

Sabah Immigration Dept Launches Polycarbonate Passports
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KOTA KINABALU, May 29 (Bernama) -- The Sabah branch of the Malaysian Immigration Department has launched the latest Polycarbonate Passport for the Malaysian International Passport (PMA) which has security features.

Its director, Noor Alam Khan Abdul Wahid Khan said the Polycarbonate Passport was launched on Monday (May 27) beginning at Kota Kinabalu while the other districts namely Sandakan, Tawau and Keningau would follow suit.

"On the first day of its launch, 396 passports were issued by the Immigration Department and on its second day, the number rose to 440 due to the school holidays," he said at a media conference in conjunction with the Monthly Assembly of the Immigration Department at the Federal Administration Complex, Likas, near here today.

According to Noor Alam Khan, the passport had safety features with a small photograph of the holder at the bottom.

He said the photograph used had a white background and the department would try to issue the PMA within one hour if there was no technical or systems problem.

He said members of the public could obtain information on the requirements for the photograph through the immigration department website at www.imi.gov.my and the department had also informed the photographers association on the photo requirement.

"Those who still have the old passports can still use them and need not change to the new passport until the expiry of the present one," he said.

Meanwhile, Noor Alam Khan reminded foreign workers holding the IMM13 who wished leave Sabah to make the application to the Immigration Department and seek their employers' permission one week beforehand to facilitate approval for the journey.

The document IMM13 refers to the special pass issued by the Immigration Department to genuine Filipino refugees who had fled due to the war to enable them to stay in Sabah.

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