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KeTTHA puts on hold FiT licences for individuals in 2017

BY GHO CHEE YUAN

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian government will put on hold the issuance of licences for feed-in tariff (FiT) programmes for the individual category in 2017.

According to the Ministry of Energy, Green Technology, and Water (KeTTHA) secretary-general Datuk Seri Zaini Ujang, this is because applications for this category have reached their allocated quota.

According to him, the Ministry received a total of 8,513 applications totalling 78.63mw from the individual category as at July this year.

This, he said, accounted for 6% of the total solar photovol-

taic (PV) capacity of 392.89mw.

He said the investments of those who have locked in the Power Purchase Agreement are secure for the contract period of 21 years.

Zaini also shared that to further transform the country's energy sector, the ministry has rolled out smart meters nationwide in the first quarter of 2016. Complete roll out is expected to be completed by 2025.

"The smart meter will enable utilities to identify real-time energy consumption patterns of users, and therefore assist in managing load efficiently," he told pressmen here yesterday.

Meanwhile, he said the government will embark on large-scale solar projects, which will be carried

out by the Energy Commission.

According to him, the government is planning solar PV projects with a capacity of up to 1,000mw between 2017 and 2020.

This is one way to boost the country's renewable energy (RE) power generation mix to 23% by 2020 as set by Asean.

Earlier this year, KeTTHA reportedly said it would be calling for a request for proposal to develop 250mw capacity generation from utility-scale solar power plants this year.

These plants would come on stream from 2018.

To date, KeTTHA has approved two utility-scale solar projects to fast track RE generation.