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Brunei Darussalam

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Warm welcome for Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia



BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 4th April – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam welcomed the arrival of His Majesty Sultan Ibrahim ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar, Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia at His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's Flight Hangar this morning.

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei; and His Majesty Sultan Ibrahim ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar, Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia at Istana Nurul Iman.

Thousands attend Junjung Ziarah Ceremonies



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam at the Junjung Ziarah Ceremony held on the second day of Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 2nd April – After a five-year of hiatus following the COVID-19 pandemic, His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam resumed the Junjung Ziarah Ceremonies at Istana Nurul Iman to celebrate Hari Raya Aidilfitri 1446H/2025M.

Held on the second and third days of Hari Raya Aidilfitri. The event welcomed a total of 61,888 visitors.

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463 receive State Honorary Medals

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 28th April – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to award State Honorary Medals of Brunei Darussalam to 463 recipients in conjunction with His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's 78th birthday celebration.

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3. His Majesty receives audiences



9. Aidilfitri strengthens unity, fosters stronger bonds



11. His Majesty presents, receives Letters of Credence



14. Efficient implementation foundation for development



17. Pusat Ehsan celebrates Hari Raya Aidilfitri



20. UNDP holds visit to strengthen cooperation



7. Tahlil Ceremony held at Royal Mausoleum



10. His Majesty attends Royal Banquet in Perlis



12. Call to preserve the sanctification of *mushaf* Al-Quran



15. Supporting women's leadership in sports



19. Ministry of Defence receives Official Visit



21. Strengthening international network, upholding Islamic education



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EDITORIAL Advisory Board:

Siti Bismi Nuruliman Awang Emzah
(bismi.emzah@jpm.gov.bn)

Sastra Sarini Haji Julaini
(sarini.julaini@information.gov.bn)

Chief-Editors:

Saadiatul Nur Aqilah Haji Jaman
(aqilah.jaman@information.gov.bn)

Mufidah Abdul Hakim
(mufidah.hakim@information.gov.bn)

Editor:

Nor Hanizah Haji Abd Halim
(hanizah.halim@information.gov.bn)

Text & translation

Syakirah Matusin
(syakirah.matusin@information.gov.bn)

Layouters:

Khairul Shaharim Haji Abdul Ghafor
(shaharim.ghafor@information.gov.bn)

Izma Fatin Farina Abdullah Adi Kamarulzaman
(farina.abdullah@information.gov.bn)

Proofreader:

Nurul Hazwani Abu Omar
(hazwani.omar@information.gov.bn)

Photographs

Photography Unit, Media and Corporate Communications Division, Information Department

General inquiries

Tel: (673) 2383 400

Information Department

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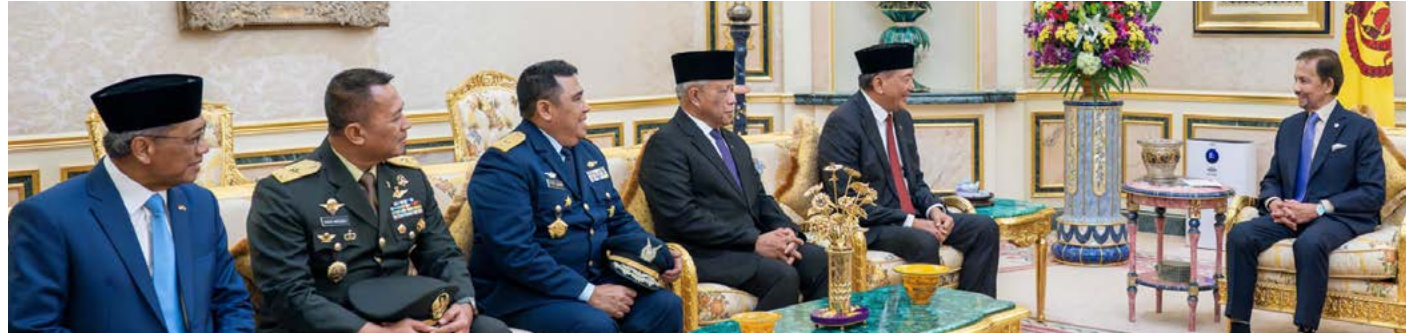
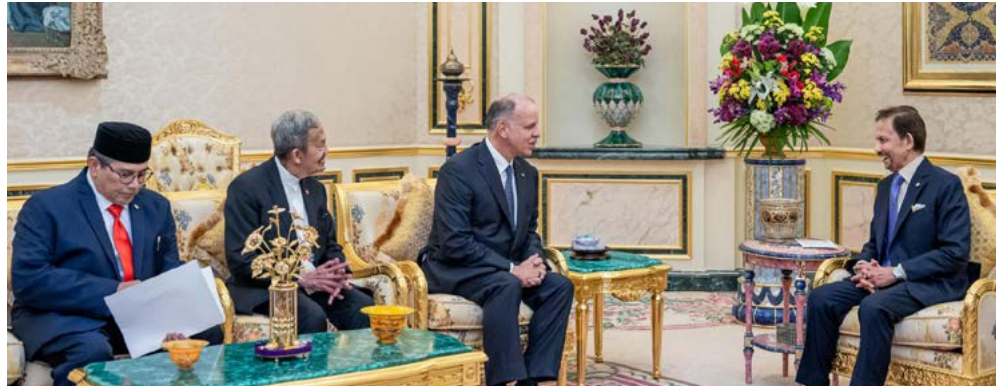


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His Majesty receives audiences

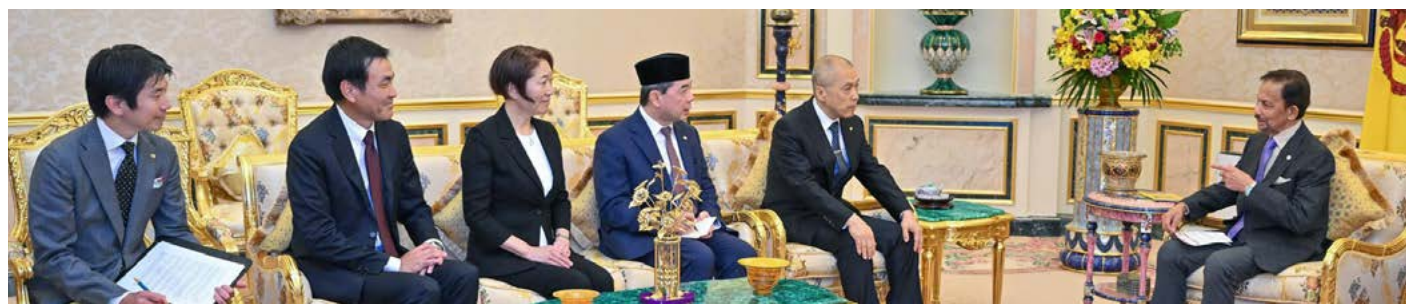
His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received in audience at Istana Nurul Iman:

His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Al-Hussein, President of the Jordan Olympic Committee on 15th April.



