



بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

Published by the Department of Information
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

NUMBER 151

15 October 1994



His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, addressing the 49th session of UNGA, said the world now needs a stable international environment to allow increase of economic cooperation through more trade and investments.

World Needs Stable International Environment To Increase Economic Cooperation: HM Sultan

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam stressed that the world now needs a stable international environment in order to face the challenge on how to increase economic co-operation through more trade and investments to happen, due to the end of the Cold War which has placed economic at the top

of the international agenda

Speaking at the 49th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on 6 October, His Majesty said: "We must resist the trend towards protectionism. Instead we must encourage and reward those who liberalise and open up their economies."

The Brunei ruler noted that the United Nations and its specialised agencies could help in this. But the

end of the Cold War has stretched the resources of the United Nations.

"Bosnia, Rwanda, Somalia, Haiti and other trouble areas are consuming much of the United Nations' limited financial and manpower resources. This has reduced the United Nations' role in promoting development. It is tragic that problems of development are on the backburner," His Majesty said

The ruler pointed out

that it was not the fault of the United Nations, while adding that "The United Nations can do no more than its members are willing to do."

Regional organisations urged to work with the UN

His Majesty also urged regional organisations to work with the United Nations, in accordance with

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BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

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YOUR TURN

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Chapter 8 of the United Nations Charter, as one way to reduce the drain on United Nations resources.

"We may not have fully used the potential of Chapter 8. As the United Nations Secretary-General has pointed out, regional arrangements can help reduce the burdens on the United Nations," the monarch added.

His Majesty said: "The United Nations takes the primary responsibility for international peace and security, whilst regional organisations, like ASEAN, can reduce its load through preventive diplomacy and regional economic co-operation. They can complement the United Nations."

The Brunei ruler pointed out that there are many regional organisations. No region is without its own. But not all of them work.

"If we are to realise the potential of Chapter 8, we need fresh approaches in regional arrangements. Regional organisations must be realistic in their goals. They have to build a framework for cooperation which suits their conditions," His Majesty stressed.

ASEAN's achievements

In his address delivered before heads of state and government and their respective delegations who attended the general assembly, His Majesty also highlighted the achievements of ASEAN. The monarch said: "ASEAN, of which Brunei is a member, has achieved some success. ASEAN offers one possible vision of regional cooperation and

development. We do not have set institutions and legal undertakings like the European Union. Our aim is more modest. We seek to foster a culture of cooperation."

His Majesty went on to say that through consultation, consensus, and cooperation, they have been able to contain, resolve, or reduce their differences.

"We have concentrated on working together for our common interests. It is a process of enlarging a set of shared values."

The Brunei ruler noted that since it was formed in 1967, ASEAN members have evolved an informal style to sort out their differences. Cooperation, the monarch added, is not the result of formal agreements but comes from a strong sense of common purpose.

"We are not without problems. Most ASEAN countries have unresolved territorial questions with each other. Sensitive questions of ethnicity, culture and religion are often involved in our relations with each other. We do not deny the existence of these issues. But we continue to work together wherever we can. Differences amongst us do not stop cooperation for mutual benefit."

His Majesty also urged regional organisations to start with less ambitious goals. He said: "It took ASEAN a quarter of a century, from 1967 to 1992, to establish habits of close cooperation and consultation. Only after achieving this did ASEAN feel confident enough to take the significant, though modest decision to set up an ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA)

within 15 years from 1992."

"We are now discussing how we can speed up AFTA and complete it within ten years. We have also formed a number of "growth triangles" straddling the adjacent territories of three or more member countries."

Touching on APEC, an organisation for economic cooperation and trade liberalisation, His Majesty said it will give greater opportunities to all members because of such co-operation and the general stability of the region, trade, and investments have greatly increased. All ASEAN countries are industrialising rapidly, with high growth rates, His Majesty added.

The monarch expressed the hope that his comments on ASEAN could contribute to discussions that will strengthen the United Nations' system.

"ASEAN is well aware of its own limits and limitations. ASEAN does not exist in a vacuum. We could not have succeeded without a favourable international environment," His Majesty stressed.

"ASEAN is not an alternative to the United Nations. Where ASEAN succeeded, as in Cambodia, it is because we worked with the major powers within the framework defined by the United Nations. Otherwise, we would have failed."

