



PRESS
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**OFFICIAL VISIT OF
H.E. GENERAL CHANSAMONE CHANYALATH,
MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENCE LAO PDR TO MALAYSIA**

The Minister of National Defence of Lao PDR, His Excellency General Chansamone Chanyalath undertook an Official Visit to Malaysia from 21 to 23 March 2019. The visit was his first Official Visit to Malaysia since assuming office in April 2016.

As part of his Official Visit, His Excellency General Chansamone Chanyalath called on the Honourable Tuan Haji Mohamad bin Sabu, Minister of Defence Malaysia at the Ministry of Defence. Upon arrival at the Ministry of Defence, His Excellency General Chansamone Chanyalath was accorded with a Guard of Honour comprising personnel from the First Battalion Royal Malay Regiment (RAMD) lead by Major Norshahidin bin Long with three officers and 103 others rank and accompanied by RAMD Centre Band lead by Major Mohd Izham bin Ahmad Rashidi with one officer and 39 others rank.

During the call, both Ministers acknowledged the existing friendly relations between the two countries. Capitalising on the excellent spirit of cordiality, mutual respect and understanding, they emphasised that the Official Visit is a testament of their commitments to promote bilateral defence cooperation. In this regard, both Ministers later signed the *Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Defence of Malaysia and the Ministry of National Defence of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on Bilateral Defence Cooperation*. They were optimistic that the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding would increase interactions and initiate deeper bilateral defence cooperation that would serve the common interests of both countries.

On the same day, His Excellency General Chansamone Chanyalath took the opportunity to visit the National Defence University of Malaysia (NDUM), where he was briefed by Lt Gen Dato' Haji Abdul Halim bin Haji Jalal, Vice Chancellor of NDUM on NDUM's role as a premier defence university for leadership and professional development, knowledge dissemination and application of defence science and technology, as well as policy research.

As part of his official visit to Malaysia, His Excellency General Chansamone Chanyalath also visited BHIC Aeroservices Sdn Bhd, a subsidiary company of Boustead Heavy Industries Corporation Berhad (BHIC).

The defence cooperation between Malaysia and Lao PDR is gradually but assuredly progressing, underpinned by the two nations' close working relationship as members of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM). Their excellent interaction at the ADMM level has ensured a solid platform for both countries to contribute towards the continued peace, stability and security in the Southeast Asian region. It is hoped that the defence relations between both countries would continue to strengthen and expand in the future.

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"PERTAHANAN NEGARA TANGGUNGJAWAB BERSAMA"

Ministry of Defence Malaysia
22 March 2019