Yang Terhormat Lieutenant General TNI (Purn.) Dr. Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Indonesia on 15th April.

His Excellency Alok Amitabh Dimri, outgoing High Commissioner of the Republic of India to Brunei Darussalam on 15th April.



Michiaki Hirose, Chairman of the Japan-Brunei Friendship Association and Senior Corporate Advisor of Tokyo Gas Co. Ltd. on 28th April.



His Excellency Associate Professor Dr. Linkham Douangsavanh, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on 29th April.

Crown Prince receives audiences

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office received in audience at Qashr Al-Meezan:



Her Excellency Pengiran Hairani binti Pengiran Haji Tajuddin, Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to the United Nations in New York, United States of America (left) and Her Excellency Hajah Nor Huda binti Begawan Pehin Khatib Dato Paduka Haji Ahmad, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (right) on 22nd April.



His Excellency Alok Amitabh Dimri, outgoing High Commissioner of the Republic of India to Brunei Darussalam on 19th April.



His Excellency Sun Nahmkook, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam on 22nd April.



Her Excellency Naureen Ahsan, High Commissioner of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam on 22nd April.



His Excellency Datuk Mohd. Aini Atan, High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei Darussalam (left) on 22nd April.



His Excellency Janbaz Khan, Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam (left) on 22nd April.



His Excellency Kikuta Yutaka, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam on 22nd April.



His Excellency Michael Neil Hoy, High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam on 22nd April.



His Excellency Chey Ratha, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Brunei Darussalam (left) on 22nd April.

His Majesty sends messages of condolences

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to send messages of condolences to:

- Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim, Prime Minister of Malaysia; and Yang Amat Berbahagia Tun Datin Jeanne binti Abdullah, spouse of Allahyarham Yang Amat Berbahagia Tun Dato Laila Utama Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, following the passing of Yang Amat Berbahagia Tun Dato Laila Utama Abdullah on 15th April; and
- His Excellency Tharman Shanmugaratnam, President of the Republic of Singapore; the government and people of Singapore, following the passing of Madam Noor Aishah, spouse of Yusof Ishak, the first President of Singapore on 22nd April.

News

Thousands attend Junjung Ziarah Ceremonies (continued)



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and other members of the royal family at the Junjung Ziarah Ceremony held on the third day of Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

From front page

Joining His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at Baitur Rahmah, Istana Nurul Iman were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah; and other members of royal family.

In another section of the palace, Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri was accompanied by Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab. Rahaman; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam at the Junjung Ziarah Ceremony held on the third day of Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah binti Dato Haji Nasir; and other members of royal family.

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Other members of the royal family on the second day of Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

Warm welcome for Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia (continued)

From front page

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam also hosted a Luncheon for His Majesty Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia at Istana Nurul Iman.

The Luncheon saw the attendance of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's son: His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Majesty Sultan Ibrahim ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar, Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Excellency Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Education and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore; His Excellency Minister of State for Ministry of Law and Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Singapore; as well as the Singaporean delegation on the second day of Hari Raya Aidilfitri.



Other members of the royal family on the third day of Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

From page 5

Prior to the Junjung Ziarah Ceremony with the public yesterday afternoon, His Majesty also received in audience His Excellency Dr. Mohamad Maliki bin Osman, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Education and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore; His Excellency Murali Pillai, Minister of State for Ministry of Law and Ministry of Transport of the Republic of Singapore; as well as the rest of the Singaporean delegation.



Tahlil Ceremony held at Royal Mausoleum

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 5th April – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Tahlil Ceremony at the Royal Mausoleum, Jalan Tutong.

The ceremony was held for His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's late parents, Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Muhammad Jamalul Alam and Al-Marhumah Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Damit binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Bendahara Pengiran Anak Abdul Rahman; as well as the Monarch's late son, Al-Marhum His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim.

Accompanying His Majesty were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam pouring *Aying Asah-Asahan* (scented water) onto the tomb of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's late father, Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Muhammad Jamalul Alam at the Tahlil Ceremony.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam pouring *Aying Asah-Asahan* onto the tombs of the Monarch's late mother, Al-Marhumah Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Damit binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Bendahara Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahman (left); and late son, Al-Marhum His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim (right).



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince pouring *Aying Asah-Asahan* onto the tombs of the late members of the royal family.



His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik pouring *Aying Asah-Asahan* onto the tombs of the late members of the royal family.

Tahlil Ceremony held at Royal Mausoleum (continued)



Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

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Peliharakan Sultan.

The recitation of *tahlil* was led by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Seri Utama Dato Paduka Seri Setia Haji Awang Salim bin Haji Besar, followed by *Doa Tahlil* and *Doa Allah*

At the ceremony, His Majesty and the rest of the attending royals poured *Aying Asah-Asahan* (scented water) on the tombs of the late members of the royal family.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah pouring *Aying Asah-Asahan* (scented water) onto the tombs of the late members of the royal family.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah pouring *Aying Asah-Asahan* onto the tombs of the late members of the royal family.

Aidilfitri strengthens unity, fosters stronger bonds



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik, Chairman of the Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Committee of Governors; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah at the Hari Raya Aidilfitri Celebration for the Year 1446H / 2025M.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) during the Hari Raya Aidilfitri Celebration for the Year 1446H / 2025M organised by Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah (YSHHB).

1446H / 2025M the importance of observing the festival in line with Islamic teachings – focusing on unity, mutual respect, and community support.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam welcomed the event's theme, 'Community Unity in Achieving National Aspirations', and stressed that peace and harmony are crucial for national progress.

