

بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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Peace, stability first then development: HM



*'We have peace and
stability in this
region because
ASEAN leaders
worked very hard...'*

quote

The need for regional peace and stability as a pre-condition to development was underscored by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam when he opened the ninth meeting of ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Fisheries in Bandar Seri Begawan last month.

Addressing the six ASEAN ministers and their officials on September 24, 1987 His Majesty gave credit for the prevailing regional peace and stability to ASEAN leaders.

'We have peace and stability in this region because ASEAN leaders worked very hard for it through unwavering dedication and strong political cooperation and conviction,' the royal address said.

'With peace and stability established in ASEAN, we have been able to direct our resources to developing our nations in various economic activities, to upgrade our basic infrastructure as well as to upgrade the standard

of living of our people. The task of developing our nations, however, is still far from over. Our economic infrastructures still lag far behind those of developed nations.

More efforts and cooperation in economic activities are still required which can only be achieved if peace and stability prevail in our region. ASEAN leaders therefore, must always work for this and must ensure that future leaders continue to do so.'

His Majesty also called for greater economic cooperation within ASEAN. 'The need for effective economic cooperation is even more important in agricultural fields. A vast majority of ASEAN people depend on agriculture

for their livelihood as farmers.'

'Our cooperation in agriculture should, therefore, be addressed to making better incomes for farmers, ensuring adequate food supply in the region and equitable and fair agricultural development in the region.'

Pengiran Dato Seri Laila Jasa Dr Haji Ismail bin Pengiran Haji Damit, Brunei Darussalam's Development Minister who chaired the two-day meeting spoke in his welcome speech of the achievements of the ministerial grouping since 1976.

These included the ASEAN Food Security Reserve Agreement, agreements on plant and animal quarantine, fisheries and agriculture cooperatives and the establishment of plant pest-free zones.

The ministerial meeting was preceded by two days of talks among senior officers of the various delegations.

Brunei Darussalam first participated in this annual meeting in 1984.



OCTOBER 1987

Self help is the only way

ASEAN Agriculture and Forestry Ministers meeting in Brunei Darussalam could not have done so at a more appropriate time.

Commodity and produce prices sinking or sunk coupled with bully tactics of the first world trade partners have put a hefty dent into several ASEAN economies.

The ministerial pow-wow is the highest forum at which joint-effort action-plans can be hatched and given a fillip. Of course this must mean less of the parochial, self-seeking, individual GNP-building thinking.

Oriental meekness has been misinterpreted as weakness, so when the going gets tough, the tough just must get going. If the battle in the commodity markets is being fought on the political front or the public relations front we just have got to get into the fray and fight it out. This may be at a tangent from the ideals of ASEAN's founding fathers.

Even sweeteners like grants and joint projects with first world countries should not deter us from seeking a rightful place in the international economic order.

The suggestion in recent times by several leaders for stepped up intra-ASEAN trade is worthy of serious examination and soonest implementation. Should it be necessary we should be prepared to go without in order to show that we mean business.

Bleating about protectionist trading partners and continuing to be a milch cow will just drain us and stunt our development. Hanging on forever to the patronage of backdoor privisions hardly makes for dignified relations.

Don't dump hi-tech says D'ment Minister

Brunei Darussalam believes in the benefits of foreign participation in the country's building industry says Pengiran Dato Seri Laila Jasa Dr Haji Ismail bin Pengiran Haji Damit, the Development Minister.

Speaking at opening of a building trade exhibition in Bandar Seri Begawan on September 23, 1987 the Minister said 'Brunei Darussalam never closes her doors to foreign contractors, material suppliers and consultants to participate in the construction industry here for we believe there are valuable lessons in the form of technology, methods and training to be learnt from them.'

He however stressed the need for quality work and active local partners in any joint ventures that are formed.

Pengiran Dato Dr. Haji Ismail called on foreign businessmen who wanted to work on projects in the Sultanate to set up definite technology-transfer programmes and training programmes for local staff. They were also encouraged to source their materials as far as possible from within the country.

The Development Minister also advised against the installation of sophisticated technology which could not be maintained by local people.

