

06 SEP 2001

Motorcycle-Model

TWO NEW MODENAS MODELS NEXT YEAR

MELAKA, Sept 6 (Bernama) -- Kedah based Motosikal dan Enjin Nasional Sdn Bhd (Modenas), builder of the national motorcycle, will introduce two more models next year.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Edaran Modenas Sdn Bhd (Emos) Nik Danial Nik Mohmood said the existing models were the four stroke "Kriss" and "Modenas Jaguh".

He said his company was satisfied with the response to the existing models particularly Kriss which dominated 50 per cent of the local market for motorcycles.

Danial said both the Modenas models met the various requirements and would be able to compete under the Asean Free Trade Arrangement (Afta).

He was speaking to reporters after signing an agreement with the Melaka Foundation College (KYM) whereby Modenas would provide practical skills training in motor-machanics under the National Vocational Training Programme.

Modenas was launched in 1995 by the Prime Minister, Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad and began operations in September 1996.

The company had also penetrated the foreign market and since 1998 more than 30,000 units had been exported to Greece, Iran and Cambodia.

Danial said the company's target was to sell 400,000 units in this region and capture at least 10 per cent of the Asian market demand for motorcycles at four million a year.

He said the company also proposed to build sports motorcycles in the 125cc to 250 cc range for the local market.

Danial said the company was strengthening its Research and Development (R&D) Division with the aim of having 100 per cent Malaysian workforce.

Towards this end the transfer of technology from Japan's Kawasaki motorcycle company to locals was going on smoothly, he added.

-- BERNAMA

SBS AAM