His Majesty stressed that they would and must continue to work closely with the United Nations, while urging that all regional institutions need the United Nations' over-arching framework. The United Nations and particularly its

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permanent members, must retain primary responsibility for international peace and security.

"No regional organisation can succeed if it shuts itself up from the world. Our goal is an ASEAN of all Southeast Asian countries. We are gradually creating what can be loosely described as a culture of peace and security in Southeast Asia.

His Majesty also noted that they hoped to extend it by linking up with other regional organisations in the Asia-Pacific, while adding that "ASEAN wants to engage all the major powers in a pattern of constructive relations across the Asia-Pacific. The ASEAN Regional Forum, inaugurated in Bangkok in July, brings together all major and middle powers - the United States, Japan, European Union, China, Russia, Canada, Australia, South Korea and New Zealand - in a common framework."

His Majesty said: "We want the United Nations

and all major powers to associate them with ASEAN's Treaty of Amity and Cooperation."

Touching on the 50th anniversary of the United Nations, His Majesty said it was an appropriate occasion to rethink how they could strengthen the challenges of the 21st century.

"I offer my comments in this spirit; to contribute to our common goal of strengthening an open world that will benefit all countries," His Majesty concluded.

Earlier in his address, His Majesty congratulated His Excellency Mr. Amartya Sen, the Foreign Minister of Cote d'Ivoire on his election as President of the 49th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The monarch also thanked the previous UNGA President, Ambassador Insanally for his great contribution.

His Majesty also welcomed South Africa's comeback to the General Assembly, and congratulated the Palestinian people for their courage and vision in signing the historic peace agreements, as well as expressing the country's sup-

port on efforts of King Norodom Sihanouk and his government to rebuild and reunite Cambodia.

Also present at this year's United Nations General Assembly were His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, the Finance Minister and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna.

Shortly before delivering his 'titah', His Majesty consented to meet the United Nations' Secretary-General, His Excellency Dr. Boutros-Boutros Ghali and the President of the 49th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, His Excellency Mr. Amartya Sen.

His Majesty's arrival at the UN Delegates' Entrance was welcomed by the United Nations Secretary General, His Excellency Dr. Boutros-Boutros Ghali who later

posed for visual media photographic session. The monarch was later joined by the United Nations Chief of Protocol, Her Excellency Mrs. Benita Ferrero-Waldner to the UN Secretary General's office.

After delivering the 'titah', His Majesty consented to receive congratulation conveyed by representatives of the United Nations member countries.

Arrival

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and his entourage arrived at John F. Kennedy International Airport, New York, on 5 October, on board a special flight. Also in his entourage was His Majesty's brother, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, the Finance Minister.

On hand to welcome His Majesty at the airport were His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Dipa Negara Laila Diraja

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Sultanate's Foreign Minister Attends The 49th UNGA In New York

His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Affairs Minister has attended the 49th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York from September 24 to October 5. His Royal Highness was accompanied by his wife,

Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah.

While in New York, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister consented to chair the ASEAN Foreign Ministers meeting. Brunei Darussalam is the current Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee. The meeting

