

بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

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His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, receiving a royal salute soon after His Majesty's arrival at the oath reading ceremony (left), while picture on the right shows the Brunei ruler listening to a briefing during his visit to the 1 Squadron of the Royal Brunei Air Force in Berakas.

HM Sultan receives pledge of loyalty from RBPF and visits Sultanate's Air Force

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented to witness the oath reading ceremony by the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF) on February 16 and visited the Sultanate's Air Force two days later.

The oath reading ceremony which was held at the Drill Ground of the RBPF's Training Centre in Gadong was organised in conjunction with the Silver Jubilee of His Majesty's accession to the throne.

Also present at the ceremony were Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, the Commandant of the Women's Police Unit and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Nor'ain, the Deputy Commandant.

On arrival, His Majesty who is also the Inspector General of the

RBPF was greeted by a royal salute mounted by 200 personnel. The monarch later inspected the royal guard-of-honour and the parade. One thousand and five hundred officials and junior members of the police force, the RBPF's royal colours and band as well as police vehicles' Column took part in the parade.

Led by the Commissioner of Police, Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Abu Bakar, the force pledged their undivided loyalty to His Majesty and to uphold the laws of the country in line with the teachings of Islam. They also pledged to maintain the sovereignty of the country, the religion and its people. This was soon followed by three cheers of "Daulat Kebawah Duli Tuan Patek".

His Majesty later consented to receive the text of the oath from the Commissioner of Police. This was followed by the 'doa selamat' read

by the Deputy State Mufti, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned.

From the Drill Ground, His Majesty later proceeded to the Officer's Mess where he consented to sign the visitor's book and received the 'junjung ziarah' from senior officials and representatives of branches and units of the force.

Also present at the function were the Permanent Secretaries of the Prime Minister's Office, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Ustaz Awang Haji Badaruddin bin Pengarah Haji Othman, Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Ahmad and Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd. Alimin.

History of RBPF

The early planning and formation
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BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

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YOUR TURN

The next issue of the Brunei Darussalam newsletter will appear on 15 March, 1993. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel: 02-225941 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. All editorial rights reserved.

Better linkage between entrepreneurs and retailers

Products have to be more marketable

One of the main tasks of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources is to develop the small and medium-size industries in the country, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry said this week.

If there is no linkage between those industries and the distribution and marketing sectors, then the growth of such industries would not meet their "sustainability" objective, Dato Paduka Malai Ali Said, Monday 15 February, at the Local Food Fair 1993 in one of the leading stores in Bandar Seri Begawan.

The Ministry which is well aware of this, is now making plans to enhance marketing, one of the implementation strategies which supports the growth of small and medium-size industries. The Local Food Fair 1993 is one such efforts in that direction, said the Permanent Secretary.

"We see encouraging development in the food industry. Various food products have been produced with the use of moderate-scale technology which is suitable with the rate of production or affordability. But I

regret to learn that a large part of these products failed to be marketed in the main supermarkets of this country. These products could only be sold in small shops or through the individuals."

Unsatisfactory packaging, low-quality products and the reluctance of entrepreneurs to assure "continuity of supply" and not least the ignorance on the part of entrepreneurs to liaise with the management of the supermarket, are some of the reasons for such a predicament, Dato Paduka Malai Ali added.

The Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources recently held a briefing session to upgrade the understanding of such entrepreneurs on matters such as how to market their food products in supermarkets and various other related matters.

The Permanent Secretary hoped the knowledge and experience gained by the entrepreneurs would be put into the best possible use in the planning to develop the growth of their industries.



The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, Dato Paduka Malai Ali Shortly after opening the Local Food Fair 1993.

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of the Brunei Police Force took place between 1906 and late 1920. The RBPF continues to grow from a small force when it started on 1 January 1921, until today when it has become well-equipped.

During its early days, the force was also responsible in carrying out the duties of the Department of Prison, Immigration, Land Transport and the Fire Brigade. Only later in 1954 and 1961, the force was relieved from those responsibilities when separate departments were established.

