

RMN, BNS Sign MoU On Marine Engineering
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KUALA LUMPUR, March 7 (Bernama) -- The Royal Malaysian Navy (RMN) and Boustead Naval Shipyard Sdn Bhd (BNS) have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enable its officers and personnel to enhance their skill and knowledge-sharing in marine engineering.

Navy chief Admiral Tan Sri Abdul Aziz Jaafar said with the MoU, the first such strategic alliance initiative between RMN and BNS, government officers would be given the opportunity to be on loan to a company that had links with the government via the open door policy concept.

"BNS can utilise the expertise of three navy officers, who are involved in the RMN Engineering Officers Loan Programme at the BNS shipyard in Lumut, Perak.

"As the initial step, we have agreed to loan our officer with the rank of commander and two officers with the rank of lieutenant commander through this programme," he told reporters after the signing of the MoU at Wisma Perwira, Jalan Semarak here on Friday.

He said the initiative was a new dimension that could benefit both parties, whereby the navy officer on loan could become the liaison officer between RMN and BNS in addressing issues relating to the repairing and construction of navy ships.

Under the agreement, he said, the officers would be on loan for two years, with their salaries and allowances to be paid by BNS.

It will also give an emphasis on research development, that will involve local institutions of higher learning to develop new technology for the national maritime industry.

The MoU signing ceremony was also witnessed by Deputy Defence Minister Datuk Abdul Rahim Bakri and Boustead Heavy Industry Corporation (BHIC) Group Chairman Tan Sri Datuk Seri Lodin Wok Kamaruddin.

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