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Chauffeur-driven weekend for journalist

KUALA LUMPUR, Thurs. - New Straits Times journalist Ramlan Said will be cruising the streets on a weekend trip in a chauffeur-driven Mercedes, a prize he won for an article he wrote.

Ramlan's article, which won second placing, appeared in the NST on March 20 under the title "Malaysia can learn much from Bavaria".

It was written based on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's comments when he was in Germany on how Bavaria had "transformed from an agricultural economy to the most dynamic and modern industrial state in Germany".

First placing went to The Star entertainment journalist Azhariah Kamin, who won a 10-day trip to Germany for an article on a German jazz band which had recently performed in the country.

Azhariah, visibly shaken upon learning she was the lucky winner, was too overwhelmed to comment.

Third place went to an NST Sunday Style journalist Intan Maizura, who won a Siemens handphone.

The German Press Club organised the award night, held at the residence of the German Embassy's first secretary (Press and cultural affairs) Annette Severy.

"The articles chosen were based on what could be offered by Germany to the Malaysian public," she said.

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