The Brunei Police Force created a significant history in 1962 when it succeeded in upholding the country's sovereignty from the threat of the rebellion even though four were killed in the revolt. To honour the service of the force, the late Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien bestowed sixteen medals, including four who received through "post-homous".

On 23 September 1965, the late Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien consented to confer the title "Diraja" or "Royal" to the force and thereafter known as the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF).

On 14 August 1971, His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Hassan

Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to bestow the force with royal colours and become the Inspector General of the force.

On 23 September 1974, His Majesty consented to appoint his brother, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah as the Honorary Commissioner of Police. During the same year, the ruler appointed Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna as the Commandant of the Women's Police Unit, while Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Nor'ain was appointed the Deputy Commandant.

RBPF continues to develop in line with the development of the country and consistent with its society which has made progress and advances. The force joined the International Police (INTERPOL) and ASEAN Police Organisation (ASEANAPOL) soon after independence. The force established bilateral relations with neighbouring countries in order to upgrade regional cooperation, so as to reduce the number of criminal activities or identify it earlier.

On 19 November 1992, RBPF sent several of its members to participate in the peacekeeping force under

the supervision of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC). They are expected to carry out their duties in Cambodia for a period of six to nine months.

Meanwhile on February 18, the Royal Brunei Air Force, one of the five major divisions of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) came under the monarch's scrutiny at its bases at the Brunei International Airport and at Berakas Garrison.

His Majesty who is the Defence Minister as well as the Supreme Commander of the RBAF in his half-day visit, observed closely the air force facilities which included the Air Technical Training School, a Pilot basic Training School, Parachute Airborne Tactical Delivery Unit and logistics section.

His Majesty, in his flying suit arrived at the air force base at the Brunei International Airport by helicopter. He was welcomed by the RBAF's Commander, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Indera Setia Major-General Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Sulaiman and the Commander of the Royal Brunei Air Force, Lieutenant Colonel Dato Paduka Haji Ibrahim.

The Royal Brunei Air Force consists of five operation units namely Squadron 1, Squadron 2, Squadron 3,

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Government is committed to promoting tourism industry to diversify economy

The Government is committed in careful development of tourism industry in this country in order to promote economic diversification and to enhance the socio-economic lives of the people in the Sultanate.

In a speech delivered at the Japanese tourism language course, the Director of the Economic Development Board, Dayangku Hajjah Urai bte Pengiran Ali, also said that specific attention however must be given to prevent the cultural erosion of Brunei's rich heritage.

"The Economic Development Board, Ministry of Finance, is also committed in ensuring the efficiency

and professionalism within the tourism sectors to be upgraded. Several courses have been conducted whereby recently EDB has completed organising the Travel Agency operation and Tour Guide Operation Course, which are funded by the European Community through ASEAN-SCOT. Judging by the response given, it showed that tourism activities have been accepted by tourism operators as a viable economic activity in Brunei Darussalam."

The Director was speaking at the official opening ceremony of the one-month course of Japanese Tourism Language, the second so far, orga-

nised joined by the ASEAN Promotion Centre Japan, and the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources and EDB, February 15.

Ecotourism

On ecotourism which the Government has identified as having the potential to be promoted and pursued, she said: ".....the Government has developed a number of recreational areas as tourist attractions, it is hoped that more initiatives will be taken by tourism-related sectors by

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Left: Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, the Commandant of Women's Police Unit and Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Nor'ain, the Deputy Commandant, receive "junjung ziarah" from members of the unit. Below: The Commissioner of Police, Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Abdul Rahman, accompanied by the Deputy Commissioner, Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Ya'akub, the Director of Operations, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Indera Perkasa Pengiran Haji Hamdan, and Head of Special Unit, Pengiran Datin Hajjah Noralam, led the reading of the oath of loyalty, while picture far below shows members of the Police Reserved Unit taking part in the parade.

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Squadron 4, and Squadron 5. These units are assisted by minor units.