Dr Lee Boon Yang Singapore's Minister of State, National Development and Home Affairs who spoke earlier observed that Brunei Darussalam's economic development was progressing

rapidly and added that his government was also keen to help the Sultanate provide better facilities and opportunities for its people.

'We will support and encourage our construction industry to explore innovative approaches to make available expertise which can contribute to faster growth and development in Brunei Darussalam,' the Singaporean Minister said.

Mission leader Mr Yong Mee Him told the *Brunei Darussalam newsletter* that there are 'signs of stirring in an industry that has experienced a lull over the last 30 months.'

The head of the 13-strong delegation said that his group also met with senior government officials and were given briefings on the development plans for the Sultanate.

He added that Brunei Darussalam has always had relations with Singapore and the visit of the building trade mission was part of the continuing relationship between the building trade in the two countries.

'We are here not just to sell but also assist in technology transfer especially in the area of management for supervisory and middle-level staff and site safety. In meetings we have had with the trade we have detected encouraging signs,' Mr Yong added.

The three-day exhibition had some leading names in the regional building trade including representatives of manufacturers and real estate developers.

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New head for our United Nation team



His Excellency Awang Haji Jaya bin Abdul Latif receiving his papers at Nurul Iman Palace.

The Sultanate's former head of diplomatic mission to Manila has been reassigned to lead Brunei Darussalam's permanent delegation to the United Nations in New York.

His Excellency Awang Haji Jaya bin Abdul Latif, a former

senior civil servant-turned-diplomat, 46, received his letter of appointment from His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam in Bandar Seri Begawan on September 7, 1987.

This is Awang Haji Jaya's third diplomatic assignment. Before New York His Excellency had also served as head of Brunei Darussalam's mission in Kuala Lumpur.

The new United Nations diplomat studied at Manchester University in Great Britain.

Papua New Guinea receives our envoy

Brunei Darussalam's non-resident High Commissioner to Papua New Guinea His Excellency Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Ustaz Haji Badaruddin bin Pengarah Othman last month presented his credentials to Sir Kingsford, the country's Governor-General.

The ceremony took place at Government House in Port Moresby.

His Excellency Pehin Badaruddin is at present Brunei Darussalam's resident Ambassador to Jakarta.



His Excellency Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Ustaz Haji Badaruddin bin Pengarah Othman.

Our envoy to the Philippines

His Excellency Pengiran Mustapha bin Pengiran Metassan has been appointed Ambassador to the Philippines.

The 47 year-old envoy received his appointment papers from His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam at Nurul Iman Palace in the capital on September 22, 1987.

The new head of Brunei Darussalam's Manila mission studied at Birmingham and Oxford Universities.

He joined the civil service in 1962 and was last Director of the Protocol and Consular Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the same day His Excellency Mr Naif Khalid Maula, the Jordanian Ambassador in Indonesia was accredited by his government as the non-resident ambassador to Brunei Darussalam.

Mr. Naif studied at Jordan and California Universities. He was the Administration Director at the Jordan Telecom and Communication Department before his Jakarta assignment.



His Excellency Pengiran Mustapha bin Pengiran Metassan.

Joint statement issued at the end of the ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry held in Brunei Darussalam which ended in Brunei Darussalam on September 26, 1987.

The ninth meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry was held on 24 - 26 September, 1987 in Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam. The meeting was officially declared open by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam. The meeting was attended by Pengiran Dato Dr Haji Ismail bin Pengiran Haji Damit, Development Minister Development of Brunei Darussalam; Dato Haji Selamat bin Haji Munap, Deputy Development Minister Brunei Darussalam; Mr. Achmad Affandi, Agriculture Minister Indonesia; Datuk Seri Sanusi bin Junid, Agriculture Minister Malaysia; Mr. Carlos G. Dominguez, Secretary of Agriculture the Philippines; Dr Lee Boon Yang, State Minister, National Development and Home Affairs Singapore; General Harn Leenand, Agriculture and Cooperatives Minister Thailand; Mr. Roderick Yong, the Secretary-General of the ASEAN Secretariat, and a member of his staff were also in attendance.