While acknowledging the impact of globalisation and changing lifestyles, His Majesty urged that cultural traditions be preserved and that community leaders adapt responsibly to modern challenges.

His Majesty expressed hope for effective, organised efforts aligned with Brunei Vision 2035.

Accompanying His Majesty were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik, Chairman of the Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Committee of Governors; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah.

BERAKAS, 12th April – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam emphasised in a *titah* (royal speech) during the Hari Raya Aidilfitri Celebration for the Year

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His Majesty and members of the royal family in a group photo with the participants of the stage performance.



Snippets of the stage performance featuring students from the YSHHB School.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and members of the royal family having a get-together with the participants and touring the exhibition.

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The event organised by Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah (YSHHB) held at the Plenary Hall, International Convention

Centre included a video presentation, a stage performance featuring students from the YSHHB School, and an exhibition featuring 20 agencies promoting national unity and development.

His Majesty attends Royal Banquet in Perlis

PERLIS INDERA KAYANGAN, MALAYSIA, 17th April – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Royal Banquet held in conjunction with the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the reign of His Royal Highness Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin ibni Almarhum Tuanku Syed Putra Jamalullail, the Raja of Perlis, held at Istana Arau.

Upon arrival at the palace, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was welcomed by His Royal Highness Tuanku Syed Faizuddin Putra ibni Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Jamalullail, the Raja Muda of Perlis and Her Royal Highness Tuanku Dr. Hajah Lailatul Shahreen Akashah Khalil, the Raja Puan Muda of Perlis, before proceeding to the Royal Banquet.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam having a friendly conversation with His Royal Highness Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin ibni Almarhum Tuanku Syed Putra Jamalullail, the Raja of Perlis.

The celebration was enlivened with a fireworks display and cultural performances.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the Royal Banquet held in conjunction with the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the reign of His Royal Highness the Raja of Perlis.

His Majesty presents, receives Letters of Credence

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 21st April – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presented Letters of Credence to newly-appointed envoys of Brunei Darussalam, and received Letters of Credence from newly-appointed foreign envoys to Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam first presented the Letters of Credence to Her Excellency Pengiran Hairani binti Pengiran Tajuddin, Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to the United Nations in New York, United States of America; and Her Excellency Hajah Nor Huda binti Begawan Pehin Khatib Dato Paduka Haji Ahmad, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo with the newly-appointed envoys of Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting Letters of Credence to the newly-appointed envoys of Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty receiving Letters of Credence from His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam (left); Her Excellency High Commissioner of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam (right).



His Majesty receiving Letters of Credence from His Excellency High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei Darussalam (left); and His Excellency Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam (right).



His Majesty receiving Letters of Credence from His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam (left); and His Excellency High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam (right).



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His Majesty then received Letters of Credence from His Excellency Sun Nahmkook, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam; Her Excellency Naureen Ahsan, High Commissioner of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam; His Excellency Datuk Mohd. Aini Atan, High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei Darussalam; His Excellency Janbaz Khan, Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam; His Excellency Kikuta Yutaka, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam; His Excellency Michael Neil Hoy, High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam; and His Excellency Chey Ratha, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty receiving Letters of Credence from His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Cambodia to Brunei Darussalam.

Afterwards, His Majesty consented to receive in audience the newly-appointed envoys of Brunei Darussalam, as well as the newly-appointed foreign envoys to Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty receiving in audience the newly-appointed envoys (above and below).



Call to preserve the sanctification of *mushaf* Al-Quran

BERAKAS, 24th April – The National Level Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults Finals 1446 Hijrah/2025 Masihi held in International Convention Centre highlighted the importance of fostering a deep love and understanding of the Al-Quran.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam emphasised in a *titah* (royal speech) that the Al-Quran nurtures sound judgment and integrates spiritual and worldly knowledge.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam stressed the need to protect the authenticity of the Al-Quran by refining regulations and establishing a dedicated law for its publication, aligning with the Rasam Uthmani method.

The event's theme, 'A Healthy Mind with Al-Quran', reinforced the Al-Quran's role in guiding intellect and morality.

His Majesty presented prizes to winners, including cash prizes, hajj and umrah packages, and savings accounts. Awang Ahmad Zulwaqar bin Haji Suhaili and Dayangku Siti Umami Syazana binti Pengiran Haji Marjuki were the top winners in the Qari and Qariah categories, respectively.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) during the National Level Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults Finals 1446 Hijrah/2025 Masihi.

Present alongside His Majesty were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

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Present alongside His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.



His Majesty presenting trophies to the champions of the Qari and Qariah Categories.



His Majesty having a get-together with the people at the event.



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince delivering a *sabda* (royal speech) at the Opening Ceremony for the National Level Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults Finals 1446 Hijrah/2025 Masihi.



His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik accompanying His Royal Highness the Crown Prince during the Opening Ceremony.



His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik attending the second day of the musabaqah.

From page 12

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, who graced the Opening Ceremony for the National Level Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults Finals 1446 Hijrah/2025 Masihi on 22nd April, echoed His Majesty's concerns about digital-era challenges and the need to protect minds and faith through sound religious education. The Crown Prince called for *dakwah* efforts to be wise and for stakeholders to uphold Islamic values through Maqasid Syariah principles.



Yang Berhormat State Mufti reciting the *doa selamat*.

Efficient implementation foundation for development



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the *doa* recitation at the meeting.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 29th April – The Brunei Vision 2035 serves as a comprehensive national framework that guides the country's development strategies and policies with the ultimate aim of achieving a high quality of life, equal opportunities, and a prosperous and harmonious society. It encapsulates three core aspirations: developing a well-educated and highly skilled population, achieving a high standard of living, and fostering a dynamic and sustainable economy. These goals reflect Brunei's forward-thinking ambitions for long-term national success.

Realising this vision demands thorough planning, coordination, and active participation from all sectors of society. Strong implementation strategies and inclusive development are critical to ensuring progress. His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam underscored these principles in a *titah* (royal speech) while chairing the First Meeting of the Wawasan



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) while chairing the First Meeting of the Wawasan Brunei 2035 Supreme Council for the Year 2025 at Istana Nurul Iman.