His Majesty's first visit was at the Air Technical Training School where the ruler was introduced to senior officials of the Royal Brunei Air Force. At the school, His Majesty heard a briefing by the Royal Brunei Air Force Commander, signed a visitor's book and consented to receive a souvenir.

The Air Technical Training School plays an important role in the air force as it offers trainings since early 1980s, among others on navigation, laws and aircraft technical course.

His Majesty later proceeded to watch a static exhibition about the Sultanate's air force, staged outside the school's building. The monarch then toured the administration office of Squadron 3 and Squadron 2.

Squadron 3 of the Royal Brunei Air Force provides training of local pilots. Known as the Pilot Basic Training School, it was opened in February 1982



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and conducted pilot training on 'Fixed Wing' and 'Rotary Wing'.

Meanwhile Squadron 2 of the air force was formed in 1981 and has six Bolkow Bo 105 helicopters which are equipped with machine guns and rockets.

From the Brunei International Airport air base, His Majesty flew to Squadron 1 of the Royal Brunei Air Force base at Berakas Camp, to visit other facilities which included a repair section, engine bay and ground support equipment workshop. His Majesty also consented to meet the air force pilots.

Squadron 1 conducts tactical operations in the air deployment of troop and its military equipment as well as provides air services to several government agencies. It also provides a 24-hour service to shift patients and conducts searching and rescuing services.

Before proceeding to the logistics section, His Majesty toured the Parachute Airborne Tactical Delivery Unit. Formed in 1978, the unit is responsible in providing trainings in delivery works to assist the land and forest ranger forces.

The monarch concluded his half-a-day visit to the Officers' Mess in Berakas Garrison for a group photo and granted an audience to the air force personnel.



Far Above: His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam observing closely one of the facilities provided at the 1 Squadron of Royal Brunei Air Force at Berakas, and viewing other equipments displayed during his visit to the Squadron (above). Picture on the left shows the monarch taking a close look at facilities provided at the Parachute Airborne Tactical Delivery Unit, while listening to a briefing by the Commander of the Royal Brunei Air Force, Lieutenant Colonel Dato Paduka Awang Haji Ibrahim bin Haji Mohammad.

Envoys on postings to Brunei



His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented to receive the credentials of seven new non-resident foreign ambassadors and high commissioners to Brunei Darussalam.

His Excellency Manuel Uribe Castaneda, the Ambassador of Mexico, His Excellency Anibal Enrique Quinonez, the Ambassador

of Honduras and Swaziland's High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, His Royal Highness Prince David Dlamini presented their credentials on January 26.

His Excellency Manuel Uribe Castaneda, based in Singapore since 1990, holds a degree in business administration from the Universidad Iberoamericana, a masters degree in public administration from Harvard University and has completed the course work for a doctorate in eco-

nomics at the Harvard University.

His Majesty later received the credential of the 43-year-old Honduran Ambassador.

The Honduran diplomat is also his country's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Japan. Prior to his current appointment, His Excellency was Counsellor for the Embassy of Honduras to France and Israel (1980), Charge of Affairs for his country in Uruguay and Paraguay, as well as First Secretary and

The Argentinian Ambassador, HE Eduardo Alberto Sadous (above left); Finland's Ambassador, HE Ilkka Vilbo Ruso (above right) and below, HE Anibal Enrique Quinonez, the Honduran Ambassador presenting their credentials to His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at Istana Nurul Iman.



As envoy of Senegal



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Excellency Ahmed El Mansour Diop, Ambassador of the Senegalese Republic, as a special envoy of the Senegalese President.



estly The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam receiving the credentials of the Mexican Ambassador, His Excellency Uribe Castaneda and Norwegian Ambassador, HE Odd Lauritz Fosseidbraten, above left and above right respectively. The Brunei sh also received the credentials of Papua New Guinea's High Commissioner, HE Alan Ine'e Oaisa (below); and the High ss oner of Swaziland, His Royal Highness Prince David Dlamini (bottom of page).