In his inaugural address, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam, stated that 1987 marks the 20th year of the establishment of ASEAN. During this period, ASEAN has managed to prove itself as a model for regional peace and stability which was by no means a small achievement.

His Majesty emphasized that ASEAN leaders and future

leaders must always work for peace and stability in the region, so that ASEAN would continue to direct its resources to developing the nations in various economic activities, to upgrade the basic infrastructure as well as to upgrade the standard of living of the people in the region.

His Majesty stressed the importance of the need for effective economic cooperation in the agriculture field to be formulated and acted upon as soon as possible. In ensuring better incomes for farmers and an adequate food supply in the region, His Majesty emphasised the need for encouraging joint-venture projects involving private sectors and the need for the establishing an efficient marketing system for the farmers.

Pengiran Dato Dr Haji Ismail and Datuk Seri Sanusi were elected as chairman and vice-chairman, respectively.

The Ministers reviewed the progress of the various projects and activities undertaken by the ASEAN Committee on Food, Agriculture and Forestry (COFAF) in the fields of fisheries, livestock, crops and forestry including the ASEAN Food Security Reserve arrangements.

The Ministers noted that the grant agreement on Phase II of PLANTI in which the US had agreed to provide US\$4.2 million for implementation of PLANTI programmes for the period 1987-1991, is being signed in Kuala Lumpur today.

The Ministers noted with satisfaction that various activities pertaining

to the ASEAN Declaration on Specific Animal Disease Free Zone and the ASEAN Declaration to Eradicate Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) were being implemented effectively. In this connection, the Ministers approved the application of the Philippines to declare Western and Northern Mindanao as a Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Free Zone.

The Ministers noted that the Financing Agreement of the "ASEAN-EC Aquaculture Development and Coordination Programme" had been signed in Brussels in August, 1987 under which EC would provide assistance amounting to ECU 6.77 million.

The Ministers also noted the Protocol Agreement of Phase II of the "ASEAN-Canada Forest Tree Seed Centre" was signed in June, 1987 in Singapore under which Canada would provide assistance amounting to C\$9.4 million.

The Ministers further noted with satisfaction the considerable progress in the implementation of the various ASEAN projects in the field of forestry. To further strengthen cooperation in this area, the Ministers approved the following projects:

- a) The Continuation of End Use Survey of ASEAN Wood Products.
- b) ASEAN Rattan Regeneration Centre.

In the meeting, the ministers considered and agreed to recommend the new initiatives to enhance ASEAN economic cooperation in food, agriculture and forestry. In this connection the Ministers also discussed a proposal presented by Brunei Darussalam on the establishment of an ASEAN Corporation on Food, Agriculture and Forestry. COFAF has been directed to make a full study of the proposal.

The 10th AMAF meeting to be held in October, 1988 will be hosted by Malaysia.

New \$15 million district hospital



HRH Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam (standing second from right) watches handicapped children at play. Far left is Dato Paduka Dr Haji Johar, the Health Minister.

Residents in the Temburong District now have a \$15 million hospital to look after their health and medical needs.

The government-owned and operated hospital was opened by Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam after whom the facility was named.

Her Royal Highness told guests assembled for the opening that the government intended to upgrade health standards in the country to its utmost by the end of the century.

Speaking at the September 3, 1987 ceremony the guest of honour described the new hospital as a symbol of the government's care

for the people in the district and called on the people to make hospital treatment the more usual means of seeking health.

The 50-bed hospital, standing on a 2.8 hectare site, includes maternity, dental, optical and intensive care units and began service at the end of last year.

The Malaysian mission in Bandar Seri Begawan last month held a dinner to mark three decades of independence or 'merdeka'.

His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah the Foreign Affairs Minister represented the Brunei Darussalam government at the celebrations held on August 31, 1987.

Also at the dinner, which was hosted by Encik Shaari bin Sani the Acting High Commissioner, were members of the diplomatic community, senior officials and Malaysians residing in the Sultanate. There are several thousand Malaysians working in Brunei Darussalam in both the private and public sectors.

30 years of *Merdeka*



HRH Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah (left) is received by the Acting Malaysian High Commissioner (2nd left) and his staff on arrival to the celebrations.

