



Incorporating:
NATSEC
A S I A 2 0 2 2
THE 2ND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION ON NATIONAL SECURITY FOR ASIA

28 - 31 MARCH 2022
MITEC, KUALA LUMPUR

Hosted, Supported & Co-organised by:



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS



YB DATO' SRI ISMAIL SABRI BIN YAAKOB **SENIOR MINISTER OF DEFENCE, MALAYSIA**

There is no doubt in my mind that our military and armed forces personnel are one of the best in this region. These heroic men and women are always ready to serve and defend our country from any unforeseen threats or invasions. However, in order for them to carry out their tasks effectively, there is a crucial need to strengthen our military assets and equipment so that they are on par with global technological advancements.

Historically, Malaysia's defence has always been held in high esteem when it comes to ensuring regional stability in Southeast Asia. We have been called on to train and assist other nations in developing their defences. Over time, our aging equipment would need upgrading and maintenance. So far, we have been coping well with the budget allocated, but a bigger funding is necessary for us to make headway. Moving forward, we have to modernise our defence force to catch up with the latest trends. It is my wish to be able to turn this around during my term and return Malaysia to its glory days.

For a start, we have increased the defence budget in 2021 by 1.8% or about RM280 million more than the previous year. In 2020, the budget allocation was RM15.58 billion and in 2021 it increased to RM15.86 billion.

Out of that huge budget allocated, the development expenditure will see a 46.1% or RM1.42 billion increase. With a RM4.50 billion allocation, we are looking to upgrade key assets to the Malaysian Armed Forces (MAF) and also to maintain existing assets. Not forgetting cyber security, we are also looking to increase the country's cyber security control.

This increase in budget not only shows our government's commitment to national defence, but is also crucial to help tackle the uncertainties looming in traditional and non-traditional security threats. To do so, our MAF must be well equipped and be at a high level of readiness at all times. Like us, our neighbouring countries like China, India, Indonesia, Thailand, Singapore, and Vietnam have also increased their defence budget in 2021 despite the rising economic challenges faced by all during the Covid-19 pandemic.



DSA Exhibition And Conference Sdn Bhd (423338-H)

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Another area that we are looking to improve is the surveillance of our maritime borders at the South China Sea, Sulu Sea and Melaka Straits. These are the most crucial and highly contentious maritime trade routes in this region, and we hope to be able to invest in maritime surveillance aircraft (MSA) and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV). These two options are being carefully studied as these will greatly help increase our effectiveness when patrolling the waters.

A platform like DSA & NATSEC (National Security) Asia 2022 is crucial in supporting our plans and goals to upgrade our defence capabilities and has truly secured Malaysia's presence in the global exhibition calendar as one of the must-attend events in the defence and security sector. Since its inception, DSA has played a key role 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. Up until today, DSA still continues to serve as an integral platform to encourage foreign technology exchange and partnerships, in line with our efforts to modernize our defence force.

More than just showcasing the latest defence technologies and services, I believe that this upcoming DSA & NATSEC Asia 2022 will be unlike anything seen in the past as it will be addressing the world's most pertinent security concerns including counterterrorism, cyber security, humanitarian and disaster relief, peacekeeping operations and battlefield healthcare, among others.

For these reasons and more, I am proud and pleased to lend our ministry's wholehearted support and endorsement of the upcoming DSA & NATSEC Asia 2022. Congratulations to the organisers for putting together this timely and credible platform once again despite the challenges faced in this Covid-19 pandemic. I am looking forward to being part of this world-class event.

Thank you.



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