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MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

LT GENERAL DATO' ZAHANI BIN HJ ZAINAL ABIDIN RMAF JOINT FORCE COMMANDER



The very essence of joint operations today involves bringing together multiple forces that are no longer confined to land, sea, and air. In this era of multi-domain warfare, it means integrating cyberspace, digital domains, and even space-based systems into every operation. DSA and NATSEC Asia have established themselves as platforms that turn possibilities into practical outcomes, and I am eager to witness their impact firsthand.

At the Joint Forces Headquarters, part of our mission is to ensure that the strengths of our military forces – including the Malaysian Army, Royal Malaysian Navy, and Royal Malaysian Air Force - work together towards a common goal. Each branch has its own culture, tools, and traditions. But on the battlefield, there is no room for division. We must see, think, and act as one. Unity is a prerequisite for success.

Achieving that level of unity is no small task. It requires systems that sync with each other, soldiers who train together, and doctrines that adapt at the speed of change. This is why DSA and NATSEC Asia are so significant today. They bring together the tools and ideas needed to close the gaps in communication, intelligence, and decision-making, enabling us to anticipate the future of warfare and begin preparing for it today.

Meanwhile, the role of the Joint Forces Headquarters also extends beyond Malaysia's borders. Our personnel are deployed in support of global endeavours such as the United Nations peacekeeping missions in conflict zones across the world. In these missions, our soldiers, sailors, and airmen operate in multi-national, multi-service environments. The lessons learned from these deployments remind us that joint efficiency is not just a Malaysian challenge, but a global one. The tools and strategies showcased at DSA and NATSEC Asia will be key in enhancing our ability to operate with allies, build interoperability, and ensure that Malaysian forces remain a respected and trusted contributor to global peacekeeping.



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For this reason, I am looking forward to meeting with my military counterparts from across the region at DSA and NATSEC Asia. These events offer a rare opportunity for open dialogue with our allies, to share lessons learned, and to strengthen the bonds that support regional and global stability. These events also help us move into action. They make us faster, sharper, and more prepared for what lies ahead.

While the future and our challenges ahead may not always be clear, DSA and NATSEC Asia help to light the way. This is where our allies, our partners, and the entire industry by extension, stand together towards the greater good. Let us then make the best of it.

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