Brunei 2035 Supreme Council for the Year 2025 at Istana Nurul Iman, highlighting the importance of institutional strength, good governance, and data-driven decision-making as essential pillars for achieving the nation's development goals.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam emphasised that the Council plays a key role in ensuring that development strategies are aligned with Brunei Vision 2035's values — loyalty to the Sultan and country, adherence to Islamic values, and societal harmony. The Council is tasked with ensuring the coherence of national projects and blueprints under the National Development Plan, aligning them with the overarching goals of the vision.

To remain effective amid global and local challenges, development strategies must be flexible and regularly reviewed. His Majesty stressed the need to treat development plans as living documents, adaptable to changing conditions. This dynamic approach ensures the relevance and impact of strategies on economic growth, human capital development, and the overall well-being of the population.

Lastly, the Monarch called for collective efforts across all levels of society, including partnerships with non-governmental sectors, to drive national progress. The Council aims to implement the Brunei Vision 2035 Framework and national Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) transparently and thoroughly. The recent Council meeting also updated the Vision 2035 Framework to better reflect contemporary challenges and to ensure Brunei's development policies remain aligned with current and future needs.



Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office as the Deputy Chairman of the Wawasan Brunei 2035 Supreme Council.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Religious Affairs reciting Surah Al-Faatihah and *doa selamat* during the meeting.

463 receive State Honorary Medals (continued)

From front page

Representing His Majesty for the conferment of the medals was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Crown Prince and Senior Minister at Prime Minister's Office (PMO). Also in attendance at the Balai Singgahsana Indera Kenchana, Istana Nurul Iman was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

Thirteen individuals from the Office of His Majesty (three recipients); and the Ministry of Defence (MinDef) (ten recipients) received the Meritorious Service Medal (PJK).

His Royal Highness then presented the Excellent Service Medal (PIKB) to 449 awardees. The recipients were from the Office of His Majesty (33 recipients); PMO (145 recipients); MinDef (29 recipients); Ministry of Finance and Economy (70 recipients); Ministry of Foreign Affairs (11 recipients); Ministry of Religious Affairs (127 recipients); Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (18 recipients); and the Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications (16 recipients). Meanwhile, one recipient from MinDef was awarded with the Star of Supreme Gallantry.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Crown Prince and Senior Minister at Prime Minister's Office representing His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the ceremony. Also in attendance was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince presenting medals to the recipients.

Name of royal baby announced

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 23rd April – By command of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Office of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam hereby announces that:

granddaughter, the daughter of His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul 'Adawiyah binti Pengiran Haji Bolkiah as Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Nabeelah Najmul Bolqiah binti His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.



Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Nabeelah Najmul Bolqiah binti His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, with great pleasure, has named His Majesty's

granddaughter was born on Wednesday, 10th Syawal 1446 Hijrah, corresponding to 9th April 2025 Masihi, at

6:54 a.m. A 17-gun salute was fired from the compound of Istana Nurul Iman to mark the birth.

Supporting women's leadership in sports

JERUDONG, 14th April – The Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) launched its first Strategic Plan for Women in Sports during the Second Olympic Council of Asia's (OCA) Gender Equity Seminar held from the 14th to 15th April at The Empire Brunei. This aligns with the OCA push for greater gender inclusivity in sports.

In a *sabda* (royal speech), His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of BDNOC and OCA Honorary Executive Member, urged participants to foster tangible outcomes such as partnerships, leadership pathways, and enhanced female participation, stressing the importance of male allyship.

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His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council and the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Honorary Executive Member delivering a *sabda* (royal speech) at the Opening Ceremony for the Second OCA Gender Equity Seminar.

20th Asian Games Fun Run Aichi-Nagoya 2026

JERUDONG, 15th April – His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) and the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Honorary Executive Member joined the 20th Asian Games Fun Run Aichi-Nagoya 2026 at The Empire Brunei.

Joining His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah were His Royal Highness Prince Feisal Al-Hussein, Chair of the Association of National Olympic Committees Gender Equity Commission, and OCA Chair of the Peace and Sport Standing Committee; Mikako Kotani OLY, member of the OCA Executive Board; and Valerie Tarazi OLY, Chair of the OCA Gender Equity Committee.

The event featured several 1.4km and 2.8km race categories, including those for children, veterans, individuals with



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council and the Olympic Council of Asia Honorary Executive Member joining the 20th Asian Games Fun Run Aichi-Nagoya 2026.

different abilities, and open participants. Around 500 runners took part, receiving certificates, with medals awarded to the top 10 finishers.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council and the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) Honorary Executive Member during the Opening Ceremony.

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Themed 'Watch Her Shine', the seminar featured multiple sessions and panel discussions from international speakers, including members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), United Nations, and the Asian the National Olympic Council (NOC), covering gender equity efforts across Asia. Key presentations included the IOC Gender Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (GEDI) Champions Award for Asia, the OCA Gender Equity Road Map 2024–2027, and national case studies from Kyrgyz Republic, Islamic Republic of Iran, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and Brunei Darussalam.

With the support of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, the seminar welcomed 88 participants from 43 NOCs, with 19 speakers. A Welcome Dinner hosted by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah closed the first day's events.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah at the Welcome Dinner for the seminar's participants.



His Royal Highness Prince Feisal Al-Hussein, Chair of the Association of National Olympic Committees Gender Equity Commission, and Chair of the Peace and Sport Standing Committee of OCA delivering his speech at the Opening Ceremony (above); and Mikako Kotani OLY, member of the OCA Executive Board delivering her welcoming speech (left).

Pusat Ehsan celebrates Hari Raya Aidilfitri



Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Chair of Pusat Ehsan Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam (Pusat Ehsan), and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Bahar ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah attending Pusat Ehsan's Hari Raya Aidilfitri Celebration.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 13th April – Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Chair of Pusat Ehsan Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam (Pusat Ehsan), and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Bahar ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah attended Pusat Ehsan's Hari Raya Aidilfitri Celebration.

Also in attendance at the event were Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health; and Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Nazmi bin Haji Awang Mohamad, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

Dr. Murali Rao and Dr. Sumaya Rao also delivered a replica cheque, representing a \$10,000 donation to Pusat Ehsan, to Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah.

The event was hosted by Dr. Murali Rao and Dr. Sumaya Rao, dental practitioners at Premier Dental and Orthodontic Centre.

The ceremony was further enlivened by a variety of games and fun activities for the students.

