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## Big rev for motorsports

SEPANG International Circuit (SIC), happy with the progress of the Merdeka Millennium Endurance race, hopes that it will continue to grow to boost the development of the local motorsports industry.

SIC Chairman Datuk Mokhzani Tun Dr Mahathir said the MME, which was introduced at the turn of the millennium in 2000, was not just a platform to provide local drivers an opportunity to race.

"Through the MME, SIC hopes to get everybody in the motorsports industry to come together and show off their capabilities," he said in his speech at the launching of the MME 2004 at Desa Sri Hartamas, Kuala Lumpur, on Aug 7.

"We are not just talking about the drivers. We are not just talking about the team managers and the mechanics. MME wants the involvement of all aspects of motor racing including expertise in all the race components such as the brakes, suspension, exhaust pipes and all the internal parts to boost engine performance.

"Over the past years, we have seen local brand names being proudly displayed on MME racing cars. Some names are even unique and exotic; some are simply catchy.

"We at Sepang Circuit are proud to be associated with these brands. We have shown that Malaysia has capable people to produce these performance-enhancing racing components," he said.

Entering its fifth year, the Merdeka Millennium Endurance race on Aug 27-28 is fittingly promoted as Asia's biggest race.

Mokhzani said: "My dream will be to see these names and brands featuring further than the Merdeka Millennium Endurance race. Maybe, even at the prestigious Le Mans 24-Hour Endurance."

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