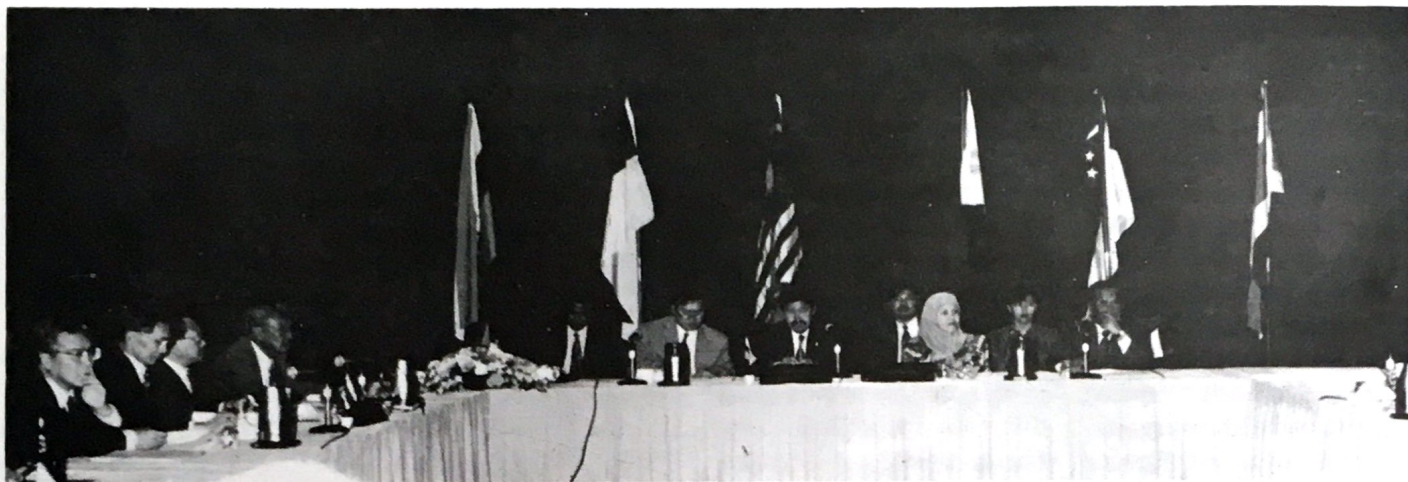
was held at Grand Hyatt Hotel on September 27.

The meeting was attended by all ASEAN member countries with the foreign ministers of Indonesia. His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas, His Excellency Datuk Abdullah Haji Ahmad Badawi of Malaysia, His Excellency Mr. Roberto R. Romulo of the Philippines, His Excellency Professor S. Jayakumar

of Singapore and His Excellency Squadron Leader Prasong Soonsiri of Thailand at the head of the respective delegation.

The meeting among other things discussed issues of particular interest to ASEAN at the 49th UNGA including matters pertaining on reform of the Security Council, 50th

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Above: His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs, leading the Brunei Darussalam delegation at a meeting in New York of ASEAN Foreign Ministers which HRH himself chaired.

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anniversary of the UN, agenda for development, financial issues of the UN, disarmament and on Myanmar.

The meeting also discussed topics on Cambodia, activities of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), ASEAN Candidatures and on membership of Vietnam in ASEAN.

Among the country's delegates attending the meeting were Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Dipa Negara Laila Diraja Pengiran Haji Abdul Momin, Brunei Darussalam's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and his deputy, Awang Haji Jemat bin Haji Ampal and the Permanent Secretary at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Dato Paduka Lim Jock Seng.

After the meeting, Brunei Darussalam led by His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah hosted a luncheon for the ASEAN Foreign Ministers and their respective delegations.



Above: His Royal Highness also attended a meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Member Countries, held at the UN Headquarters during the 49th UNGA Session.

Dinner in honour of President of 49th UNGA

Meanwhile, the ASEAN Foreign Ministers hosted a dinner in honour of the President of the 49th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, His Excellency Mr. Amara Essy, the Foreign Minister of Cote d'Ivoire. It was held on 29 September at the Empire State Ballroom Grand Hyatt.

Earlier at the function, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah

Zariah led their counterparts to welcome the guests at the entrance of the Empire State Ballroom.

In his brief speech as Chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee and on behalf of the ASEAN Foreign Ministers, His Royal Highness among others highlighted that the United Nations is being asked to take on more and more responsibilities on nearly every question troubling every nation on earth.

His Royal Highness also said: "For us in ASEAN, this is now a traditional date on our United Nations

calendar. It is also one we look forward to very much as a pleasant break from our formal duties.

His Royal Highness described His Excellency Mr. Amara Essy as "a distinguished diplomat who brings to the post over 20 years of outstanding service to Cote d'Ivoire, to Africa and to the international community."

The general assembly, His Royal Highness pointed out, is very fortunate indeed to have the benefit of his long experience, while add-

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ing that, he was "well aware of the special challenges the world body faces today."

"As you said at the General Assembly," said His Royal Highness, "the change from the end of the Cold War to what we hope will be a peaceful new world order, is not an easy one."

Present at the dinner were Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Dipa Negara Laila Diraja Pengiran Haji Abdul Momin, Brunei Darussalam's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and his deputy Awang Haji Jemat bin Haji Ampal and the Permanent Secretary at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Dato Paduka Lim Jock Seng.

Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC)

During the 49th UNGA, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah also attended the annual Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) coordination meeting of foreign ministers, held on 3 October.

