

# Excerpts from Tengku Mahaleel's interview with Oriental Daily

- If the people were not proud of the national car, Proton could be folded or taken over by a foreign company.
- Malaysia was now moving in an 'automobile assembly' direction, which differed entirely from automobile manufacturing. Automobile assembly means you just need screwdrivers, you don't need dies and moulds and an engine factory... If the Government only needs automobile assemblers, we can then grab a Mitsubishi car, fix it with a Proton emblem and say 'this is Proton car'.
- Proton is in a situation where it cannot figure who its enemies are.
- A government-linked company (GLC) was being treated unfairly under a policy that was not transparent and discriminatory. (He was also angered by the criticism the company had received from politicians and government officials.)
- Policy-makers in the country should emulate China when formulating the national automobile policy. China is a late starter in the automobile industry, but its automobile policy supersedes ours... In Malaysia, the national car project is already over 20 years old, but we still don't know how to make it work. This is a serious problem.