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## Flood hits Johor, disrupts train services

**JOHOR BARU:** Thousands of people have been evacuated after floods hit several districts in Johor following incessant heavy rain that began early on Monday.

The rain also triggered minor landslides and disrupted train services in the southern sector.

A police spokesman said over 2,000 residents in Batu Pahat, Pontian, Johor Baru and Kota Tinggi had been told to leave their homes in stages from Monday night.

In a statement, KTM Bhd said due to the heavy rain, minor landslides occurred at several spots at KM630.50-KM630.75 of the Labis-Bekok route, KM754.50-KM754.75 of the Johor Baru-Kempas route and KM769.50-KM769.75 of the Bukit Timah-CIQ Woodlands route in Singapore early yesterday.

"All southbound trains are unable to proceed because of this situation. Passengers will be transhipped using buses between stations that are not affected by floods or landslides in order to continue their journey."

The statement said the transshipment exercise was expected to be time-consuming as the roads in and around Johor Baru were flooded.

Meanwhile, a Meteorological Department spokesman said the intermittent rain, occasionally heavy, now occurring over Pahang, Johor, Negri Sembilan and Malacca is expected to persist until Friday.

He said the monsoon rain was in the red stage and would be accompanied by strong winds, which could cause floods in low-lying and riverine areas.

"It can also cause strong currents in the rivers and big drains and blow off roofs," he told Bernama.

This condition was expected to spread over to Kelantan and Terengganu from tomorrow until Friday.

The area around Wisma Persekutuan Johor Baru after a heavy downpour yesterday.

