

Floods in four states worsen

More than 4,000 evacuated and several areas 'surpassing warning mark'

PETALING JAYA: The floods in Johor, Selangor, Perak and Malacca worsened with more than 4,000 people evacuated due to continued heavy rains.

The authorities have also issued a warning on heavy rain in several areas in Johor and Pahang "surpassing the warning mark" while several rivers in Johor and Selangor have breached the danger level.

The National Security Council, in its website (<http://portalbanjir.mkn.gov.my/>) said 4,242 evacuees were moved to 29 relief centres as at 8pm

yesterday, compared with 3,675 on Monday evening.

Johor continued to be the worst-hit area with 1,979 evacuees, followed by Selangor (1,947), Perak (203) and Malacca (113).

The council said in preparation for floods, 5,068 relief centres able to hold up to 1.3 million evacuees had been prepared.

The council has also set up a Facebook account (www.facebook.com/informasibencana) and twitter account (www.twitter.com/@portal-

banjir) to enable the people to get information on the flood situation.

Meanwhile, the Department of Irrigation and Drainage's website reported that three rivers in Selangor, Johor and Sarawak had breached the danger mark.

It listed Sungai Langat at Bukit Changgang, Sungai Selangor at Rantau Panjang and Sungai Lenik at Ladang Chaah as "Danger: River water levels have passed the danger mark".

"The surrounding areas could be

at risk of flooding. Residents in the area are urged to exercise caution," it said.

It also listed three rivers – Sungai Rembau at Titian Bintangor in Negri Sembilan, Sungai Salim and Sungai Permai Jaya in Sibul – as having surpassed the warning level.

Mass Rapid Transit (MRT) Corporation Sdn Bhd meanwhile said that it had put in place flood mitigation plans following flash floods near its construction site at Section 16 in Petaling Jaya.

The company's director of strategic communications and public relations Amir Mahmood Razak said the plans put in place by its contractors were aimed at keeping drainage at all its construction sites clear of rubbish to ensure such incidents do not recur.

"We also have our Emergency Response Team on standby with machines to monitor all drainage systems local to the sites, and assist DBKL to immediately clear debris, if any, from drains," he said.