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Launch of first Malaysian-made electric vehicle

BANGI, Mon. - Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad today launched the first Malaysian-made electric vehicle, Eleksuria.

The Eleksuria is manufactured by Perusahaan Otomobil Elektrik (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd which is founded by Tenaga Nasional Berhad and Frazer-Nash Research Ltd of Britain.

The launch, held at the Universiti Tenaga Nasional, was also attended by Energy, Telecommunications and Posts Minister Datuk Leo Moggie and Tenaga Nasional executive chairman Datuk Dr Ahmad Tajuddin Ali.

Ahmad Tajuddin said yesterday the first batch of 10 units of the Eleksuria was built in only six months.

It has a local content of more than 50 per cent.

Ten units of the first batch would be displayed at the 1997 Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition.

Today's official launch also marked the mass production of 500 units of the Poem buggies initially.

Poem intends to produce solar-assisted or electrically-driven passenger and utility vehicles. Among them are "city cars" for city driving, electric motorcycles for city and sporting use, go-kart for racing, and buggies for general transportation and sporting vehicles.

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