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PM GIVES GO AHEAD FOR FORMULA ONE RACING

PETALING JAYA, May 14 (Bernama) -- Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad has agreed in principle to allow Formula One racing in the country.

Youth and Sports Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said today the Prime Minister gave the go-ahead at the Cabinet meeting last week.

However, no date has been fixed to launch Formula One racing as the proposal is at the preliminary stage, Muhyiddin said after opening a seminar on security in stadiums jointly organised by the Football Association of Malaysia and the National Sports Council at PJ Hilton.

He said Malaysia Airports Berhad (MAB) will build the race circuit in Sepang.

The government, he said, will not be involved directly in organising Formula One races although it agreed to help bring them to the country.

Everything will be managed by MAB while the government will give assistance where necessary, he said.

Muhyiddin said Dr Mahathir had discussed with Federation of International Automobile (FIA) regarding Malaysia's ambition to hold Formula One racing, and MAB chairman Tan Sri Basir Ismail will follow up on the talks. -- BERNAMA

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