

GENERAL TAN SRI DATO' SRI MUHAMMAD HAFIZUDDEAIN BIN JANTAN
CHIEF OF ARMY



JENERAL TAN SRI DATO' SRI MUHAMMAD HAFIZUDDEAIN BIN JANTAN
PENG. MA TENTERA DARAT

I extend my sincere gratitude to the organisers of DSA and NATSEC Asia for the opportunity to address this esteemed gathering on behalf of the Malaysian Army or Tentera Darat Malaysia – the backbone of national defence. Being the “boots on the ground”, the Malaysian Army is central to national defence, facing treacherous terrains and adapting to unpredictable dynamic threats while ensuring that every soldier is equipped to overcome challenges that evolve by the minute. As a result, we need to be tailored to mission and fit for purpose as our mission demands readiness, adaptability, and above all, resilience. In this regard, technology is not merely an enabler—by no exaggeration, it is a decisive factor that can mean the difference between mission success and failure, between life and death.

I am pleased that the theme for DSA and NATSEC Asia 2026 is “Enhancing Capabilities and Resilience Through Technology” which directly aligns with our priorities. Moreover, ‘resilience’ should be emphasized as the indispensable aspect of the military.

Resilience is more than just endurance—it is the ability to thrive amidst adversity. It means ensuring that our soldiers have the capability to respond to unexpected challenges with confidence and precision even in the most demanding conditions. It means leveraging technologies that anticipate threats before they emerge; technologies that empower every soldier, from the frontlines to the command centre, to perform at their best.

However, resilience is not built in isolation. It is forged through strategic partnerships, continuous training, and foresight. In this regard, DSA and NATSEC Asia serve as vital platforms where military leaders, technology experts, and practitioners converge to exchange ideas and shape the future of security.

These events provide us with invaluable opportunities to explore cutting-edge innovations that make a tangible difference on our mission field, from autonomous systems that enhance battlefield awareness to advanced soldier-wearable systems that monitor real-time health and performance.



20 - 23 APRIL 2026
MITEC, KUALA LUMPUR

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But technology is only as valuable as its application. The true value lies in its practical application on the battlefield. It must bridge the gap between innovation and impact, translating into reliable, mission-ready solutions that enhance operational effectiveness, mitigate risks, and most importantly, safeguard the lives of our soldiers. Ultimately, success is measured not by innovation alone but by its impact in real-world conditions where volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity define every operation.

DSA and NATSEC Asia provide the critical space to ensure that these solutions are not just ideas but actionable resources for those who serve on the front lines. To the partners, innovators, and leaders present at DSA and NATSEC Asia 2026, I urge you to focus on what truly matters—the critical needs of soldiers on the ground. As the security landscape continues to evolve, we must ensure that technological advancements are not only state-of-the-art but also combat-proven—capable of delivering results in the most unpredictable and high-pressure scenarios.

As we look ahead to 2026, I commend the organisers, industry partners, and all those who contribute to making DSA and NATSEC Asia the world-class events that they are. Your commitment to advancing military capabilities is instrumental in shaping the future of defence. Together, let us ensure that we remain resilient and well-empowered to defend our nation and region.

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