



MINISTRY OF INVESTMENT, TRADE AND INDUSTRY

SPEECH BY

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FOR

**OPENING CEREMONY GLOBAL AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY
EXPO 2025**

VENUE: KUALA LUMPUR CONVENTION CENTRE

DATE: 13 NOVEMBER 2025

TIME: 3.00 PM

[SALUTATIONS]

Good evening, Salam Sejahtera and Salam Malaysia MADANI.

1. I am pleased to be here at the inaugural **Global Automotive and Technology Expo (GATE) 2025**, a premier platform that brings together the brightest minds and most innovative technologies shaping the future of mobility.
2. GATE 2025 marks **a major milestone in Malaysia's journey toward smart and sustainable mobility**. It reflects our **progress in EVs, automation, AI, and digital manufacturing**—core enablers of our ambition to become a regional hub for high-value technology industries.
3. In short, **Malaysia is not just building vehicles—we are fast becoming a hub for the future of mobility**.
4. The automotive industry stands at the crossroads of its greatest transformation in over a century, driven by climate urgency and the rise of AI. **AI is redefining how vehicles are designed, built, and experienced**—enabling **smarter, safer, and more efficient mobility** while reshaping supply chains and business models.
5. To thrive in this new era, businesses must evolve. **The future of mobility is no longer about mass production, but intelligent customization**—offering consumers a **digital, connected, and eco-conscious** driving experience.

Ladies and gentlemen,

6. **Malaysia is ready to capture this opportunity. With a strong semiconductor base, abundant rare earth resources and a mature manufacturing ecosystem, we are well-positioned to lead.**
7. Under the New Industrial Master Plan 2030 (**NIMP 2030**), the government is **charting Malaysia's transition toward high-value, sustainable and tech-driven industries**. Complementing this, the National Automotive Policy 2020 (**NAP 2020**) provides **a roadmap to position Malaysia as a regional hub for next-gen vehicles, energy efficient transport and component innovation**.
8. As announced under Budget 2026, Malaysia is also **advancing digital infrastructure through the RM2-billion Sovereign AI Cloud – strengthening data sovereignty and enabling large scale AI adoption across mobility, semiconductor design and advanced manufacturing**.
9. Additionally, **RM180 million** has been **allocated under the NIMP Industrial Development Fund to support high-impact industry development**, alongside enhanced incentives and tax reforms to drive deeper industrial participation, localization, and productivity.
10. With all these, we aspire to **evolve from a producer of goods to a creator of technology, innovation, and intellectual property**.

11. The **automotive sector is one of Malaysia's most important industrial pillars**. In fact, Malaysia held the number one vehicle market position in Southeast Asia during the first half of 2025.
12. To support the growth of our EV manufacturing ecosystem, the **current CBU EV tax exemption framework**—scheduled to run until 31 December 2025—is being **aligned with our broader push for local assembly, CKD operations, and parts localization**. This strategic shift aims to **strengthen industrial participation and enhance Malaysia's competitiveness** within the regional supply chain.
13. To support local vendors, Malaysia will introduce **essential list and localization incentives to strengthen domestic supply chains and expand export opportunities**. Our **national champions** are making strong progress—**Perodua's EV programme** is on track, and **Proton's launch of the e.MAS 5** signals our industry's capability and ambition.
14. **GWM Malaysia**, though operating via contract assembly, is regarded as a strategic entity by its Principal in China. The **local assembly of the WEY G9 MPV in Malaysia** marks the first production of this model outside its home country, establishing **Malaysia as the regional hub for right-hand drive markets**.
15. In short, **Malaysia's automotive policies under the MADANI government** are not just **credible**—they are **competitive**.

Ladies and gentlemen,

16. Another success story is the **progress of our electric motorcycle initiatives under MARiiCas**. Since its implementation, **adoption has grown tenfold compared to 2023**. The number of **locally assembled EV motorcycle manufacturers** has **increased to nine companies** in 2025.
17. **EV motorcycle models** have **expanded from 11 in 2024 to 28** in the first half of 2025. This growth has **created jobs for roughly 6,000 workers across assembly, engineering, software integration, service support, and charging infrastructure**.
18. This is tangible evidence of **how ecosystem development, localization, and industry empowerment** translate directly into **employment, economic growth, and tech capability**.
19. **GATE 2025** has been **supported by leading OEMs and industry players**, with **Perodua and Proton as Platinum Partners** and **GWM as Gold Partner**. Their commitment—alongside vendors and associations—is **driving deep localization and creating opportunities** for downstream export of mobility components.

Ladies and gentlemen,

20. Thank you to all sponsors, supporting associations, and strategic partners for your unwavering commitment to Malaysia's mobility transformation. Your support reflects the united spirit that drives our industrial advancement.
21. This **public-private collaboration** demonstrates how **shared vision and commitment** can translate into **meaningful progress** for the nation and the region.
22. The **vision behind GATE 2025** is fully aligned with the government's industrial transformation agenda under the Malaysia MADANI framework. It reflects our **shared goal to advance green technology, digital innovation, and industrial excellence.**
23. Many of the innovations featured here—from **battery technology and EV systems to robotics and automation**—are practical examples of **how sustainability and productivity** can progress hand in hand.
24. Through events like GATE, Malaysia is **strengthening its position as a hub for advanced manufacturing and sustainable mobility**, while supporting our commitment to building an economy that is resilient, inclusive, and future-ready.

Ladies and gentlemen,

25. The momentum we see at GATE 2025 demonstrates **the strength and determination of Malaysia's industrial ecosystem**. The technologies, partnerships and ideas presented here are already **shaping the future of our nation's mobility and manufacturing sectors**.
26. I would like to congratulate MARii and all participating companies for making GATE 2025 a success. Your **commitment to innovation and collaboration** truly **reflects Malaysia's spirit of progress**.
27. Let us continue to build on this momentum to **position Malaysia as a leader in sustainable, intelligent and inclusive industrial growth**.

Thank you.