

New Proton models ⁵¹³⁻¹¹⁻⁹⁸ hit the road 51

HOT WHEELS ... Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad inspecting the new Proton Satria GTi which he launched at the Stadium Putra, Bukit Jalil, yesterday.

The national car maker also introduced the Perdana V6 model.

More than 8,000 people, including Cabinet ministers, ambassadors, Proton's domestic and international distributors, and the public witnessed the event, another milestone in the history of Malaysia's car industry.

According to Proton, the latest models have substantial engineering changes, apart from Lotus Engineering's input on cosmetic refinements.

The Satria has an upgraded 1.8-litre twin-cam engine and a complete suspension re-packaging. It claims a top speed of 210kph and a 0-100kph acceleration time of 7.7 seconds.

The Perdana V6 has a new 2-litre V6 engine to add more power while saving on fuel consumption.

The new Proton models are available immediately.

The Perdana V6 costs about RM98,000, while the Satria GTi costs about RM68,000.