International airport extended



General view of the Brunei International Airport.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam browses at the airport shopping arcade during an official visit.



The public area where outgoing travellers may be seen off



The airport restaurant affords an excellent view of aircraft taking off and landing.

Civil aviation in Brunei Darussalam has definitely taken altitudes of improvement with the completion of the extension works to the Brunei International Airport near Bandar Seri Begawan.

Some \$60 million was spent on upgrading the terminal complex to comfortably handle the projected 1.5 million annual passenger traffic and 50,000 tonne cargo traffic by the end of the century.

An airport spokesman said, 'We are now one of the best equipped airports in the region for air traffic control and radar. With the facilities we have now we can handle just about any services needed by the airlines that land here.'

The original terminal building was opened in 1974 and the growth in passenger and cargo traffic demanded the extension works which were awarded to a wellknown french firm.

The new design described as satellite-style incorporates a fan of six aerobridges for both arriving and departing passengers.

The latter from the first floor while the former using a lower level, in keeping with current international practice.

A network of video display units throughout the airconditioned terminal keeps travellers conveniently abreast of the latest status of flights.

Apart of the royal pavilion, there are four VIP lounges and rooms for press conferences. There are also a limited number of rooms for restricted transit passengers. Handicapped and aged passengers can use lifts.

Other passenger conveniences include an extensive arrival area, money changers, car hire offices, hotel booking desk and an information centre.

Two restaurants, duty-free and souvenir shops and the availability of international telephone and telex services all make the extension more convenient and comfortable for travellers.

The departure lounge.

ASEAN awards for Bruneian talent

Four Bruneians were among 24 ASEAN nationals who received ASEAN awards for Culture, Communications and Literary Works in Bangkok on August 26, 1987.

The awards presented by Her Royal Highness Princess Mahachakri Sirindhond of Thailand were to Idris bin Mohammad, a musician who received the ASEAN Award for performing arts for his compositions depicting local culture.

The other winners were Pengiran Asmalee bin Pengiran Ahmad, 46 a well-known artist who designed the royal coat-of-arms and is well-known for his por-

trait painting.

Haji Rahim bin Mat Walli who heads the drama section at the Radio Television Brunei was awarded the ASEAN Award for Communication. Haji Rahim has previously won other awards for his television productions.

Outstanding Bruneian writer, Pengiran Setia Negara Pengiran Mohammad Yusof, 64, who writes under the pen name Yura Halim received the award for literary works.

Pengiran Mohammad Yusof, who was the country's former Chief Minister has produced many works including poems, prose and novels that have been published locally in the Sultanate.

Women pioneers in the brigade



Pioneer batch of newly passed out firewomen show off their skills last month to an audience that included parents, friends and senior government officials. Inset: Dayangku Latifah Pengiran Haji Beswani was the best recruit.

The Sultanate last month received into service its first batch of women firefighters. The 45 ladies completed six weeks of firefighting and rescue training on September 8, 1987.

Speaking at their passing out Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia

Bakti Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Isa, Special Adviser to His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam cum Home Affairs Minister said that the government was confident that the new firefighters would be able to work alongside the men.

The ladies, among whom Dayangku Latifah binti Pengiran Haji Beswani was the best recruit, later gave a demonstration of their newly acquired skills including wielding an oxy-acetylene torch to "extricate" casualties from an accident-wrecked car.

Royal Brunei Airlines expands in Thailand



His Excellency Dato Paduka Hamid bin Jaafar, Brunei Darussalam Ambassador to Bangkok officially opens of RBA's general sales agent in Thailand. On his right is Pengiran Ali, RBA's Commercial Manager and at extreme right in the picture is Mr Grerksak Sakbodin President of Skylink Travel.

Royal Brunei Airlines, which has been operating services between Bangkok and Bandar Seri Begawan since 1977, formally launched its newly appointed General Sales Agent in Thailand last month.

The GSA, Skylink Travel will handle the airlines' passenger and cargo marketing, reservations and ticketing in Thailand and special services at Don Muang Airport.

