

## MyIPO off to an encouraging start

Nearly 720 applications for global trademark registration received in three weeks

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KUALA LUMPUR: The Intellectual Property Corporation of Malaysia (MyIPO) has received 719 trademark applications since the new Trademarks Act 2019 came into force on Dec 27, says Datuk Mohd Roslan Mahayudin.

The MyIPO director-general said with the Act, Malaysian businessmen could start using the Madrid System – a single international application for trademark protection – to protect their trademarks in 106 countries.

"Any applications or registered proprietors of trademarks in Malaysia may begin to use the system to get protection abroad.

"Trademark proprietors from other coun-

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Datuk Mohd Roslan Mahayudin

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tries may begin designating Malaysia to get their trademark protection," said Mohd Roslan during the launch of the Malaysian Organisation of Pharmaceutical Industries first Patent Seminar 2020 – Strengthening the Malaysian Patents Ecosystem yesterday.

The Act was passed in Parliament in July last year, following which Malaysia acceded to the Madrid Protocol, enabling the country to introduce the system for trademark registration.

Mohd Roslan said before this, businesses had to go to each and every country to file the trademark protection.

"There is no need to do that now. You can file it in Malaysia by just stating in the system which country you want the trademark to be protected," he said.

Mohd Roslan added that the number of intellectual property filings had also grown positively with 56,186 applications filed last

year, an increase of 6% compared with 2018. It also received 7,743 patent applications

last year, a 3.3% increase from the previous year.

MyIPO is currently a part of the Patent Prosecution Highway through bilateral agreements with the European Patent Office, the Japan Patent Office and the China National Intellectual Property Administration.

Mohd Roslan said these agreements allowed for the examination of patents to be completed in shorter periods through the sharing of information with other patent offices.

"We uphold strict examination standards and SOP (standard operating procedure) to ensure that qualified applications are granted the patents," he added.

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17/1/207