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One of the key mandates of the police force is to ensure civilian order and well-being is maintained at all times. In a multiracial, multi-cultural and multi-religious country like Malaysia, the task of maintaining peace and harmony without destroying the cultural diversity is an extremely complex and challenging one.

The sensitive nature of these challenges is probably best understood by our ASEAN neighbours, as we live in an ethnically, religiously and socio-politically diverse region. Many of our challenges are unique to this part of the world, and tackling them effectively does not only involve defence and security tactics, but also a deep understanding of the local landscape, politics, ideologies and history that surround us.

This is why platforms like Defence Services Asia (DSA) are useful, as it is able to facilitate greater understanding between the police forces within the region, and beyond, as we share and exchange knowledge of our efforts to maintain peace and order in a complex landscape.

Another area of concern is definitely the infiltration of terrorist elements into the country's borders. In order to keep terrorist activities at bay and ensure that we have a more effective response in the event of unpredictable security challenges, it is more important than ever for us to forge closer ties with other government agencies outside of the police force, such as non-governmental organisations (NGOs), local communities, as well as regional and international law enforcement authorities.

Here too, platforms like DSA provide opportunities for us to network and connect with various stakeholders of defence and security around the region, including

corporations that develop technologies and equipment for the purpose of defence and security. It is the perfect opportunity for us to update our technologies and processes to enable us to come down harder on suspicious criminal activities.

I am personally happy to note that National Security Asia (NatSec Asia) 2020 will also be held alongside DSA 2020, based on the success of its last show. This will certainly pave the way for greater cooperation and intelligence-sharing between police forces and security divisions from across the region.

On that note, I look forward to being part of DSA 2020 and NATSEC Asia 2020!

Thank you.