

UPNVJ Inventories Students Affected by Flash Floods in Sumatra, Prepares Basic Needs Assistance

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Flash floods and landslides that have struck Aceh, North Sumatra, and West Sumatra since late November 2025 have killed 836 people and left 518 others missing, according to preliminary data from the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB). Veteran National Development University Jakarta (UPNVJ) responded by taking inventory of affected students, including those who had difficulty contacting family or receiving financial transfers due to the loss of signal for several days.

UPNVJ Student Affairs has collected data on active students in the odd semester of the 2025/2026 academic year from three affected provinces, totaling approximately 241 students. Further data collection is currently underway to identify students in need of assistance due to the disaster affecting their parents. The Vice Deans III of the faculties have been asked to contact the students by phone, video call, or in-person interview to assess their current status.

One affected student, Ayusafira Giawa from the Pharmacy Study Program, class of 2024, reported difficulties in informing her parents and sending them food money due to a three-day loss of network access at her residence in South Nias, North Sumatra. "The disaster I experienced was the difficulty in informing my parents and sending them my food money because the network was lost," she said.

In the Faculty of Medicine (FK), only one student has reported the impact in their area. Meanwhile, in the Faculty of Computer Science (FIK), two students have reported the impact: Stefhanie Amalia and Febi Aprilia, both in the class of 2024.

UPNVJ urged affected students to immediately report their condition so that aid can be distributed appropriately. "We in the student affairs department have already recorded those from the disaster area," said a student representative, emphasizing the importance of continued coordination.

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