



6-9 MAY 2024
MITEC, KUALA LUMPUR



GENERAL TAN SRI DATUK SERI MOHAMMAD BIN AB RAHMAN **CHIEF OF DEFENCE FORCE, MALAYSIA**

I am delighted to learn that DSA and NATSEC Asia will be making a grand comeback in 2024. Having witnessed their growth and calibre in previous editions, it is an honour to address these events as the Malaysian Chief of Defence Force following my appointment on 6 September 2023.

Over the years, DSA and NATSEC Asia have gained significant prominence, solidifying their positions as premier showcases for defence and security. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, DSA and NATSEC Asia made a resounding comeback in 2022, leaving us with exemplary results and successes.

I therefore congratulate the organisers for bringing back these showcases in 2024, which I am sure will be greater than previous editions. The theme selected for DSA and NATSEC Asia 2024, "Building Resilient Nations for the Next Generation," is particularly fitting and relevant. It resonates deeply with the challenges and responsibilities we face today, emphasising the need to safeguard our nation and fortify its capacity for long-term resilience and adaptability.

In an era of rapid technological advancements and evolving threats, this focus on resilience reminds us of the importance of preparedness, innovation, and unity in safeguarding our shared future. It serves as a guiding beacon for our collective efforts to create a safer, more secure world, and I wholeheartedly commend its relevance and significance.

As those engaged in the defence sector, both locally and internationally, are well aware, it is imperative that we continuously evolve, collaborating closely with our allies and counterparts worldwide. Strategies and solutions that served us in the past may no longer suffice, and technologies we rely on today could quickly become obsolete. We must remain agile and adapt to the ever-shifting landscape, including the ever-growing threat of cyberattacks.

As the landscape of geopolitics undergoes rapid changes, Malaysia is confronted with new security and defence challenges. These include the increasing significance of maritime concerns, growing rivalries among nations, and the emergence of various other threats. To prosper in this evolving environment, we must harness cutting-edge advancements to bolster the capabilities of our military personnel. We must envision and construct resilient Future Forces across air, land, and sea domains to confront the challenges of the next generation. It is essential that we adopt a long-term perspective, recognising that the decisions we make today will reverberate into the future. This makes the theme of DSA and NATSEC Asia 2024 even more pertinent.



DSA Exhibition And Conference Sdn Bhd (423338-H)
V06-3A-05, Signature 2 Sunway Velocity, Lingkaran SV,
Cheras, 55100 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
T: +603-2702 7700 | E: enquiry@dsaexhibition.com
W: www.dsaexhibition.com



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The importance of continuous learning, cooperation, and improvement within the global defence and security fraternity cannot be overstated. This collective effort is essential to safeguarding national, regional, and global peace and stability by countering unscrupulous threats.

For these compelling reasons, I firmly believe that DSA and NATSEC Asia offer unparalleled opportunities for global defence and security stakeholders to unite, fostering international cooperation in pursuit of peace and stability. Although these events span just four days, their impact is immeasurable and unrivalled.

This gathering provides such a unique platform to engage with high-level government and military officials, including ministers, secretary generals, chiefs of services, international delegations, and key decision-makers. DSA and NATSEC Asia stand as the largest and most efficiently organised defence and homeland security events in Asia, if not the world.

Let me emphasise that this is a great opportunity that should not be missed. I look forward to the upcoming edition of DSA and NATSEC Asia and extend the unwavering support and cooperation of the Malaysian Armed Forces.

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