Cultural Affairs Attache of his country in the Republic of Argentina.

The 40-year-old Swaziland envoy is also his country's High Commissioner to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Malaysia, India and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Japan since 1991. His Excellency is also Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Korea and the Republic of China since 1990.

Meanwhile, His Excellency Alan Ine'e Oaisa, the

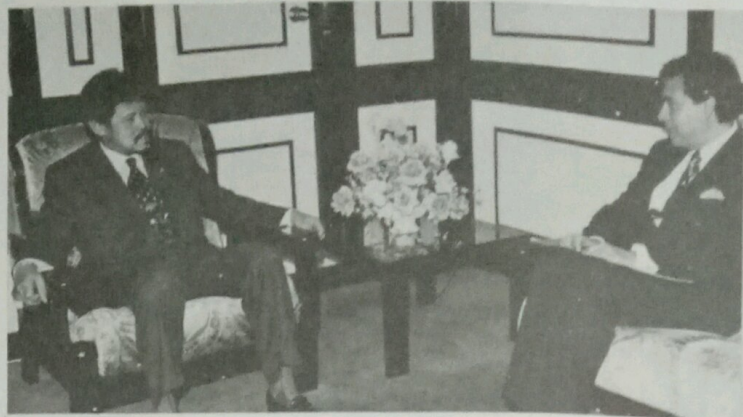
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Legal's president



Brussalam has also recently granted an audience to His Republic of Senegal to India. His Excellency was in Brunei nt, His Excellency Abdou Diouf.





Left: HRH Prince Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, Brunei Darussalam's Minister of Foreign Affairs greeting the Finnish Ambassador, HE Ilkka Vilbo Ruso and above, having discussion with HE Anibal Enrique Quinonez, the Honduran Ambassador.

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High Commissioner of Papua New Guinea and His Excellency Ilkka Vilbo Ruso, the Ambassador of Finland presented their credentials to His Majesty on January 28.

The 47-year-old Papua New Guinea envoy is a graduate from the University of Papua New Guinea and has previously served as his country's High Commissioner to New Zealand, Western Samoa and Tonga.

Finland's non-resident Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Ilkka Vilbo Ruso, 50, is also Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Malaysia. His Excellency is a holder of M. Sc. in Political Science of the University of Helsinki.

The Brunei monarch also received the credentials of His Excellency Odd Lauritz Fosseidbraten, the Ambassador of Norway, and His Excellency Eduardo Alberto Sadous, the Ambassador of Argentina on January 30.

The 47-year-old Ambassador of Norway is based in Singapore and holds an M.S. in Political Science/International Affairs.

His Excellency Eduardo Alberto Sadous, who holds a degree in law, is also the Ambassador of Argentina to Malaysia, where he is based.

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam also granted separate audiences to each of the diplomats.

New diplomats make courtesy calls on Minister of Foreign Affairs

His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister, also received courtesy calls by the new diplomats to Brunei Darussalam at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, in Jalan Subok in Bandar Seri Begawan.

During the courtesy calls, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah discussed bilateral affairs with the respective country's in-coming representative.



HRH with the High Commissioner of Papua New Guinea, HE Alan Ine's Oaisa, above.



Above: HRH with Mexico's Ambassador, HE Manuel Uribe Castaneda, and below, with the Swaziland High Commissioner, HRH Prince David Dlamini.



HM's visit to Mukim Berakas

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting the key to a new house to one of the successful applicants of housing in the Lambak Kanan Housing Scheme (left). Below: The ruler taking a close look at the completed "Malay songkok" during his visit to the Arts and Handicraft Training Centre in Berakas.

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His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during his tour to Berakas Secondary School.



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam receives 'junjung ziarah' from teachers and staff of the Sekolah Tadika Jaya or Jaya Kindergarten during his visit to the school (above), and watches with interest the activities of the pupils (left).

