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Fadillah calls for stronger R&D in energy storage technology

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DUNGUN: Greater emphasis must be placed on research and development (R&D) in energy storage technology, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Amar Fadillah Yusof said.

Speaking after the launch of the 100MW/400MWh Santong Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project developed by Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) yesterday, he said the move is crucial to reduce Malaysia's dependence on imported batteries while building domestic capabilities in the production and development of energy-related technologies.

"I hope this first BESS launch will serve as a starting point for TNB to continue expanding its efforts, particularly in strengthening cooperation with overseas suppliers.

"Rather than merely importing batteries, we should begin focusing on research and development, while also building our own internal capabilities in battery manufacturing and other technologies closely related to the country's energy supply," he told a press conference.

Fadillah, who is also Minister of Energy Transition and Water Transformation, said the increasingly uncertain global landscape highlighted the need for Malaysia to reduce its reliance on foreign countries and strengthen national self-sufficiency across the entire energy sector chain.

"That is why we must focus on this matter, given the uncertain global situation. We can no longer continue depending entirely on foreign countries, and instead need to develop our own national capabilities in all aspects.

"This includes energy supply and related technologies, including battery storage systems, so that one day we will be able to produce our own batteries," he said. — Bernama

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