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Asean award for TNB`s AI-powered cable maintenance

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KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia's leading electricity utility, Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB), has received the Asean Innovation Business Platform (AIBP) Enterprise Innovation Award 2025 in the Data and Artificial Intelligence (AI) category for its groundbreaking AI-powered predictive maintenance initiative.

AIBP, in a statement, said TNB received the award at the 49th AIBP Conference here last Wednesday, noting that the event is widely recognised as a regional benchmark for digital transformation, honouring organisations that deliver innovative, scalable, and high-impact solutions across Asean.

"TNB's AI-powered predictive maintenance initiative transforms management of its extensive 11kV underground cable network, traditionally affected by numerous breakdowns annually.

"Successfully piloted in Selangor with over 80 per cent accuracy in predicting failures up to two years in advance, the project reduces cable failures by 15–20 per cent, significantly enhancing customer service reliability," read the statement.

It said that there were over 100 nominated projects from both private and government-linked corporations in that category.

Other finalists included major regional players such as Petronas, Genting, AirAsia, Sime Darby, and Allianz, highlighting the project's regional competitiveness and innovation strength.

It added that the winning project underwent a rigorous evaluation process conducted by an independent panel of experts spanning digital government, economic policy, enterprise technology, and global innovation sectors.

"TNB's in-house project, developed entirely by its Analytics Project Unit, applies advanced machine learning models to identify potential failure risks in the 11kV underground cable system," it said, adding that this enables earlier risk detection, improved maintenance scheduling, fewer unplanned outages and emergency repair costs, enhanced operational efficiency with prioritised critical infrastructure and greater supply reliability, particularly in industrial and high-risk urban areas. - Bernama