Doa Selamat, Kesyukuran Ceremony for Her Royal Highness

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 10th April – A Doa Selamat and Kesyukuran Ceremony for the Istiadat Bersiram of Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, on the occasion of the birth of Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Daniya Rahmatul Bolkiah binti Pengiran Suami Abdullah Al-Hashimi took place at the surau of Istana Nurul Iman.

The ceremony was held in the presence of Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Maharaja Setia Laila Diraja Sahibul Irshad Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim bin Pengiran Indera Mahkota Pengiran Anak (Dr.) Kemaludin Al-Haj.

The recitation of Surah Al-Faatihah was led by Yang Dimuliakan Begawan Pehin Khatib Dato Paduka Awang Haji Hamidon bin Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Hamid. This was followed by the *Zikir Syarafil Anam* and *Zikir Marhaban*.

At the verse of '*Ya Habibi*', a 17-gun salute was released at the compound of the Istana Nurul Iman.



A 17-gun salute released at the compound of the Istana Nurul Iman.



The Doa Selamat and Kesyukuran Ceremony for the Istiadat Bersiram of Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, on the occasion of the birth of Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Daniya Rahmatul Bolkiah binti Pengiran Suami Abdullah Al-Hashimi taking place in the presence of Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Maharaja Setia Laila Diraja Sahibul Irshad Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim bin Pengiran Indera Mahkota Pengiran Anak (Dr.) Kemaludin Al-Haj.



The ceremony taking place at the surau of Istana Nurul Iman.

The *doa selamat* was read by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Paduka Seri Utama Dato Paduka Seri Setia Haji Awang Salim bin Haji Besar.

LegCo Speaker receives courtesy calls



Yang Berhormat Speaker of the Legislative Council (LegCo) receiving separate courtesy calls from Her Excellency British High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam (left); and His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Brunei Darussalam (right).

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 30th April – Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, Speaker of the Legislative Council (LegCo) received separate courtesy calls from Her Excellency Alexandra McKenzie, British High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam; and His Excellency Mohammad Taghi Rajabi, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Brunei Darussalam earlier this morning.

The discussion with Her Excellency British High Commissioner, among others, touched on aspects of cooperation in education, defence and exchange of visits, as well as strong ties at various levels, including people-to-people connections. They also exchanged views on the importance of developments in communication technology in strengthening government-community relations, and explored potential cooperation between parliaments.

Meanwhile, during the courtesy call with His Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran, both parties exchanged views on the importance of peace in addressing global issues; expressed hope for lasting peace and stability through continuous effort in negotiation and dialogue; and explored plans for parliamentary cooperation.

Previously, on 26th April, the Speaker of LegCo received another courtesy call from Antoine Ripoll, Minister-Counsellor of Parliamentary Affairs at the European Union (EU) Delegation to ASEAN.



Yang Berhormat Speaker of LegCo during the courtesy call from the Minister-Counsellor of Parliamentary Affairs at the European Union (EU) Delegation to ASEAN.

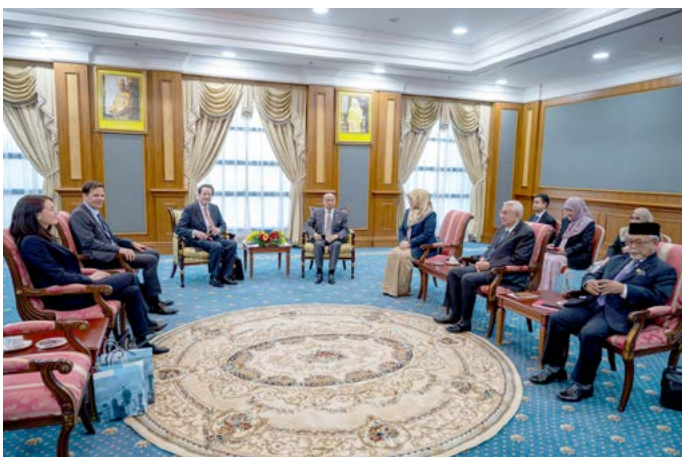
The discussions focused on the strong ties between EU and ASEAN, as well as efforts to further strengthen cooperation. Both sides also highlighted the importance of expanding people-to-people engagement, particularly by creating greater opportunities for youth.

On 19th April, The Honorary Thomas Aeschi, Member of the National Council and Chairperson of the Swiss Confederation's Parliamentary Delegation to the European Free Trade Association and EU also paid a courtesy call to the Speaker of LegCo.

The delegation comprised His Excellency Frank Grütter, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Switzerland to Brunei Darussalam; and Dr. Regula Kurzbein, Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Switzerland in the Republic of Singapore.

The discussions touched on issues of mutual concern and interest, including the role of legislative institutions, as well as opportunities for cooperation. The meeting also provided a platform to exchange experiences and best practices in further strengthening inter-parliamentary relations.

All of the courtesy calls took place at the LegCo building, with the attendance of Dr. Dayang Hajah Huraini binti Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Jaya Dato Paduka Awang Haji Hurairah, Clerk to the Privy Council and Clerk to LegCo. Following the meeting with The Honorary Thomas Aeschi, the delegation also visited the LegCo Conference Hall.



Yang Berhormat Speaker of LegCo during the courtesy call from The Honorary member of the National Council and Chairperson of the Swiss Confederation's Parliamentary Delegation to the European Free Trade Association and EU.

Hari Raya Aidilfitri: Singaporean Minister pays goodwill visits



His Excellency Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, Second Minister for Education and Second Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore, and spouse paying Hari Raya Aidilfitri goodwill visit to the State Mufti (left); and Yang Berhormat Minister of Religious Affairs (right).

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 3rd April – His Excellency Dr. Mohamad Maliki bin Osman, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), Second Minister for Education and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore, and spouse, Madamme Sadiyah Sahal, paid Hari Raya Aidilfitri goodwill visits to Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia (Dr.) Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, State Mufti on 2nd April, and to Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato

Paduka Haji Awang Othman, Minister of Religious Affairs earlier today.

Also present were His Excellency Murali Pillai, Minister of State for Law and Ministry of Transport of Republic of Singapore, and spouse; Fahmi Aliman, Mayor of the South East District, and spouse; Rachel Ong, Member of the Parliament for West Coast Group Representation Constituency; and other members of the Singaporean delegation.

