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MAHATHIR FLAGS OFF PROTON MERDEKA RACE

SHAH ALAM, Aug 24 (Bernama) -- A carnival atmosphere prevailed at the Shah Alam Circuit as Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad flagged off participants of the Proton 300km Merdeka Race and Carnival.

Organised in conjunction with the Merdeka Day festivities, the gruelling 86-lap race has also attracted participation from an all-female team comprising Mek Nik Taib and Zainab Musa.

The two women will be counting on their Redzspeed Racing Proton Satria 1.6 to help them in the race which has attracted a strong response with over 94 drivers and 47 cars.

The top three winners of the race will be driving off with three Proton cars

-- a Proton Putra 1.8, a Proton Satria 1.6 and a Proton Wira 1.5 -- respectively.

The Proton 300km Merdeka Race requires each participating team to have two drivers, one of whom has to be a novice driver. This novice driver, who must be a Malaysian, must not have had any prior saloon car racing experience to be eligible. -- BERNAMA

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