



**YB DATUK WILSON UGAK KUMBONG,
DEPUTY MINISTER OF DIGITAL MALAYSIA**

I am honoured to stand here today, representing Yang Berhormat Tuan Gobind Singh Deo, Minister of Digital, to officiate the launch of CyberDSA 2025. This event, in just a few short years, has positioned itself as a premier authoritative platform for dialogue, collaboration, and innovation in the realms of cybersecurity, artificial intelligence (AI), and digital services. This year's edition carries even greater significance as Malaysia assumes the ASEAN chairmanship in 2025. At a time when ASEAN's digital economy is projected to reach as much as USD 1 trillion by 2030, the question is no longer if digital transformation will reshape our economies, but how well prepared we are to harness its full potential while safeguarding our digital ecosystems.

AI and digital services are driving this transformation. From AI-powered predictive analytics improving healthcare to smart automation boosting manufacturing, AI is driving growth across industries. But with these opportunities come new risks. The rapid growth of AI and digital services has also opened the door to new threats that cybercriminals can exploit.

From ransomware targeting financial institutions to cyber espionage infiltrating government agencies, the risks we face are as real as they are unprecedented. New tactics like cryptojacking have also emerged, where cybercriminals use victims' computers to mine cryptocurrency without their knowledge. This method requires no ransom and has proven highly profitable. Cybersecurity is no longer a technical or IT issue. It is a national security imperative, an economic enabler, and a fundamental pillar of trust in the digital age. A single breach can disrupt economies, erode public confidence, and inflict significant financial losses. This is why CyberDSA is so critical – not just to showcase the latest technological developments, but to foster strategic partnerships that address the complex challenges at the intersection of AI, cybersecurity, and digital services.

Malaysia is steadfast in its ambition to lead Southeast Asia's digital economy. The Digital Ministry is actively working towards this goal by expanding broadband coverage, enhancing digital skills, and fostering innovation in the technology sector. By equipping the public with digital knowledge and skills, we aim to make Malaysians more competitive in the rapidly growing digital landscape. With the collaboration of all stakeholders, we are confident in achieving this vision while ensuring that no one is left behind in the digital era.



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