Skylink Travel staff trained in the operation of the airlines' BIKOM computerised reservations system. They have also been

familiarised with Royal Brunei's Boeing 757 and 737 services to Singapore, Kota Kinabalu, Kuching, Hong Kong, Manila, Kuala Lumpur, Darwin, Jakarta and Taipei.

The new offices were officially opened on August 28, 1987 by His Excellency Dato Paduka Hamid bin Jaafar the Brunei Darussalam Ambassador to Bangkok. A reception was held subsequently at the Dusit Thani Hotel for over 300 guests representing Thailand's aviation authority, the travel and cargo trade, business community, representatives of

other airlines and media.

Pengiran Ali Pengiran Haji Ahmad, RBA's Commercial Manager welcomed the new GSA appointment as "a major expansion of the airline's marketing and service capability at a time of rapid growth and upgraded customer services on its Thailand operations."

RBA leaves Bandar Seri Begawan at 10.00 am. on Friday and Sundays - arriving in Bangkok at 11.55 am. Flights leave Bangkok at 12.55 pm, arriving in Bandar Seri Begawan at 4.55 pm.

The Postal Services Department issued a new set of commemorative stamps to mark the silver jubilee of the Language and Literature Bureau on September 29, 1987.

The stamps in denominations of 10 sen, 50 sen and \$2, were designed by Bruneian artist, Pengiran Haji Muhammad bin Pengiran Duraman.

Overseas collectors can obtain the stamps by writing to the Philatelic Bureau, Postmaster General, Brunei Darussalam. Requests for a standing order should be accompanied by a minimum deposit of \$30.

Language Bureau's silver jubilee





Talking drum silenced by the chip

The *bedok* or drum in the picture belongs to the last half dozen or so specimens left in use at Islamic places of worship around the Sultanate.

The *bedok*, a victim of the microphone and amplifier, is made of a wooden cylinder with an animal-skin drumhead at one head.

It is struck by an elder to call the faithful to worship and to mark important dates on the Islamic calendar. It was also used to an-

nounce a death or calamity in the area it served.

Over the years it has developed its own vocabulary of rhythms which can be heard up to a kilometre and a half way.

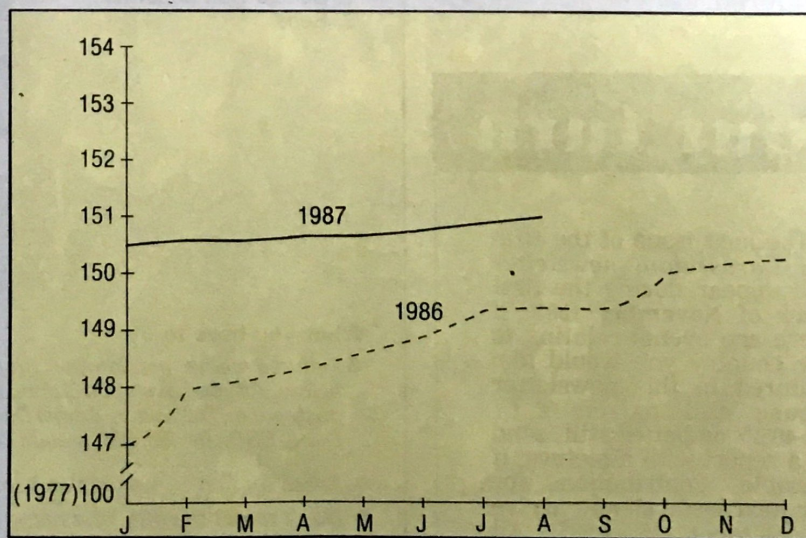
The *bedok*, specimens of which can be found in the museum, have slowly fallen into disuse as the settlements within its vicinity grew and today Muslims in Brunei Darussalam are more familiar with the call of the *bilal* over a public address system.

BRUNEI IN BRIEF

Capital City :	Bandar Seri Begawan
Land size :	5765 sq.km
Population :	222,000 (1985)
Official Language :	Malay
Official Religion :	Islam
August 1987 rainfall :	360.9 mm.
(annual 2,818mm)	

PRIME LENDING RATE

September 6.5%. (quoted by Bankers' Association).



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