Among the agenda discussed during the meeting included the question of Palestine, Al-Quds Al-Sharif and Middle East, Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, Afghanistan and Somalia.

His Royal Highness later attended a luncheon hosted by the UN Secretary General, His Excellency Dr. Boutros Boutros Ghali in honour of heads of delegation attending the 49th UNGA.

In the evening, His Royal Highness attended a reception hosted by the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations in honour of Jordanian Crown Prince Hassan Al-Talal.

Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

His Royal Highness also attended a meeting between Foreign Affairs Ministers and heads of delegation of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) countries. It was held at the United Nations Headquarters on 5 October. The meeting was chaired

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Above: His Royal Highness and Indonesian Foreign Minister, His Excellency Ali Alatas head for the conference room at the UN building for a meeting of Foreign Ministers of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Member Countries.



Above: His Royal Highness and his wife, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah joined other ASEAN Foreign Ministers and their wives to greet guests during a dinner given by the ASEAN Foreign Ministers. They included the President of the 49th Session of the UNGA, His Excellency Amara Essy, seen with HRH, right.





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Pengiran Haji Abd. Momin, Brunei Darussalam's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and His Excellency Dato Paduka Awang Haji Jaya, Brunei Darussalam's Ambassador to the United States.

Meet Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister

While attending the United Nations General Assembly in New York, His Majesty consented to grant an audience to the Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim who was also attending the General Assembly.

The audience lasted for about twenty minutes. It was held at New York Palace on 6 October.

Reception in honour of the monarch

In the evening, His Majesty attended a reception hosted by the Sultanate's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Dipa Negara Laila Diraja Pengiran Haji Abd Momin bin Pengiran Haji Ismail in honour of His Majesty. The function took place at the UN Delegates Dining Room.

Also present at the function were heads of delegations of the UN member countries.

His Majesty left New York in the evening. Before leaving the city, a thanksgiving prayer was read by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Tuan Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti. It was held at the New York Palace before His Majesty proceeded to John F. Kennedy International Airport.

Right: Hands raised in homage of the do'a selamat for a safe journey shortly before His Majesty left New York after attending the UNGA. With His Majesty are His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Jefri Bolkiah.



Left: His Majesty being congratulated by one of many leaders following his address to the UNGA, in which he touched on many world issues. Below: While in New York, the Brunei monarch consented to grant an audience to the Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister, Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim.



Top: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Secretary General of the UN, His Excellency Boutros-Boutros Ghali pose for the media shortly after the ruler's arrival at the UN Headquarters. His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and delegation were also in New York for UNGA's 49th session, picture above, as were His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, Minister of Finance and one of His Majesty's sisters, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, picture at right.



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by the Indonesian Foreign Minister, His Excellency Mr. Ali Alatas.

The meeting among others exchanged views on issues of interest to NAM at the 49th Session of UNGA including on the restructuring of the Security Council, restructuring, democratization and enhancing of the effectiveness of the United Nations, nuclear disarmament, debt crises of the developing countries and the outcome of the international conference on population and development.

Audiences

While attending the 49th

UNGA, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah also granted separate audiences to Foreign Ministers of Palestine and Mauritius. The ceremonies were held on 5 October.

His Royal Highness first granted an audience to the Palestinian Foreign Minister, His Excellency Mr. Farouk Al-Shara. It was followed by an audience of the Mauritius Foreign Minister the Honourable Dr. Ahmad Swalay Kasenally. At both ceremonies, bilateral issues were discussed.

His Royal Highness also granted audiences to the Sri Lankan Foreign Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister cum Foreign Minister of Cambodia and the Prime

Minister cum Foreign Minister of Peru respectively. The functions were held on 27 September.

First to be granted an audience was the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka, the Honourable Lakshman Kadirgamar. Both ministers discussed bilateral issues.

His Royal Highness later granted an audience to Prince Siribudh, the Deputy Prime Minister cum Foreign Minister of Cambodia, where bilateral and regional issues as well as the ASEAN Regional Forum were discussed.

His Excellency Mr. Efrain Goldenberg, the Prime Minister cum Foreign Minister of Peru was also granted an audience by His

Royal Highness in which they also discussed bilateral issues and matters pertaining to the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

Meanwhile on 29 September, His Royal Highness granted an audience to the Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Excellency Dr. Aliakbar Velayati where discussions were focused mainly on bilateral issues.

