

Headline	Solar power way to overcome shortage, says Poon		
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Solar power way to overcome shortage, says Poon

Winnie Kasmir

SANDAKAN : The Energy Commission of Sabah (ECOS) should encourage roof-top solar as in West Malaysia and the Federal Territory to overcome the shortage of power supply, said Tanjung Papat Assemblyman Datuk Frankie Poon (pic).



He said this includes the installation of solar panels to the roof-top of residential buildings, industries and commercial buildings.

“The Fit-in Tariff has been removed from Sabah since 2017-2018. Nett Energy Transmission (NEM) was applied in 2019 but there were only three takers and this is also no longer available here.

“Due to the shortage of power supply to both current consumers and potential investors, renewal energy, in particular solar power, is a good way to supplement the power supply,” he said.

Frankie had voiced out this matter during a courtesy visit to the new manager of Sabah Electricity Sdn Bhd (SESB) of Sandakan Zone, Ir Siti Jamilah Alias, recently.

During the visit, they discussed many issues such as the load shedding which is currently affecting Sandakan.

“I urge the new manager to find ways to minimise the load shedding as this is posing a serious financial impact to the affected community. It has also caused much inconvenience to many,” said Frankie.

Therefore, Frankie, who is also Sabah DAP Chairman, hopes ECOS would consider the serious situations facing by Sabah and take quick action to draw up friendly regulations to speed up installations of solar panels.

“Tenaga Nasional Berhad has assisted West Malaysia homes, including the Federal Territory of Labuan, to install solar panels under instalments.

“Why can’t SESB avail the same benefits to Sabah homes?

“This will certainly help to reduce the electricity bill of each home,” he added.