

# Quartararo finishes second in pre-season testing

**PETALING JAYA:** Rookie rider Fabio Quartararo closed on a high note for Petronas Yamaha Sepang Racing Team when he finished an impressive second in the final MotoGP pre-season testing at Losail International Circuit in Doha, Qatar.

The Frenchman went one better than his third place on the first day (Saturday), clocking 1:54.441 on his 28th of 48 laps.

The newly formed Malaysian team enjoyed another top 10 finish with Italian Franco Morbidelli sixth fastest with 1:54.660.

Quartararo, who was promoted to the premier class from Moto2, said the objective was to learn

## RESULTS

*(Top 10 finishers)*

**MotoGP:** 1. Maverick Vinales (Spa) Yamaha 1:54.208, 2. Fabio Quartararo (Fra) Yamaha 1:54.441, 3. Marc Marquez (Spa) Honda 1:54.613, 4. Valentino Rossi (Ita) Yamaha 1:54.651, 5. Jorge Lorenzo

(Spa) Honda 1:54.653, 6. Franco Morbidelli (Ita) Yamaha 1:54.660, 7. Pol Espargaro (Spa) KTM 1:54.770, 8. Takaaki Nakagami (Jpn) Honda 1:54.789, 9. Danilo Petrucci (Ita) Ducati 1:54.818, 10. Jack Miller (Aus) Ducati 1:54.851.

more about the bike with a full fuel tank and he was very happy with the results.

“We have tried a lot of different configurations. I have struggled a little to get completely comfortable with certain aspects but today we managed to get to the bottom of a few little problems. Now we just have to put it all together for the Grand

Prix,” he said. “In general we have done a good job, now we just need to refine a few details to make sure we are competitive over race distance and also over one lap.”

The team will now be high on confidence ahead of the season-opening Grand Prix of Qatar on March 10.

THE STAR 27/2/19  
MS 35