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Identity Cards

HOME MINISTRY TO INTRODUCE IDENTITY CARDS FOR FOREIGN WORKERS

GERIK, Aug 10 (Bernama) -- The Home Ministry plans to introduce identity cards for foreign workers in the country.

Deputy Home Minister Datuk Tajol Rosli Ghazali said the identity cards would be issued in various colours, according to job sectors.

"The move by the ministry to issue the coloured identity cards is to facilitate identification of workers by the authorities and to prevent them from moving from one sector to another," he said after opening the Gerik Umno Youth Division motivation course in Pengkalan Huku near here yesterday.

The identity cards, with security features and the personal particulars of the workers, could be verified by computer easily, he said.

Tajol Rosli said that foreign workers would no longer be required to carry their passports and work passes with them.

An applicant for the identity card would be charged a minimum fee, he said.

Tajol Rosli also announced the introduction of job identification cards for Malaysians and Singaporeans commuting daily between the two countries to work.

He said the identification cards which would also have security features and personal particulars of the holder would help speed up formalities at the immigration checkpoints.

On the smart passport announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad recently, he said the Immigration Department would be issuing the passports as soon as there is enough stock.

He said initially the Immigration Department would issue 200,000 of the smart passports which will have bar codes and chip security features.

Applications for the smart passports could be processed faster, he said.

A time frame had not been fixed for existing passport holders to change to the smart passports, he added. --BERNAMA

RZS HAR RM