



28 MAR, 2026

## DPM: Malaysia studies nuclear energy to boost long-term energy security

Borneo Post (Kuching), Malaysia



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**PUTRAJAYA:** MyPOWER Corporation Malaysia is undertaking a comprehensive assessment of Malaysia's potential nuclear energy programme, covering policy development, legal and regulatory frameworks, project feasibility, industry participation, stakeholder engagement and human capital development.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Amar Fadillah Yusof hailed the move to explore nuclear energy for electricity generation as 'a strategic effort' to strengthen long-term energy security, while supporting the nation's clean energy transition.

He added that the initiative was aligned with the 13th Malaysia Plan (13MP) tabled by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim on July 31 last year.

"The need to evaluate the feasibility of nuclear energy is increasingly relevant amid a changing global energy landscape shaped by geopolitical uncertainties and fluctuations in fuel supply and prices," said Fadillah in a statement yesterday.

MyPOWER, an agency under the Ministry of Energy Transition and Water Transformation (Petra), has been appointed as the Nuclear Energy Programme Implementing Organisation (Nepio), tasked with coordinating preparations based on the phased approach recommended by the

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Fadillah pointed out that global tensions, particularly in the Middle East and disruptions to key energy routes such as the Strait of Hormuz, had impacted energy markets and supply stability.

"In this context, nuclear energy offers stable, low-carbon baseload power and can reduce dependence on fossil fuels," he said.

Fadillah added that several Asean countries were also revisiting nuclear energy as part of their diversification strategies.

The Philippines is targeting up to 4,800 megawatts of nuclear capacity by 2050, while Vietnam has reintroduced nuclear power into its national energy plan.

Indonesia, meanwhile, is exploring small modular reactors (SMRs), including floating reactors, with a target timeline around 2030.

Fadillah stressed that Malaysia's priority remained to ensure any future nuclear development would be carefully evaluated through comprehensive technical analysis, and aligned with national priorities and international obligations.

"The approach reflects the Madani Malaysia vision, which emphasises sustainable, knowledge-driven development for the well-being of current and future generations." — Bernama