hit areas were in Juru, Bukit Mertajam and several places in Bukit Mertajam.

"The water rose between 5.30pm and 7.30pm (on Tuesday) but subsided moments after the rain stopped at night," he said yesterday.

Rozali said among the mitigation plans to solve flood woes in the future was to construct a mega pump house and upgrade the drainage system at Taman Mutiara.

In Alor Setar, Bernama reported

that 145 people were evacuated to temporary relief centres in Baling after their homes were inundated.

Baling district Social Welfare Department officer Shamsul Izrin Isahak said it was the second time in a week that the area was flooded after last Saturday.

He said as at 6am yesterday, 139 people from 47 families were

housed at Kompleks Sukan Batu 42 and six from two families at Dewan Tun Razak (Lama).

"The second round was due to heavy rainfall that lasted for several hours, causing Sungai Ketil to overflow," he said in a statement here.

He said among the affected villages were Kampung Tanjung Merbau, Kampung Lubuk Pedati and Kam-

pung Pantai in Bayu and Kupang constituencies.

"All the victims were moved to a safe place and provided with necessities including blankets, towels, T-shirts and food," he said.

On Saturday, 101 flood victims from 43 families were evacuated to four relief centres before being allowed home on Monday.