This was followed by an audience for the Deputy Prime Minister cum Foreign Minister of New Zealand, the Right Honourable Mr Don McKinnon. Both also discussed bilateral issues and the ASEAN Regional Forum.

Minister's call to BASE : Explore more interesting activities for youths

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports has called on "BASE" or the Brunei Association for Science Education to explore more interesting activities to cater for the needs of youths of various age groups. He said that one activity which should be considered is the invention of science.

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Digadong Seri Lela Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Hussain, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports made the call shortly before he officially opened the 17th BASE Science and Technology Week held at the Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddien College in Bandar Seri Begawan on July 25. It was organised by BASE in cooperation with the Ministry of Education.

The minister also stressed that the expansion of BASE activities would need more manpower to manage the extra work involved.

In this regard, he urged more government officers, especially new graduates to be involved in voluntary organisations such as BASE.

The minister said that young graduates, in particular, needed the experience in managing such voluntary works, in organising and in communicating with the public. These skills could be learned through their involvement in voluntary organisations, he said.

He thanked the association for its interest in the development of youths so that its aims and activities are complementary to those organised by the Ministry

of Culture, Youth and Sports, i.e., with the assistance and in collaboration with various voluntary organisations in order to maximise youth involvement and benefits, and share the available resources.

Therefore, the BASE Science Camp, for example, could be organised in the future in association with the Red Crescent or Boy Scouts and other voluntary organisations.

Private organisation urged to assist efforts to improve science education

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports further urged the private organisations to play their part by assisting BASE in its efforts to improve science

education in the country.

He noted that the Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sendirian Berhad has been the sole sponsor of BASE activities.

He said that the rationale behind the sponsorship of BASE activities is that the quality of the prospective employees in terms of scientific skills would be better if the standard of science education is improved.

However, Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sendirian Berhad is not the only company which would employ such graduates, other private organisations, too, will get the benefit of quality prospective employee, the Minister pointed out.

"Hence, the responsi-

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bility of providing financial support for BASE activities should also be shouldered by other private organisations," he stressed.

Earlier in his speech, the Minister noted that BASE has been active since its formation in 1978 in promoting science education through science activities for teachers and youths. Efforts of this kind, he said, especially by a voluntary organisation like BASE, should be given due recognition and full support by educators and members of the community.

Not only has BASE contributed to the promotion of science education in this way but the various activities scheduled to take place throughout the year after school hours have focused the youths' mind and time on something worthwhile, thus minimising the possibility of idle minds and free time being misused.

BASE contributions towards Informal Education is clear, the minister said, adding that, activities such as the science camp

helps to develop youths' leadership potential and provide them the opportunity of learning the value of a team work. These activities may also help them appreciate, understand, and learn to respect the environment in which they live.

Speech by the BASE President

In another speech, the Base President, Dayang Hajah Aishah binti Haji Hussein, among other things, spoke on the theme of this year's Science and Technology Week entitled "Science in Communication." Science, she said, is looked at as a means to communicate effectively in all aspects of our daily lives.

She added that at the school level there is a need to balance the science projects and activities initiated by students.

She also emphasized on physics oriented projects and activities which could lead to a more balanced development of the students which in turn could help develop the potential of students to come up with

scientific inventions and innovations.

In schools, she went on to say, classroom learning and teaching can be improved and made more enjoyable with effective means of communication.

Improved media technology could help diversify the means to get through to our students. Improved communication with the outside social environment would enable schools to tap resources and information and obtain collaboration in improving teaching/learning in classrooms.

The BASE President also announced that for the first time, the association is communicating its science programmes to primary students through a number of activities. One of them is the Science Teachers' Conference held during the Science and Technology Week aimed at providing teachers with a vehicle to enable them to develop interest and scientific skills among primary school children.

The conference is one of the initial steps taken by

BASE to revive the Young Scientist Badge Scheme for the primary schools launched in 1988-1989.

She hoped that the conference would help BASE to contribute to the ever growing concern of the Ministry of Education to make science an appealing and interesting discipline from the primary level.