Ministry of Defence receives Official Visit

BOLKIAH GARRISON, 15th April – The Ministry of Defence received an Official Visit from Yang Terhormat Lieutenant General TNI (Purn.) Dr. Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Indonesia.

Upon arrival at the ministry, the Minister of Defence of the Republic of Indonesia was welcomed by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Second Minister of Defence. Yang Terhormat then received a General Salute and inspected the Guard of Honour, comprising personnel from the Royal Brunei Land Forces. Yang Terhormat also paid a courtesy call to the Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Defence.



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Defence welcoming the arrival of Yang Terhormat Minister of Defence of the Republic of Indonesia.

Renewal of Brunei-Oman MoU on media collaboration

MUSCAT, THE SULTANATE OF OMAN, 29th April – Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Second Minister of Defence signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on media collaboration between Brunei Darussalam and the Sultanate of Oman during a three-day Working Visit to the Sultanate of Oman from 28th to 30th April.

The signing, which took place at the Ministry of Information in Muscat, was part of the activities held to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Brunei-Oman diplomatic ties in 2024. The event marks the MoU's third renewal, through which both parties will strengthen collaboration in exchanges of radio, television and news materials; programmes of common interest; expertise; and capacity-building initiatives.

Prior to the signing, the Minister at the PMO and Second Minister of Defence paid a courtesy call to His Excellency Dr. Abdullah bin Nasser, Minister of Information of Oman. The signing was then



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Defence signing the Memorandum of Understanding on media collaboration between Brunei Darussalam and the Sultanate of Oman.

followed by a tour to the Oman TV studios.

The Minister also scheduled to visit the Muscat Book Fair and several key cultural sites in Oman. The Minister was accompanied by Awang Ajman bin Haji Meludin, Permanent Secretary (Civil Service Governance) at PMO throughout the visit.

Healthy lifestyle: Foundation for a brighter future

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 7th April – On every 7th April, the world, including Brunei Darussalam, celebrates World Health Day. This year's theme, 'Healthy Beginnings, Hopeful Futures', highlighting the importance of maternal and newborn health as a foundation for better future. The focus is on reducing preventable deaths and improving long-term outcomes for women and children.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health emphasised Brunei Darussalam's achievements in maternal health, with a maternal mortality ratio of 15.9 per 100,000 births in 2023, meeting global targets under Sustainable Development Goal 3.1.

Despite progress, rising chronic diseases among young women pose challenges. To address this, Brunei provides comprehensive and free maternal and child healthcare, including vaccinations, nutrition, postnatal care, and home visits. In 2024, the Pertussis vaccine was introduced during pregnancy to protect newborns.

Child health services also remain strong, with over 95 per cent immunisation coverage for children under five, supported by the National Immunisation Expansion Programme, which added the Pneumococcal Conjugate Vaccine in 2025. The Minister reaffirmed the nation's commitment to evidence-based, accessible healthcare for all.

BECS: Towards a safer, better-prepared nation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 27th April – The Brunei Emergency Care Society (BECS) was officially launched on 27th April, marking a significant step towards enhancing Brunei Darussalam's emergency healthcare sector.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health highlighted BECS as a multidisciplinary, independent body focused on education,

training, public awareness, research, international collaboration, and emergency preparedness. Its mission supports national health strategies by fostering a skilled healthcare workforce and improving patient care.

The launch event featured speeches, exhibitions, and the conferment of lifetime memberships, emphasising BECS's role in building a safer, more resilient nation.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health delivering a speech during the Launching Ceremony of the Brunei Emergency Care Society.

UNDP holds visit to strengthen cooperation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 22nd April – Kanni Wignaraja, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Regional Director for Asian and the Pacific at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is visiting the country for high-level talks to strengthen the UNDP-Brunei partnership in achieving future-ready, sustainable, and inclusive growth.

During her meeting with Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohd. Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy, discussions focused on deepening the partnership to keep Brunei Darussalam on track toward its goals. The meeting highlighted the key role of the Sustainable Development Goals in driving economic transformation, inclusive growth, and enhancing national capacity. Progress was also noted in supporting youth entrepreneurship and advancing climate action through innovative financing solutions.

The visit also includes engagement with stakeholders from the



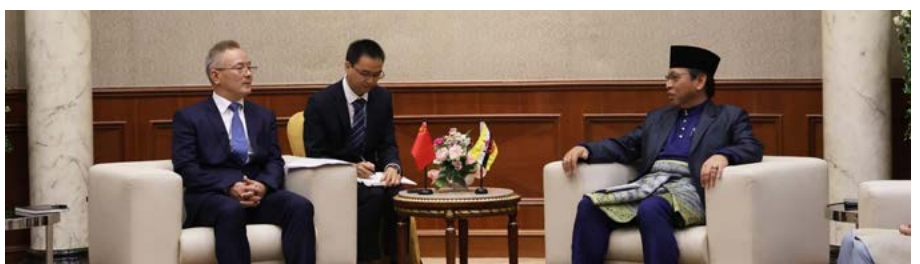
Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy during the meeting with the Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Regional Director for Asian and the Pacific at the United Nations Development Programme.

government, youth and private sectors to foster dialogue on shared priorities and explore new areas for strategic cooperation.

Strengthening bilateral cooperation in public security

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 3rd April – A high-level delegation from Ministry of Public Security of the People's Republic of China, led by His Excellency Dai Binbin, Vice-Governor of Shanxi Province and Director of the Public Security Department of Shanxi Province, made their first official visit to Brunei Darussalam on 27th to 30th March, at the invitation of the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

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His Excellency Vice-Governor of Shanxi Province and Director of the Public Security Department of Shanxi Province and Yang Mulia Deputy Minister (Security and Law) at the Prime Minister's Office during the courtesy call.

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During the visit, the delegation held bilateral discussions and courtesy calls with Yang Mulia Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Sufian bin Haji Sabtu, Deputy Minister (Security and Law) at PMO and Dato Seri Pahlawan Awang Sulaiman bin Alidin, Acting Commissioner of the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF).

They also visited the RBPF Museum and Pusat Al-Islah, where they met with Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd. Zalani bin Haji Ismail, Director of the Narcotics Control Bureau. The visit reinforced ongoing security cooperation between both countries.



The delegation conducting Official Visit to security and enforcement agencies in Brunei Darussalam.

