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Perak to issue new electronic passport

IPOH, Sat. - Perak will be the first State outside the Klang Valley to implement from Monday the new electronic passport which is the first in the world with a chip carrying personal particulars of the applicant.

State Immigration Department director Mahmud Morsidi said initially the headquarters here and branch offices in Teluk Intan, Taiping, Pengkalan Hulu and Seri Manjong would accept applications for the new international passports.

"Those wishing to apply for restricted passports to travel to Singapore and temporary passport applicants will still use the old format until the headquarters gives the green light," he said today.

The passports, using technology innovated by Iris Technologies (M) Sdn Bhd, has a silicon chip.

The chip cannot be electronically tampered with or duplicated.

The document will be scanned using equipment at entry and exit points.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad launched the passport on March 23.

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