

# Crime reports worry PM

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## Abdullah wants more cops in Johor, IGP deploys 1,500 more

**CEBU CITY:** The Prime Minister has ordered the Inspector General of Police to despatch more personnel to Johor to provide security and to assist the people.

Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said he was concerned over reports of criminal incidents during floods.

He said there were complaints that homes abandoned by occupants fleeing rising waters had been broken into by irresponsible and "heartless" people who stole their belongings.

"I have asked Musa (IGP Tan Sri Musa Hassan) to send his men not only to help in relief, aid distribution

and evacuation process, but also to ensure there would not be any break-ins and stealing," he told reporters here last night.

The Prime Minister also had reminded the health authorities to monitor the after-effects of the flood to avoid any outbreak of disease.

In Johor Baru yesterday, Musa said another 1,500 policemen would be deployed to assist the 2,000 personnel already involved in flood hit areas.

They would primarily be involved in search and rescue operations, crime prevention and also provide assistance at relief centres.

"My men from the Federal Re-

serve Unit and General Operations Force have already been dispatched," Musa said, adding that 29 marine police boats were also dispatched to the areas. Two police air wing helicopters are also being used in rescue operation.

Musa appealed to those in the affected areas not to wait until the last minute to evacuate but to move out once they had been advised to.

He also advised the public not to listen to rumours as the state government had not declared a curfew or a state of emergency.

"So far, my state police chief is able to handle the situation caused by floods in the state," he said.