Oman Publications Corner marks diplomatic milestone

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 17th April – The Oman Publications Corner was officially launched at the Islamic Library of Brunei Darussalam, State Mufti's Office, marking a milestone in the 40th anniversary of diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Sultanate of Oman.

The corner features over 500 books, showcasing Oman's rich heritage in the fields of history, geography, culture, literature and traditions. It also includes academic works in Arabic, language studies, Islamic jurisprudence and other Islamic disciplines, serving as a resource for researchers, students and the public.

Present at the launching were Yang Mulia Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Japar bin Haji Mat Dain @ Maidin, Deputy State Mufti; and Her Excellency Erma Said Mohamed Al Kathiry, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam.



Yang Mulia Deputy State Mufti; and Her Excellency Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam at the launching.

Signing of MoU to deepen academic, research collaborations

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 7th April – Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) and Curtin University Malaysia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to deepen their academic and research collaborations.

The signing ceremony was held at UBD, with Dr. Hazri bin Haji Kifle, Vice-Chancellor of UBD; and Professor Dr. Vincent Lee Chieng Chen, Chief Executive Officer of Curtin University Malaysia representing their respective institutions.

Present to witness the signing were Dr. Haji Abdul Hanif bin Dato Paduka Haji Mahadi, Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Research, Innovation and Sustainability) of UBD; and Professor Dr. Tuong-Thuy Vu, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and Science at Curtin University Malaysia.



Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam and Chief Executive Officer of Curtin University Malaysia representing their respective institutions during the signing.

Strengthening international network, upholding Islamic education

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 30th April – Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA) has strengthened its international partnerships by signing Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS) and the Markfield Institute of Higher Education (MIHE), in line with its Strategic Plan 2024–2028.

The MoU with OCIS was signed by Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, Rector of UNISSA; and Dr. Farhan Ahmad Nizami, Director of OCIS, following bilateral discussions on advancing Islamic education globally.



The Rector of Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali exchanging documents with the Director of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS).

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Additionally, the Rector of UNISSA participated in a roundtable discussion with His Excellency Dr. Tawfig Al-Rabiah, Minister of Hajj and Umrah of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, on global ummah development. The MoU with MIHE

aims to boost academic and research collaboration internationally.

The Rector of Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali signing the Memorandum of Understanding at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies (OCIS) Gallery Room with the Director of the OCIS.



UBD bags 2025 Babson Collaborative Spotlight Award

PARIS, FRENCH REPUBLIC, 11th April – Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) received the 2025 Babson Collaborative Spotlight Award at the Babson Collaborative Global Summit, becoming the first Asian institution to earn this distinction.

The award, granted by Babson College (USA), honours excellence in entrepreneurship education within its global network. UBD was recognised for its innovative 'EntreMasterclass' programme, which has engaged 453 staff members with high satisfaction rates.

Dr. Masairol bin Haji Masri, Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Industry Engagement and Enterprise Development) at UBD accepted the award alongside a UBD delegation. UBD joined the Babson Collaborative in 2022, and this year's summit, themed around global innovation through collaboration, hosted 78 delegates from 48 institutions in 31 countries.



Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Industry Engagement and Enterprise Development) at Universiti Brunei Darussalam in a group photo with the rest of the delegation from UBD.

BFI receives IFC recognition

BARCELONA, KINGDOM OF SPAIN, 8th April – Brunei Fertilizer Industries Sdn. Bhd. (BFI) has been honoured with the IFA Industry Stewardship Champion (IFC), award by the International Fertilizer Association (IFA), in recognition of its strong commitment to safety, environmental responsibility, and sustainable.

The award was presented at the IFA Cultivating Tomorrow 2025 Conference in Barcelona. BFI joins a select group of global companies that meet IFA's rigorous standards and international certifications.

The Acting Deputy Chief Executive Officer of the Brunei Fertilizer Industries Sdn. Bhd., and Head of Operations of BFI receiving the award.



BSI indicates steady business conditions

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 17th April – The Brunei Darussalam Central Bank's (BSI) for February shows mixed business sentiment, with the Current Business Conditions sub-index at 50, indicating neutral outlook overall. While some businesses benefited from festive sales and new projects, others cited negative factors like a shorter working month, project delays, and post-holiday slowdowns.

The one-month ahead index rose slightly to 50.3, reflecting optimism from expected demand during Ramadan and Hari Raya. Despite some anticipating a slowdown, promotional efforts and new projects are expected to support business performance.

Investment sentiment remained neutral at 50 for February but rose slightly to 50.1 for one and three months ahead, driven by plans for new projects and festive inventory restocking.

Employment sub-index stood at 50.6, reflecting active hiring, especially in medium and large companies across various

sectors. It dipped slightly to 50.3 for March, but hiring is expected to continue.

Cost sub-index remained at 49.8, with lower costs attributed to reduced activity and cost-cutting. A further decrease is anticipated due to reduced operating hours in Ramadan.

By sector - only wholesale and retail trade showed optimism (50.1) due to festive sales. Five sectors, including agriculture, construction, health and education, transport, and other private services, reported pessimism due to weather, low demand, and seasonal effects. The remaining sectors remained neutral.

By business size - micro, medium, and large businesses maintained stable sentiment. Small businesses were more pessimistic, citing fewer working days, weather disruptions, and reduced post-Chinese New Year demand.

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Current Business Conditions February 2025 by Sector	
Wholesale & Retail Trade	50.1
Finance & Insurance	50.0
Oil and Gas Related	50.0
Real Estate & Ownership of Dwellings	50.0
Manufacturing	50.0
Hotels & Restaurants	50.0
Other Private Services	49.9
Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries & Livestock	49.9
Construction	49.8
Health & Education	49.5
Transport & Communication	49.2

CPI records 0.5% y-o-y decrease in March 2025

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 23rd April

– The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in March recorded a decrease of 0.5 per cent compared to March 2024, driven by declines of 0.6 per cent in the food and non-alcoholic beverages index; and 0.5 per cent in the non-food index.

