

GUBERNUR NUSA TENGGARA BARAT

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The recovery of Lombok from the recent natural disasters is well underway. The "State of Emergency" status for the area was lifted on 25 August 2018 and the recovery effort is now in effect.

President Joko Widodo visited Lombok and the emergency camps in North Lombok on 13 August and his directive was clear: we must face this challenge head on and fight to recover.

On 23 August, the President released presidential instructions (INPRES) designed to accelerate the recovery in Lombok. These orders included the release of national funds to provide emergency aid to the earthquake victims, the mobilization of the National Disaster Management Agency, National Police and Indonesian Army to assist in recovery, and national fund allocation to rebuild homes and infrastructure in the area.

We wish to point out that the disaster areas are generally confined to the north of the island and this is where relief efforts and recovery programmes will be focused over the coming months.

The rest of Lombok is largely unaffected.

Lombok International Airport has been operating normally throughout this time, as has Lembar Harbour, the main port linking Bali and Lombok. Flights and ferry connections continue to operate normally.

The first fast boat connection between Bali and Lombok, Eka Jaya Fast Boat, resumed service on Thursday, 16 August and other fast boats have announced the resumption of services in early September.

Electricity, water, internet, roads and other infrastructure are fully operational throughout the island, with the exception of some of the more remote areas in North and East Lombok.

Senggigi and west coast areas are recovering rapidly and most hotels and businesses have either reopened now or will be open within the next couple of weeks. Tourists are already returning to the area.

The cities of Ampenan, Mataram and Cakranegara are open for commerce and are operating normally.

Electricity has been restored on the Gilis and the cleanup of the islands is well underway, assisted by government forces. Foreign and local residents, and their staff, have returned to the Gilis and are working to rebuild their islands. Some businesses are already open on the islands and many businesses plan to re-open in early September.

Public boats servicing the Gilis from mainland Lombok have resumed regular services and the first tourists returned to Gili Air on Friday, 17 August.

Kuta and the south coast (Mandalika, Gerupuk, Selong Belanak, etc), together with the Southwest coast and its islands (Sekotong, Tawun, Gili Gede, etc), were unaffected by the earthquakes and continue to welcome visitors as normal.

We are grateful for the support we have received locally and from around the world, and thank everyone who has contributed to our island's recovery.

We now welcome visitors to return to our island to keep our people employed and to support our return to normality.

Mataram 27 August 2018

The Governor of West Nusa Tenggara

Dr. TGH. M. ZAINUL MAJDI