

**Defence Contract To Enhance Preparedness Of Armed Forces: Zahid  
Bernama  
April 18, 2012**

KUALA LUMPUR, April 18 (Bernama) -- Defence Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi said today the award of defence contracts worth RM357.2 million was to enhance the preparedness of the Malaysian Armed Forces and does not involve any new acquisition of assets.

He said the ministry was taking a prudent approach so that more allocations could be made for socioeconomic development programmes, which have been the focus of Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's administration.

"The contracts this time around are more for the maintenance of existing assets and purchase of equipment to enhance the armed forces' preparedness," he told reporters after witnessing the signing of contracts worth RM4.76 billion at the Defence Services Asia (DSA 2012), here today.

Zahid said only RM357.2 million of the RM4.76 billion contracts were from the ministry while the rest were memorandums of understanding among companies.

The Defence Ministry's contracts have been awarded to five local firms and a Russian company.

.---BERNAMA

Copyright © 2012 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v6/bm/newsindex.php?id=659966>