

AKHBAR : THE STAR

TARIKH : 16 MAC 2022

KERATAN AKHBAR

RM58mil for flood mitigation efforts

SOME RM58mil has been allocated for flood mitigation projects in Selangor this year.

State infrastructure and public amenities, agriculture modernisation and agro-based industry committee chairman Izham Hashim said the amount covered the building of infrastructure to respond to floods, as well as the development of early warning systems.

“They include bunds, flood tunnels and bypass channels to deal with excess water.

“These will be done alongside underground, vertical and horizontal water storage, as well as elevated ponds.

“Meanwhile, pump houses in high-risk areas will also be integrated with technology to allow remote operation,” he said at the state assembly sitting yesterday.

He was responding to questions from Lau Weng San (PH-Banting), who was asking on behalf of Elizabeth Wong (PH-Bukit Lanjan). Wong was observing Covid-19 quarantine.

Izham explained that the new infrastructure was to deal with the higher expected rainfall.

He noted that Selangor had been receiving more rain in recent months, with rainfall levels ranging from 300mm to 500mm in certain areas.

He said the high tide last December contributed to fast-rising floodwaters as excess water could not be channelled into the sea.

“Other factors include the topography of several areas which is lower than surrounding rivers.

“There is high land usage, resulting in lower water absorption capacity in these areas,” he added.

LEMBAGA URUS AIR SELANGOR
(UNIT KORPORAT)

Izham highlighted that an early warning system, called National Flood Warning Programme (PRAB), was also in the works.

“This system can predict a monsoon flood seven days in advance and a flash flood one to three hours earlier based on data from MetMalaysia.

“PRAB can also warn of monsoon floods between six hours and two days before they happen.

“Its development started in September last year and is expected to be completed by March 31, 2024,” he said.

This system, noted Izham, would be used alongside a network of hydrology stations for flood data processing.

“We will also review the operational capacity of dams under the Selangor Water Management Authority,” he added.