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# KeTTHA calls for low emission tech

by R KAMALAVACINI

MINISTRY of Energy, Green Technology and Water (KeTTHA) wants a transformed energy landscape which would see the country significantly reducing its dependence on conventional energy resources.

Secretary general Datuk Seri Dr Zaini Ujang said the country needs to venture into low emission technology which would strike a balance between environment conservation and the well being of people while striving to keep energy resources and consumption in sustainable equilibrium.

"In Malaysia, the use of energy in power generation, transport and industry continues to be a major contributor to the build-up of greenhouse gas emissions. The transportation sector for example, has been the largest consumer of primary energy since 2008 and followed by the industrial sector.

"There is a consensus among the scientific community that climate change, if not averted, could have serious consequences. It is important that Malaysia in the pursuit of economic growth, balances its



The use of energy in power generation, transport and industry continues to be a major contributor to the build-up of greenhouse gas emissions, says Zaini

developmental objectives with environmental sustainability," he told the media after officiating the Seventh National Energy Forum in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

He said based on the global trend where Agenda 2030 becomes the pillar for sustainable development, it is important for Malaysia to look for game changers to transform the country's energy landscape.

"The first shift that we have

to take is to move towards greener energy matrix," he said, adding that presently the share of renewable energy (RE) in the generation mix is only 9.7%.

"We need a bigger shift, and at least increase our share of RE to the level targeted by Asean, which is 23% in 2025," he said.

Zaini said new policy instruments such as renewable portfolio standards need to be introduced and the minis-

try will engage all stakeholders to get feedback on how to achieve the RE.

He also stressed on the need to adopt smart technologies and innovation.

"Introduction of smart meters will enable utility companies to identify real time users' energy consumption patterns and help them (the firms) to manage load efficiently," he said.

In Malaysia, the nationwide roll-out of smart meters, which started in the first-quarter this year, is expected to be completed by 2025.

Moving forward, Smart Grid will be the "sustainable electricity system" to accommodate more RE into the distribution system, said Zaini.

"We should also look beyond our borders for affordable and continuous supplies. Malaysia is looking to procure hydro power from Lao People's Democratic Republic as part of the initiative under the Asean Power Grid.

"We are currently working closely with other Asean member states to ensure that the first 'juice' will be flowing into our system by 2018," said Zaini.