

# CONTEMPORARY SOUTHEAST ASIA

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# Introduction

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This special focus issue appears in conjunction with the completion of the first phase of the Institute of Southeast Asian Studies' Defence and Development in Southeast Asia Research Project which has, since 1985, carried out intensive studies in the areas of threat perception and defence expenditure, the military mind and development, and arms procurement patterns. It is encouraging to note that these research efforts have been very well received by both the world of academe and officialdom. One of the most satisfying aspects of the Project so far has been the emergence of a new scholarly interest in subjects related to the complex nature of security and defence planning in developing nations. The contributors to this issue are all members of the Institute and their work is a reflection of this new development in regional strategic studies in Southeast Asia.

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