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KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia is committed to reaching 32 per cent installed renewable energy (RE) capacity this year, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Fadillah Yusof said.

Fadillah, who is also the Minister of Energy Transition and Water Transformation, said the country had achieved 31 per cent installed RE capacity as of December 2025.

"The government aims to increase installed renewable energy capacity by one per cent a year until we reach 35 per cent by 2030 or earlier.

"The RE mix consists of many different sources such as solar, biogas and biofuels. Insyallah, we will achieve this through all the programmes we have introduced, including battery storage and so on," he told Bernama after appearing as a guest on Bernama Radio's exclusive interview titled "Geopolitical Crisis Drives Malaysia's Energy Transition" at Wisma Bernama.

Under the National Energy Transition Roadmap (NETR), Malaysia aims to reach 70 per cent RE capacity by 2050.

Fadillah said that currently about 40 to 50 per cent of the country's energy use is based on gas, and although much still relies on carbon-based sources, the country is committed to no longer using coal by 2044.

"That is why we are now introducing a lot of large-scale solar and rooftop solar to encourage more use of renewable energy. Insyallah, this year we will also open another tender for the sixth large-scale solar project (LSS 6)," he said.

He said that, besides solar, Malaysia is looking at a mix of other energy sources, including biodiesel, biogas, and others, to ensure the country has a sufficient energy supply in the future.

"For biodiesel, we have agreed to increase the blend of palm oil in diesel to 12

per cent. In addition, biogas can actually be produced from palm oil as well," he said.

Fadillah said Malaysia is also studying the potential of using nuclear power.

He said studies have been carried out, and the country now needs to enter into international agreements and conduct thorough assessments of law, safety, the environment, and public acceptance.

"In Peninsular Malaysia in particular, there is insufficient baseload supply. Solar is intermittent and unpredictable; our current baseload is gas. We know we rely on imported gas, with volatile prices. We have coal, but that will no longer be usable by 2044. Our biogas and biomass are limited.

"So we need a mix. During dry seasons, when water is scarce, hydropower can't generate enough power. That is why the world is now looking at nuclear power," he said.

According to Fadillah, the Philippines and Vietnam have decided to include nuclear energy in their energy mixes.

"So Malaysia must consider nuclear power as one viable clean energy option for the future. If we adopt nuclear, once it's in place, it can guarantee supply for 10 to 15 years before we make changes. That needs a detailed study.

"We need a broader energy mix to ensure a secure energy supply that will support economic growth and the people's wellbeing. For Peninsular Malaysia, this is the approach.

Fadillah highlighted that Sabah faces a different challenge as the state relies heavily on diesel.

"Diesel is expensive now, so generation costs are higher. In Sarawak, about 70 per cent already comes from renewable energy; now they want to accelerate development in gas and solar," he added. -Bernama