More families get new houses

Hari Raya (eid mubarak marking the end of the fasting month of Ramadan) will be extra special this year for 131 families. They will be celebrating the festive occasion in their new homes. The 131 families are the latest to receive the keys to new houses under the the Fifth Stage Phase Three and the Sixth Stage Phase One of the National Housing Programme at Lambak Kanan, some 10 kilometres from the Brunei Darussalam capital of Bandar Seri Begawan.

Lambak Kanan is the largest of the country's housing projects - numbering more than a dozen throughout the country.

Presenting the keys to the new owners during a ceremony held at the Berakas Secondary School on February 8 was His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, who at the same time also presented housing lots under Stage One to 40 Division Two government officials.

The function was preceded by a mass recital of the Surah Al-Fatihah led by Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Yahya bin Haji Ibrahim, the Deputy Religious Affairs Minister.

The Brunei monarch, accompa-

nied by his younger brother His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Di-Gadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, the Finance Minister later took a closer look at the school activities and visited two other schools, a handicraft training centre, a furniture factory as well as the rest of the National Housing Scheme in Lambak Kanan.

His Majesty also visited the homes of the headman of Kampong Jaya Setia and Jaya Bakti; and the headman of Kampong Burong Pingai Berakas as well as the house of the head of Mukim Berakas.

During the half-day visit, hundreds of His Majesty's subjects, young and old, turned out to personally greet their beloved monarch.

Appointment of village heads conducted by District Office

In a speech, the Brunei-Muara District Officer, Dato Paduka Awang Othman bin Awang Damit recalled His Majesty's 'titah' (royal address) last year on expediting the process of appointing village heads.

Dato Paduka Awang Othman said that the process to fill up the posts of village heads is being carried out by the Brunei-Muara District Office. The areas include the National Housing

Scheme in Lambak Kanan, the housing sites for the indigeneous people in Lambak Kiri and its neighbouring sites, as well as several villages in Mukim Berakas 'A' and Mukim Berakas 'B'.

Research is also being conducted to appoint village heads for the National Housing Scheme in Kampung Mentiri, he said.

The Brunei-Muara District Officer also pointed out that Mukim Berakas has been divided into two mukim (villages) namely Mukim Berakas 'A' and Mukim Berakas 'B', due to its population of almost 40,000 people, excluding the Royal Brunei Armed Forces personnel at the Berakas Garrison.

The division is also based on the rapid pace of development which are taking place, he added.

Already, several important buildings such as the International airport, Bolkiah Camp, Berakas Camp, the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium, Mohamed Bolkiah Mosque, technical schools, secondary schools and the newly-completed vocational school, several government buildings, and the Pusat Dakwah Islamiah are located in Mukim Berakas, said the district officer.

As such, Mukim Berakas has become one of the more prominent mukim in the Brunei-Muara district, the District Officer concluded.

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organising attractive tour packages so as to attract more potential tourists from all parts of the world including Japan."

In conjunction with the VAY 92 project, she added that visitors from Japan have increased steadily compared to previous years. EDB's figures indicate that for 1992, there were approximately 4000 Japanese tourists to Brunei compared to nearly 1000 in 1991, about 400 percent increase. Japanese tourists are the fourth largest after ASEAN, the UK and Australia.

"It is hoped that these Japanese tourists will become an 'unofficial' mission who can convey and spread the positive views about Negara Brunei Darussalam especially to the

people in Japan."

She also called the private sector dealing with tourism-related activities to make an effort to develop their knowledge and experience in order to upgrade their quality and service and to improve the tour packages from time to time. Appropriate vision and careful planning are necessary to achieve this target, she added.

Cooperation with tourism bodies

"Cooperation with each other is very important and it is suggested that tourism-related sectors make use of the services of tourism bodies like ASEANTA (Brunei Darussalam) or BATA to discuss or obtain necessary ways and means in achieving further

development of tourism industry in this country. By having different positive views but working towards the same objectives, tourism activities could be carried out more efficiently and become more profitable and productive."

She further hoped that all tourism-related personnel would grab the opportunity offered by the course to learn and improve their Japanese language as well as to understand the culture and behavior of the Japanese tourists.

