

MyKad for all Malaysians by 2005, says PM

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ALL Malaysians will have MyKad by 2005.

Besides containing information of the holder including birth certificate and applications such as ATM, MEPs, Touch 'n' Go, it would also incorporate additional information such as the holder's marital status and voting constituency.

The smart card will be issued free but there would be charges for renewals.

"The National Registration Department will be provided with sufficient staff and equipment as well as mobile units to meet the registration needs in rural areas," Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said.

In tandem with the Government's intention to widen the use of information communication technology, all newborn

babies would be provided with MyKad, which would be a life-long identification document and a personal database.

"This will reduce the hassle of filling up forms when dealing with Government agencies and the private sector," he said.

Malaysia is the first country to introduce MyKad, a multi-purpose smart card based on chip technology and biometrics with high security features.

On the inclusion of marital status and voting constituencies into the card, he said:

"With this information, the enforcement authority will not mistakenly apprehend people for close proximity and certain parties will not be able to transfer voters," he said.