Various activities were held during the Science and Technology Week comprising science project competition, quiz, natural science award scheme, science art photography contest, essay writing, art poster competition and science teachers' conference. These activities are aimed at stimulating the imagination and creativity of youths in the society.

Formed in 1978, BASE is aimed at improving the teaching of science and technology, providing a medium through which the opinions of teachers may be expressed in educational matters, and promoting regular meetings, lectures and discussions with other scientific bodies.

Government-Private Sector Partnership Basis For Economic Development

The Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Communications, Dato Paduka Malai Ali said that economic development should be based on the partnership between the government and private sector, as both are 'players' and 'facilitators' in enhancing the country's economic growth and development.

In this era of dynamic

economic world which practices open and liberal economic policy, "we need to move and act quickly to grab the benefits from the existing opportunities," he stressed.

Officiating at the opening ceremony of a Cold Storage, warehouse and office building of a private company at the Industrial Site, Lambak Kanan on 14

September, the Permanent Secretary further said that we now face the challenge to make the country a Regional Trade Centre.

His Majesty's Government which acts as 'facilitator' has emphasised on promoting transportation infrastructures as well as improving the required service, he said, while adding, that the establishment

of the Muara export Zone by the Communications Ministry in May this year was one of a determined commitment of His Majesty's Government towards industrial development in the country and in making the country a regional centre for unloading.

His Majesty's Govern-

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ment has also held bilateral and multilateral meetings with the countries concerned to meet the increasing demand for a smooth and easy cross border movement of goods.

The Permanent Secretary hoped that with close cooperation between the government and private sector, the objective of making the country a Regional Trade Centre would become a reality.

He also spoke of the recent establishment of the East Asian Growth Area (EAGA) between Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia, Philippines and Indonesia, which have shown commitment for cooperation towards a smooth cross border movement of goods. In this case, Brunei



The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Communication, Dato Paduka Malai Ali bin Malai Haji Othman declares a new local business firm officially open.

Darussalam has specific specialities to offer both in the aspect of infrastructure and facility.

He latter called on the private sector to come forward to grab the wide opportunity and contribute to-

wards the development of entrepreneurship and further upgrade the country's economic stability.

To Meet Demand Of The Labour Market With Qualified Workforce

The main purpose of vocational and technical education is to meet demand of the labour market with suitably qualified workforce. However, with the rapid change in economic growth and new technologies, occupational patterns and job qualifications likewise will change.

This was highlighted by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dato Paduka Haji Awang Mohd. Ali Daud at the opening ceremony of a month-long course on the management of vocational and technical education development projects at the regional SEAMEO VOTTECH centre in Bandar Seri Begawan,



Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd Ali Daud, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

on 10 October.

"We are aware that SEAMEO member countries are at different levels of economic development and hence their needs are diverse," said the Deputy

Minister.

Like many other countries represented here today, he said, Brunei Darussalam had given greater priority to the development and fine-tuning of its own vocational and technical education system.

The correlation between economic prosperity and a well-developed system of technical or vocational training cannot be ignored.

He hoped the participants will develop and acquire new skills from the interaction with their colleagues. The role that each course participant plays in this programme is to share and learn the different experiences encountered in

their work environment.

He said for countries like Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam, it is good time to tap on resources available here and to learn the structure mechanism of project development.

"You are specially privileged to meet and know a unique assembly of vocational and technical leaders with a common commitment to the advancement of vocational and technical education in their countries," the Deputy Minister further said.

SEAMEO VOTTECH Director, Awang Haji Abd Razak bin Haji Metassan in his welcoming speech spoke

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Brunei Darussalam Needs More Local Companies Offering Shares to Public

B Brunei Darussalam needs more local companies offering their shares to members of the public through IBB (Islamic Bank of Brunei) Securities Private Limited, so as to provide a basis for the need to establish a stock-exchange.

The Minister of Law and Attorney-General, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja Pengiran Haji Bahrin disclosed this at the signing ceremony of an agreement between IBB Securities Pte Ltd and Zalik Securities Pte Ltd, and opening ceremony of an Investment Seminar on "Prospects of Malaysian Stock Market" at Gadong Centrepont on October 1.

Stock exchange has important role in supporting effectively the country's economy, said the Minister.

IBB Securities Pte Ltd

has provided a gallery, fully-equipped with a monitor which displays Malaysia and Singapore shares. This would enable every investor to make a close survey on the shares, he added.

