



06 JUN, 2026

Regional cooperation critical to unlock long-term energy investment

Borneo Post (KK), Malaysia



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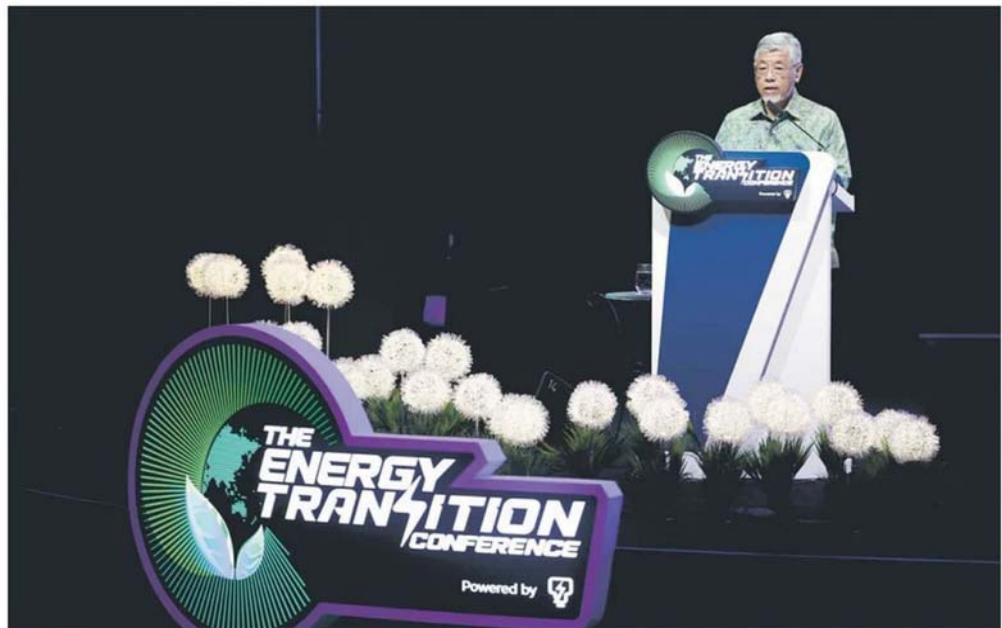
KUALA LUMPUR: Regional cooperation will be critical to optimising resources and creating markets that are deep enough to support long-term investment in the energy landscape, said Tenaga Nasional Bhd (TNB).

TNB president/chief executive officer Datuk Ir Ts Shamsul Ahmad said no country can progress in isolation, stressing that Malaysia's growth trajectory, alongside that of its regional peers, must be supported by the necessary infrastructure and capabilities to sustain development.

"Equally important is the question of talents. The systems we are building will only be as strong as the people who drive them.

"Capability building, reskilling, and attracting the next generation of talents into the energy and digital sectors must therefore be treated as strategic priorities," he said in his closing remarks at the Energy Transition Conference 2026 (ETCon26) on Thursday.

He said other priorities include modernising existing networks and ensuring that capacity keeps pace with both renewable



Shamsul Ahmad says no country can progress in isolation, stressing that Malaysia's growth trajectory, alongside that of its regional peers, must be supported by the necessary infrastructure and capabilities to sustain development. — Bernama photo

integration and the surge in electricity demand.

"At the same time, the rise of artificial intelligence (AI) places a premium on responsible

adoption.

"The infrastructure that powers intelligence must itself be aligned with our sustainability goals," he said.

ETCon26 received more than 4,000 visitors, and witnessed 15 strategic partnerships signed during the three-day conference. — Bernama