In her speech, she concluded: "I hope the relationship between our two countries will be further strengthened and as a result could increase investments, business opportunities and also increase Japanese tourism to our country."

The teaching profession: challenges ahead

A burst of knowledge especially in the field of science and technology, a better quality of life aspired by the new generation, the problems related to environmental pollution and a value and moral crisis: these are some of the challenges which would have an impact on the teaching profession in the 21st century.

The Education Minister, speaking as guest-of-honour at a seminar, underlined the need to safeguard, maintain and uplift the image of the teaching profession to its appropriate place.

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Abdul Aziz further said at the seminar entitled "The Teaching Profession in the years towards the 21st Century: Challenges and Hope" on 7 February: "As we go through the advancement in science and technology, we, especially teachers could not escape from Western knowledge in that for instance, we are introduced to the so-called modern knowledge which detaches the importance of knowledge from the interests of humanity."

"We are introduced to modern scientific knowledge, conducted various experiments with the use of animals, chemicals and various others with no regard to the effects they have on man and the environment; and more distressing without any regard to Allah's wisdom who has created these animals and chemicals. We are introduced to modern economic knowledge which places importance to making maximum profits at the expense of oppressing men through the use of cheap labour, exorbitant cost, the destruction of crops and others. We are introduced to sophisticated and modern technology, but a large part of it is focused towards entertainment which is intoxicating."

As long as we take the good points which do not run contrary to Quranic teachings, there is nothing wrong in looking to Western countries for

factors which contribute to progress and advancement, said the minister.

On the direction to which they should lead the younger generation as they approach the 21st century, he later highlighted: "We would like to make advancements in all fields in our own ways even though they are not similar with those of other countries."

"We would like our younger generation to have a positive attitude and able to make advancements in the intellectual field in order to face future and greater challenges."

We would like to equip the students so that they would be sufficiently prepared for "survival" and so that they would be able to adjust themselves to face challenges, at the same time find ways of acquiring character and do not ignore their religious teachings and culture, the minister added.

We would also like to train our children so that they would be adroit and actively participate in international fora. At the same time we would like to strengthen the identity of our people so that they would be known to others.

The Education Minister later urged teachers to help shape the

younger generation to become "berilmu, berakhlak dan beriman" (knowledgeable, of noble character and faithful and steadfast in their religion), especially in the years leading to the next century.

