

# Let's go electric, PM urges Perodua

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## Ismail Sabri calls for companies to work together for carbon-neutral M'sia

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** National carmaker Perusahaan Otomobil Kedua Sdn Bhd (Perodua) should explore new opportunities such as affordable high quality electric vehicles (EVs), says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

At present, he said Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB) was working to increase electricity production using clean energy resources.

"TNB is also looking at providing adequate EV charging stations. In this aspect, both parties can work together to introduce affordable charge rates for all."

Telecommunication companies like Telekom Malaysia could also work with these two parties to provide data packages that would enable users to book EV charging sessions online, he said at the unveiling of the all-new Perodua Alza here yesterday.

Ismail Sabri said such a collaboration should be implemented to address the effects of climate change around the world.

It could also help Malaysia achieve its goal of being carbon-neutral by 2050, he added.

Ismail Sabri also said the government was ready to assist Perodua to expand its existing market and find new markets while the carmaker improves its production capabilities to be competitive with other companies in the region.



**What a beauty:** Ismail Sabri accompanied by Perodua chairman Tan Sri Asmat Kamaludin (left) taking a closer look at the all-new Perodua Alza after the launch at Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre. — AZMAN GHANI/The Star

"The impact of the country's automotive industry development can be seen through economic activities such as job creation, technical skills upgrading, technology transfer and reducing the dependency on foreign companies.

"In addition, national automotive companies are also responsible for developing the industry through investment and, at the same time,

enhancing the capabilities of local companies in the aspects of quality, technology and productivity," he added.

He said Perodua had proven its commitment to the local automotive sector with purchases of components worth RM7bil on average annually.

On the new Perodua Alza, Ismail Sabri said it was an achievement

for the carmaker and would be well received by the people for its competitive pricing and enhanced safety aspects.

Perodua has targeted sales of 247,800 units this year, an increase of 30.2% from the 190,291 vehicles sold last year.

The Malaysian Automotive Association has predicted growth of 17.9% in total industry volume (TIV)

to 600,000 units this year compared with 508,911 units last year.

Perodua president and chief executive officer Datuk Zainal Abidin Ahmad said the carmaker aimed to produce 3,000 units of the new Perodua Alza a month to ensure delivery to all those who had booked the revamped model.

"We received some 30,000 bookings for the All-New Perodua Alza since we took orders on June 23, which is the highest ever in our history. This month, we will be able to register 4,300 Alzas – 65% of the bookings are for the higher variants," he told reporters.

Zainal said Perodua would have to meet the March 31, 2023 deadline for buyers to enjoy the Sales and Services Tax (SST) exemption for all bookings made by June 30.

As such, he said its car production should reach 26,000 per month.

Zainal also said the new Perodua Alza was equipped with radio frequency identification (RFID) technology and the company was looking to collaborate with others to add extra features in the future.

The new Perodua Alza is priced at RM62,500 for the X variant, RM68,000 (H variant) and RM75,500 (AV variant) in Peninsular Malaysia with sales tax, excluding insurance.

Watch the video  
TheStarTV.com

