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Malaysia - record

M'SIA TRYING TO BREAK WORLD RECORD USING HOME-GROWN VEHICLE

CYBERJAYA, Oct 9 (Bernama) -- Malaysia will be headed for another record-breaking feat in the field of technology when its first home-grown metal fuel-powered vehicle rolls out here on Saturday.

Using the vehicle, Malaysia will attempt to set three world firsts towards becoming a leader in electric vehicle technology, viz:

* The production of the world's first All Electric Hybrid Vehicle driven by metal fuel generator charging Nickel-Zinc batteries;

* The world's first demonstration of the "refuelability" of a metal fuel cell in an electric car; and'

* To set a distance record for a modified production car powered by metal fuel.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad is expected to flag-off the vehicle, code-named "MeVictory 3", developed by the country's first technology invention centre - InventQjaya Sdn Bhd - to be driven beyond the earlier world record distance of 344.67 kilometres on Saturday.

Earlier, two modified production cars powered by metal air fuel-cells fitted by Evonyu of Elsford, New York, drove a world distance of 344.67 km on a public road without refuelling or resharing on Oct 2, 2000.

InventQjaya's chief technologist, Tzepin Tsoi, said at the media preview today that the vehicle's power plant was built in such a way that it could generate 30 kilowatts horse-power.

He said the vehicle, which was a Honda Insight, could reach a maximum speed of over 100 kilometres per hour but for the test-run today it would be driven at a speed of between 80 and 90 km/hour.

"This vehicle uses 36 units of air zinc fuel cells and nickel zink rechargeable batteries and is equipped with 100 per cent electric vehicle integration system," he said.

Tsoi explained that the use of this kind of hybrid technology in vehicle engines was developed over the last four to five years in the US as well as at InventQjaya, Malaysia.

The vehicle, he said, weighed 2,500 pounds and produced no carbon emission or noise and was pollution-free.

"On the world record breaking attempt day, we plan to drive this vehicle up to the north of Peninsular Malaysia," he said.

-- BERNAMA

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