

16/12/1998

Two national cars launched together

NOW is not the best time for a new product launch, some would say. Others would not agree, Perusahaan Otomobil Nasional Berhad (Proton), the national car manufacturer, among them. It has launched two new models: The Perdana V6 2.0 litre and Satria GTi 1.8.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad launched the Perdana V6 and Satria GTi at the Stadium Putra in Bukit Jalil recently, and it marked the first time that two national cars have been launched together.

The cars feature state-of-the-art technology and were jointly developed by Proton and British firm Lotus Engineering. The Perdana V6 is equipped with a six-cylinder DOHC (dual-overhead camshaft) engine which has four valves in each cylinder, while the Satria GTi, besides the 1.8 litre-engine, has several sporty features and more attractive accessories such as front and rear bumper and roof spoiler.

The Perdana V6 costs around RM98,000, and the 1.8 litre Satria GTi, about RM68,000. Both are available now.

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