

01 DEC 1997

POEM TO PRODUCE ELECTRIC VEHICLE ON LARGE-SCALE

BANGI, Dec 1 (Bernama) - Perusahaan Otomobil Elektrik (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd (POEM) will produce electric vehicles on a large scale, said Dr Ahmad Tajuddin Ali, executive chairman of Tenaga Nasional Bhd, which owns 50 percent of POEM.

Its first "Solar Baby" electric vehicle called "Eleksuria" was launched today by prime minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad here. POEM has assembled 10 such models, which have 50 percent local content.

Other than Tenaga Nasional, United Kingdom's Frazer-Nash Research Ltd owns 40 percent of POEM, and Datuk Mohd Nadzmi Mohd Salleh and Tan Sri Basir Ismail each has five percent. POEM, incorporated last March, has paid-up capital of RM10 million.

The company's range of products are solar-assisted, electrically-driven passenger and utilities vehicles. These are known as the "Solar Baby", the town driving "City Car", and the "Electric Motorcycle".

There are also off-highway solar assisted electric vehicles such as the "Go-Kart", for cart racing enthusiast, and the "Buggy" for general transport and sports. -- BERNAMA

SHO LSH