Investors would also be able to know news related to worldwide stock exchanges, analysis and forecast of market.

Touching on the Zalik Securities Pte Ltd, which is one of the local share broker companies in Malaysia, Yang Amat Mulia hoped that it would be able to give a good and efficient service and an up-to-date and precise information to assist investors in selecting the buying and selling of shares.

In a speech during a similar occasion for DBS (Development Bank of Singapore) Securities Pte Ltd held at the International Convention Centre (ICC) on

8 October, the Law Minister noted that the extension of this service to Singapore stock was in line with the objective of IBB Securities Pte Ltd in giving service required by members of the public, and thus contribute to the rapid development of the financial industry in the country.

He hoped that IBB Securities Pte Ltd would continue to give and upgrade their excellent service from time to time, as well to further extend such service to other countries and introduce products related to stock market.

The Minister highlighted that the management of share investment required firm control and rule to ensure a more organised and proper implementation for the importance of both the brokers and customers. The management of Malaysia



YAM Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja Pengiran Haji Bahrin, Minister of Law and Attorney-General.

and Singapore stock business, too, subjugated to laws and rules of the respective country, he said.

The appointment of share brokers in Malaysia and Singapore would enable IBB Securities Pte Ltd to provide facilities for those who have already been actively engaged in the investment of share of both countries.



Some of the officials and participants present at the SEAMEO-VOCTECH Seminar on vocational and technical education management.

• From page 10 (SEAMEO/VOCTECH) among other things about the objectives of the centre which has a mission to identify and help solve common

problems within SEAMEO Member Countries in the field of vocational and technical education.

The aim of this course is also to assist project managers in the effective implementation of educational development projects.

To help us achieve these objectives this time are consultants from Australia Mr. Robert Wilson, Director, Centre for International Education and Training under the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in helping managing this course and from the Phillipines and Public Work Department.

It was attended by twenty-three participants from 8 SEAMEO member countries: five from the host country, Brunei Darussalam, four from Indonesia, four from Cambodia and two each from Malaysia, Thailand, Phillipines, Lao PDR and Vietnam.

This course is the second activity of the centre's First Five-Year Development plan. The one month course began on 10 October 1994. The case studies being undertaken during this course will be on experimental projects funded by international agencies.



A move for the Department of Information

The Department of Information of Brunei Darussalam is now housed in a brand new building - having moved on 15 August this year. The new building, above, stands among the many Government Departments and Ministries at the old airport in Berakas, just five kilometres from the heart of the capital, Bandar Seri Begawan.

The department is the oldest in Brunei Darussalam having been established since April 1952, when it came under the name of the Brunei Government Information Service.

Built on a 2.1 acre site, the new three-storey building cost B\$2.7 million. Organisationally, the Department of Information which is under the Prime Minis-

ter's Office, is divided into five main divisions, each of which is again split up into various sections.

In fulfilling its responsibilities to both the Government and the people of Brunei Darussalam, the Information Department abides by various directives. These include to describe and clarify Government plans in detail, and to give

them a comprehensive coverage or publicity; to help in strengthening national solidarity; to act as a channel for bringing the public closer to the Government; to describe Brunei Darussalam to the world, and to help in creating civic consciousness. These are just a few of the missions of the Information Department.

Brunei in Brief

Capital : Bandar Seri Begawan
Land size : 5765 sq. km
Population : 267,800 (Mid-1992)
Official Language : Malay
Official Religion : Islam
September rainfall : 136mm
(annual 2,818mm)

PRIME LENDING RATE

September 5.75%
(quoted by Bankers' Association)

Brunei Malay in a minute

Each fortnight, our readers have the opportunity to learn a Brunei Malay word, which we publish in this newsletter. As the name suggests, the word is used only in Brunei Darussalam.

We have selected the word **anggun** for this issue.

Anggun is to carry or to bring along and in standard Malay it is **bawa**.

In a sentence: Ibu itu **menganggun** anaknya ke mana sahaja dia pergi.

The mother brings her child along with her wherever she goes.

**THE TRAFFICKING IN AND THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF
CONTROLLED DRUGS ARE VERY SERIOUS OFFENCES IN
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM AND THE PENALTY
FOR SUCH OFFENCES IS DEATH.**