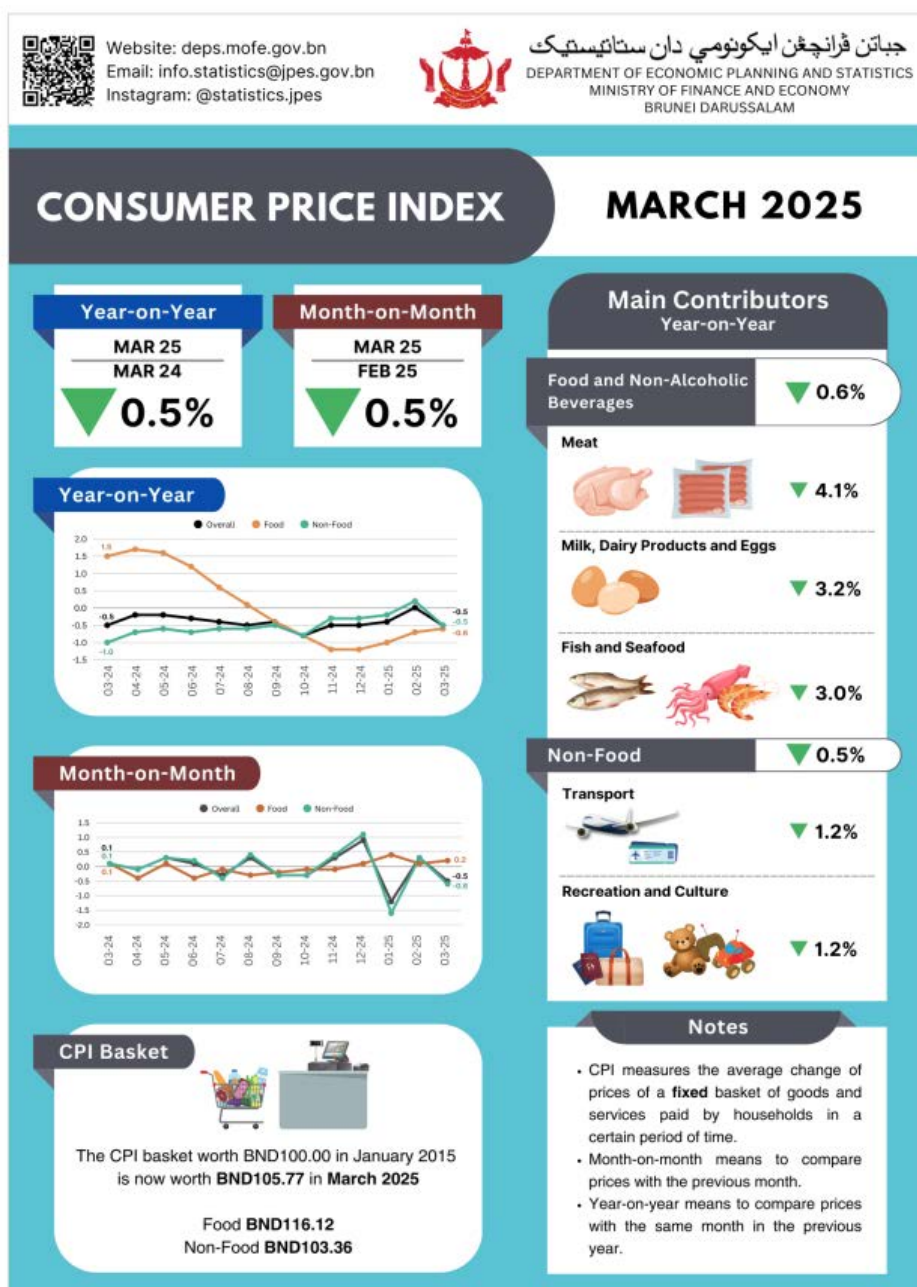
The decrease in the food and non-alcoholic beverages index was mainly contributed by lower meat prices (4.1 per cent), particularly chicken meat, following the implementation of the seasonal maximum price setting.

Additionally, the decrease in fish and seafood prices (3.0 per cent) was caused by a fall in fresh fish prices from supplying countries.

As for the non-food index, the decrease was driven by a decline in transport prices, particularly motor cars and airfares; and recreation and culture, mainly contributed by lower prices of package holidays.

On a month-on-month basis, the CPI in March decreased by 0.5 per cent compared to February. This was driven by a 0.6 per cent decline in the non-food index, while the food and non-alcoholic beverages index recorded an increase of 0.2 per cent.

The decrease in the non-food index was primarily driven by lower prices of clothing and footwear (8.4 per cent); and transport (0.4 per cent). Meanwhile, the increase in the food and non-alcoholic beverages index was mainly contributed by higher prices of vegetables (3.8 per cent); and fruits (1.3 per cent).



Total trade for February: \$1,794.2 million

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, 26th April – The total trade for February amounted to \$1,794.2 million, comprising exports valued at \$1,130.0 million and imports at \$664.2 million.

The major contributors to the export value were mineral fuels, accounting for 68.6 per cent; followed by chemicals at 26.0 per cent; and machinery and transport equipment at 3.4 per cent.

The main export markets were the People's Republic of China, accounting for 24.8 per cent; followed by Japan at 22.8 per cent; and Australia at 22.7 per cent, respectively. The largest export commodities to these countries were mineral fuels and chemicals.

Meanwhile, imports were valued at \$664.2 million. The three main import commodities were mineral fuels, accounting for 70.7

per cent; followed by machinery and transport equipment at 8.8 per cent; and food at 7.7 per cent. The largest import partners were Malaysia, accounting for 39.1 per cent; followed by the United Arab Emirates at 17.1 per cent; and the Independent State of Papua New Guinea at 10.9 per cent. The main import commodities from these trading partners were mineral fuels, food as well as chemicals.

Compared to January, the trade balance in February fell by 9.9 per cent. This was driven by a fall in both exports and imports by 8.1 per cent and 6.8 per cent, respectively.

The imports by end-use category were mainly used as intermediate goods processing, accounting for 62.0 per cent; followed by capital goods for business operations at 34.7 per cent; and consumption goods for household use at 3.3 per cent.



Website: deps.mofe.gov.bn
Email: info.statistics@jpes.gov.bn
Instagram: [@statistics.jpes](https://www.instagram.com/statistics.jpes)



جباتن فرانچغن ايكونومي دان ستاتيستيك
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC PLANNING AND STATISTICS
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

INTERNATIONAL MERCHANDISE TRADE STATISTICS FEBRUARY 2025

BND Million

