



YBHG GENERAL DATUK HJ MOHD NIZAM BIN HJ JAFFAR

CHIEF OF DEFENCE FORCE, MALAYSIA

Drones are no longer an emerging technology – they are an operational necessity, revolutionising various domains, including defence, security, agriculture, logistics, and surveillance. This September, DronTech Asia 2025 at MITEC Kuala Lumpur will bring together nations, industries, and innovators to stay ahead in this technological evolution. With the theme ‘Pushing the Boundaries of Innovation and Technology’, DronTech Asia 2025 highlights the transformative power of drones in shaping the future of defence, security, infrastructure, and national resilience.

As the Chief of Defence Force, I recognise that drones are no longer a force of the future. They are the defining factor in today’s battlefield. Their surveillance, reconnaissance, and operational effectiveness capabilities have fundamentally reshaped military strategies worldwide. In an era where conflicts are increasingly influenced by unmanned and autonomous systems, nations that effectively harness drone technology will secure strategic superiority, safeguard sovereignty, and strengthen national security.

As we advance, we must also confront the new threats that emerge alongside innovation. Weaponised drones, AI-powered autonomous systems, and coordinated drone swarms present unprecedented challenges, demanding that defence forces remain proactive, adaptive, and technologically superior. The rapid expansion of civilian and commercial drone use also brings with it urgent concerns over airspace security, counter-drone measures, and regulatory oversight to protect military installations, national infrastructure, and public safety.

Beyond defence, the strategic impact of drones extends far and wide. Their applications in disaster response, humanitarian aid, logistics, border security, and environmental monitoring revolutionise how we operate across multiple sectors. The ability to reach remote areas, conduct real-time surveillance, and support rapid response operations makes drones an essential asset for the military and the resilience of an entire nation.

Malaysia must not only adopt drone technology; we must lead in its innovation and strategic application. By fostering local drone development, investing in research and development, and strengthening industry partnerships, we can enhance national capabilities and position Malaysia at the forefront of drone technology advancement.

DronTech Asia 2025 is a strategic platform for defence leaders, policymakers, technology innovators, and industry experts to engage in crucial discussions, explore the latest advancements, and forge partnerships that will define the future of drones. I urge all stakeholders in the defence drone industry, whether from the government, military, or the private sector, to seize this opportunity, take an active role, and contribute to the advancement of cutting-edge drone technology. Your participation will drive innovation, strengthen global security, enhance strategic capabilities, and shape the future of drones worldwide.

I look forward to the groundbreaking technologies, bold ideas, and strategic collaborations emerging from DronTech Asia 2025. Together, let us push the boundaries of what is possible and propel Malaysia toward a future where drone technology is not merely a tool of convenience but a pillar of strength, security, and progress.

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