



13 DEC, 2019

‘Beware of electrocution during flash floods’

The Star, Malaysia

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THE Energy Commission (ST) has advised the public to be extra cautious in dealing with flash floods, especially people living in low-land or hotspot areas.

Flooding season is a common occurrence in Malaysia, especially at the end of the year, which causes extensive destruction to property and risk of death if proper safety measures are not practised.

The disaster could also result in damage to electrical installations in the electricity supply system such as collapsed electric poles or cables and power outages.

To prevent mishaps, the Energy Commission provides step-by-step electricity safety precautions during flash floods.

Before evacuating a flooded area, people should shut down main switches, ensure all switches are turned off, unplug all power supplies and keep electrical appliances in a high and safe place away from flood water.

They are advised to keep accessible emergency contacts such as nearby police stations, Fire and Rescue Department, hospitals and Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) office.

During floods, the public must avoid areas that have electrical cables, especially at night when visibility is poor.

They should stay away from fallen or broken electrical cables to avoid electrocution caused by active electricity flow.

The public must avoid touching electric poles or stray wires, especially during rainy weather or use them as clothesline.

People must avoid going near electrical installation areas such as substations or electrical switch rooms.

Anyone who sees a collapsed electric pole is advised to lodge an immediate report with TNB. Do not attempt to move or repair a fallen pole or broken cable.

Even when flood water is receding, the public must still be wary of submerged electrical appliances in flooded areas and ensure all electrical appliances are dry.

Before turning on the main switch after a flood, a licensed electrical contractor should be called to examine all wiring and electrical appliances in the house.

The Energy Commission hopes this information will benefit the public to prevent accidents caused by electric current.

For details, call TNB service line at 15454 in peninsular Malaysia or 088-515 000 for Sabah and Sarawak. — **By SQISTYNA IZZAATIE ZAMARI**



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SUMMARIES

THE Energy Commission (ST) has advised the public to be extra cautious in dealing with flash floods, especially people living in lowland or hotspot areas. Flooding season is a common occurrence in Malaysia, especially at the end of the year, which causes extensive destruction to property and risk of death if proper safety measures are not practised.