

**Lotus turnaround plan gets govt endorsement**  
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Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak said the government is endorsing the turnaround plan for Group Lotus as it is do-able and achievable.

He was briefed on the plan during a visit to the Group Lotus headquarters here Saturday. Group Lotus, a wholly-owned subsidiary of national carmaker Proton Holdings Bhd, is expected to produce new sports cars under the plan.

Najib said he had a small degree of sceptism in the beginning because of the large amount of investments needed.

"But I'm going home as a strong supporter of the turnaround plan.

"I'd like to categorically say that you have the endorsement of the Malaysian government and the Khazanah Holdings board as well to go ahead with this turnaround plan," he said at a reception held in conjunction with the visit.

Total investments required for the five-year turnaround plan Group Lotus is embarking on was 480 million pounds.

Najib said he detected a high level of professionalism, enthusiasm and morale among those involved.

The prime minister further said he had a sense that the business plan was do-able and achievable.

"It might be bold, ambitious or even audacious, but it's nothing like setting for yourself such targets so that you can strive and go the extra mile, and achieve what you think you may not be able to achieve otherwise," he said.

Najib toured the Lotus facility accompanied by, among others, Proton Holdings Bhd chairman Datuk Seri Mohd Nadzmi Mohd Salleh, Proton Holdings group managing director Syed Zainal Abidin Syed Mohamed Tahir and Group Lotus chief executive officer Dany Bahar.

Najib's trip to Norwich came a day after he ended his four-day official visit to the United Kingdom at the invitation of British Prime Minister David Cameron.

- Bernama