



MITEC, KUALA LUMPUR



## YBHG. DATUK SERI ISHAM BIN ISHAK SECRETARY GENERAL MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, MALAYSIA

The Ministry of Defence, Malaysia (MINDEF) is once again honoured to support and coorganise DSA 2024 and NATSEC Asia 2024.

Having run for decades since its inception in the 1980s, DSA has become the largest Defence and Homeland Security Show in Asia, showcasing the world's most advanced technologies, systems, hardware, and electronic warfare that the global market has to offer. Meanwhile, leveraging on the DSA platform, NATSEC Asia 2024 is a force to be reckoned with, serving both the defence and national security markets in the region.

With every installation, these two events have grown – not only in size and participation, but also in terms of its unique offerings. And DSA and NATSEC Asia 2024 will be no different. In addition to popular components in the past – technical and roundtable talks, product demonstrations, business matching sessions, as well as contract and MoU signings – DSA 2024 and NATSEC Asia 2024 will also present new features such as the DSA and NATSEC Asia Lab, @My Defence Security Innovation Pavilion, and DSA and NATSEC Asia TV.

This growth in size, participation, and offerings highlights the growing importance that the region places on areas of defence and national security. This is understandable, as any government that places its peace, stability, and sovereignty will place due importance on defence and national security.

While Malaysia and the region in general currently experience stability, both conventional and non-conventional security issues continue to shape and influence the nature of threats to national defence and security.

The issue of national and global security is now more important than at any other time in history. The development of science and technology has led to the rise and modernization of various kinds of unconventional threats including biological weaponry and cyber security threats which can cause catastrophic damage, sometimes even more than conventional threats.

Meanwhile, terror threats continue to abound while the gap in between terror attacks around the world has been shortened. Defence and military spending around the world, especially in rising nations, have increased, particularly in Asia.



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As a region, we must constantly improve at managing military competence and ensure that our respective military forces work together towards peace, security and development, rather than for rivalry. To achieve this, a foundation of mutual respect and trust must be established between our nations. Greater regional cooperation can only be achieved if we build on our common regional values and emphasise on neighbourliness.

In this regard, DSA and NATSEC Asia have been instrumental in bringing together various industry leaders, governments, military and defence agencies from across the region with the purpose of forging mutual trust and collaboration between all parties. DSA continues to serve as an integral platform to encourage foreign technology exchange and partnerships, in line with our efforts to upgrade our defence capabilities.

More than just showcasing the latest defence technologies and services, DSA 2024 and NATSEC Asia 2024 will serve a higher regional and global defence agenda by addressing the world's most pertinent security concerns.

As such, the Ministry of Defence, Malaysia is proud to once again work with the organisers and participants to ensure the ultimate success of DSA 2024 and NATSEC Asia 2024. Thank you.

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