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RM14mil boost for straits' security

PUTRAJAYA: Users of the Straits of Malacca can expect better security along one of the world's busiest shipping lanes, thanks to assistance from Japan that will allow improvements and enhancements to Malaysia's maritime security equipment.

A grant from the Japanese Government will see RM14.2mil provided to enhance the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency's capacity for security in the straits and Malaysian territorial waters.

The signing of the exchange of note for the programme was held yesterday, with Foreign Ministry secretary-general Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa representing the Government, while Japan was represented by its ambassador to Malaysia, Masahiko Horie.

In his speech, Rastam said Malaysia, being one of the littoral states, had the primary responsibility over the safety of navigation, environmental protection and maritime security in the straits.

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