



6-9 MAY 2024
MITEC, KUALA LUMPUR

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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE



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DATO' ANIS RIZANA BINTI MOHD ZAINUDIN
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
ROYAL MALAYSIAN CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the organisers of DSA and NATSEC Asia 2024. These events have consistently proven to be instrumental platforms for promoting defence, security, and international cooperation, and I have every confidence that this upcoming instalment will be no exception. I look forward to participating in these events in my capacity as Director-General, a position I assumed in 2023.

The Royal Malaysian Customs Department, or Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia (JKDM), plays a crucial role as the guardian of trade and customs regulations in Malaysia. Our primary mandate is to enforce customs laws, facilitate international trade, and safeguard our nation's borders. In fulfilling these responsibilities, we actively contribute to our beloved country's economic prosperity, national security, and fair trade practices.

One of the key functions of JKDM is to facilitate trade by creating an environment conducive to the seamless flow of goods across borders, all while ensuring compliance with customs regulations. Through the deployment of advanced customs clearance systems, automation, and risk management techniques, we are committed to streamlining trade processes and reducing the administrative burdens faced by businesses.

Participation in events such as DSA and NATSEC Asia allows us to access insights into cutting-edge technologies, exchange best practices, and fortify our capabilities in trade facilitation. These events serve as invaluable platforms for networking and collaboration with industry experts, trade partners, and government agencies, all of which significantly enhance our trade facilitation initiatives.

Another vital aspect of our responsibilities is revenue collection. JKDM plays a substantial role in collecting customs duties, taxes, and other levies on imported and exported goods. These revenues contribute to the national treasury and support the government's socio-economic development programs. Our involvement in DSA and NATSEC Asia affords us the opportunity to explore innovative revenue collection strategies, harness technology for effective tax administration, and learn from international experiences in revenue management. The knowledge acquired during these events empowers us to strengthen our revenue collection mechanisms, ensuring a fair and transparent fiscal system that benefits our nation as a whole.



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Border security is paramount for JKDM. We are unwavering in our commitment to shielding our borders from illicit activities such as smuggling, illegal trade, and the trafficking of prohibited goods. Our vigilant customs officers, equipped with intelligence-driven techniques, work tirelessly to detect and prevent the entry of contraband items that pose threats to our national security and socio-economic stability.

In this regard, DSA and NATSEC Asia offer a unique platform for us to engage with defence and security experts, share experiences, and exchange information on emerging threats and best practices in border security. These events enable us to enhance our border control capabilities, improve collaboration with other law enforcement agencies, and stay ahead of evolving security challenges. A noteworthy example of our proactive approach was the recent joint task force against narcotics conducted in collaboration with the Indonesian customs department.

International customs cooperation stands as yet another key pillar of our service at JKDM. We actively participate in bilateral agreements, regional collaborations, and partnerships with international organizations such as the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the Meeting of The ASEAN Directors-General for Customs.

Through our involvement in DSA and NATSEC Asia, we deepen our international customs networks, foster information sharing, and enhance our capacity to combat cross-border crimes. DSA and NATSEC Asia serve as pivotal platforms for us to engage with international counterparts, exchange intelligence, and explore joint initiatives to address common challenges. The collaborations and partnerships formed during these events further amplify our ability to protect our national interests and contribute to global security efforts.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the organisers, participants, and esteemed guests for their commitment to fostering more resilient defence, security, and international cooperation through DSA and NATSEC Asia 2024. The Royal Malaysian Customs Department fully supports these events as they provide us with unique opportunities, as detailed above. Together, let us seize these opportunities to forge new partnerships, share knowledge, and collectively contribute to the advancement of our customs practices and the security of our nation.

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