

Government Seeks To Extend Contract To Host F1 Race

Bernama

March 24, 2013

SEPANG, March 24 (Bernama) -- The government is considering the possibility of extending the contract to host the Formula One race after it ends in 2015, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak said here today.

"We will be seriously looking into it (renewing the contract). We have to look at the terms and conditions and all that ... and we will make the decision when the time comes," he told reporters after the 2013 Petronas Malaysian Grand Prix race at the Sepang Circuit.

Najib noted that Malaysia had a proven record in organising international events.

"Organising the Formula One has put Malaysia on the map of the world. It shows that Malaysia can organise an international event of this stature; we have support from the local as well as the international community. So, all and all, it has been positive," he said.

On today's race, Najib said he was happy with the results produced by the Malaysian-backed team, the Mercedes AMG Petronas F1 Team, when both of the team drivers -- Lewis Hamilton and Nico Rosberg -- finished the race in third and fourth positions, respectively.

The race was won by Germany's Sebastian Vettel of Infiniti Red Bull Racing.

Meanwhile, Sepang International Circuit Sdn Bhd (SIC) chairman Datuk Mokhzani Tun Mahathir said there was a great possibility that SIC would renew the contract to host the Formula One race.

"We will discuss the matter, then we will get the views of the spectators and sponsors ... we will have to see whether the organiser wants to continue (the contact) or other wise.

"The decision has yet to be made," he said.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2013 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=936967>