

**SPEECH BY
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MINISTER OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INDUSTRY**

**START OF PRODUCTION 2020 X70
13 DECEMBER 2019
PROTON TJG MALIM**

Yang Berbahagia Dato' Seri Syed Faisal Albar
Chairman of PROTON

Mr AN Conghui
President and CEO of Geely Auto Group

Dr Li Chunrong
Chief Executive Officer of PROTON

Yang Berbahagia Dato' Radzaif Mohamed
Deputy Chief Executive Officer of PROTON

Distinguished guests,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to wish all guests a very good evening.

It is indeed a pleasure to be here this evening to witness the start of production of 2020 X70.

For the government, the automotive sector is a key driver of high impact business and a creator of high income jobs in science, technology and high level engineering.

Above all, this launch is yet another milestone for our national brands in the pursuit of breaking into the regional and global markets.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

2. PROTON City in Tanjung Malim will soon be the centre of automotive production for PROTON. Currently, 2,006 people are working here and PROTON planned to expand the workforce in the future. I was informed that PROTON aims to sell 400,000 cars a year by 2027 and majority of those cars will be built in Tanjung Malim, which means more investments will come to Malaysia to achieve the target. As of today, RM263 million investments have been committed thanks to PROTON's efforts

3. The PROTON-Geely partnership is essential as PROTON has further grown Malaysia's vendor eco system by matchmaking local and overseas companies to work together to supply parts for its current and future models. This has brought investment to Malaysia's economy and helped to create jobs.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

4. As the world trends move to a higher demand in advanced vehicle production and new transportation models, I am pleased to inform that MITI will be unveiling the revised National Automotive Policy (NAP) by first quarter of 2020.

5. The New NAP will cover the entire automotive ecosystem and be underpinned by the new elements of technology namely Next Generation Vehicle (NXGV), Mobility as a Service (MaaS) and Industrial Revolution 4.0.

6. On top of stimulating production of more advanced vehicles, the New NAP will be a holistic policy that covers the comprehensive development of automotive industry such as development of charging facilities, supply chain, human capital, after market and others.

7. The introduction of the New NAP is timely as it will focus on ensuring the domestic industry continues to be competitive with the

emergence of new disruptive technologies which will transform the sector to connected mobility.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

8. Globally, the automotive sector is going through an exciting phase. Today, manufacturers are continuously expected to develop new models with environmental friendliness in mind, and transportation as a whole is undergoing a rethinking in order to keep the industry sustainable for the future generation.

9. I hope that PROTON will be the driving force in leading the local industry players to be aligned with the global trends. Once again, I would like to congratulate PROTON on achieving the milestone of 2020 X70 CKD productions.

Thank you.