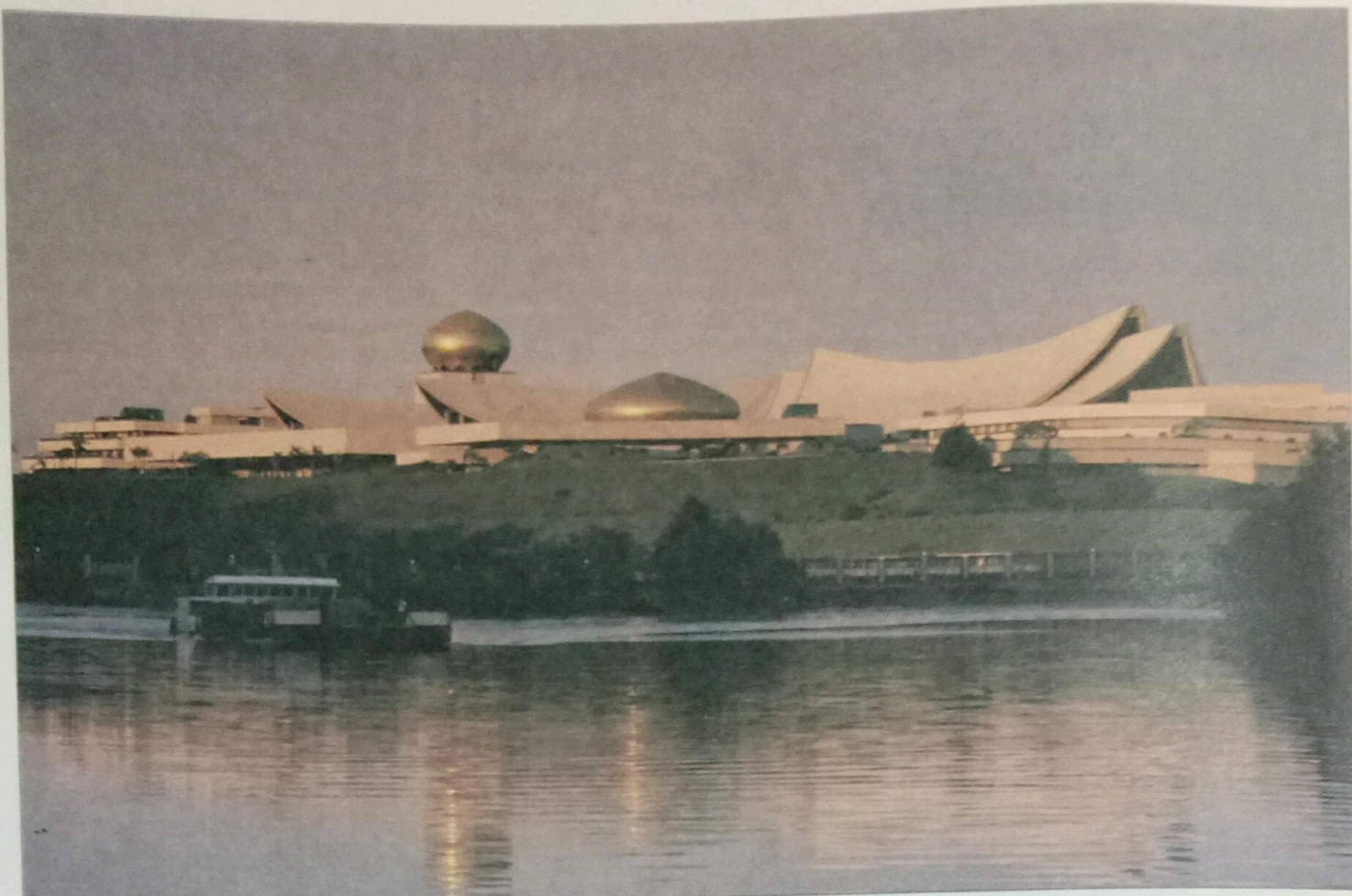
As teachers, they could be the model to students as "instructional leaders" and "cultural leaders" and could bring the schools towards achieving excellence, and reaching an equilibrium in the academic field and (good) character-building.

While we think of such issues, he added, most of us might look to the West for examples or models. The minister later urged teachers to look to the Quran, for instances related to education and the teaching profession.

Each day, the role of teachers have increased and have become more challenging. Teachers therefore should sharpen their minds and upgrade their knowledge and skills in order to ensure that the teaching profession is able to adjust to current situation and able to solve problems of the prevailing period, the minister said at the one-day seminar organised by the PGGMB (Malay Teachers Association of Brunei).



The Education Minister, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Abdul Aziz says 'we would like to make advancements in all fields in our own ways even though they are not similar with those of other countries'.



Istana Nurul Iman or Nurul Iman Palace

With its golden domes shining brilliantly against the sunshine, the Istana Nurul Iman or the Nurul Iman Palace stands majestically atop a hill, just outside the Brunei Darussalam capital of Bandar Seri Begawan. To one side it has a commanding view of the world-famous Kampong Ayer or villages on water spread along the Brunei river. Nearby there is a beautiful

recreational park called Persiaran Damuan, adorned with a playground and sculptures depicting the harmony of the diversity of ASEAN. Unlike some other palaces, though, the Nurul Iman palace is not just a place of residence for His Majesty the Sultan of Brunei and his family. More than that, it plays a host of functional roles. It houses rooms and halls for various religious,

traditional and state ceremonies. This besides, the palace also houses a number of ministries and government departments such as the Prime Minister's Department and the Office of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, and others. It can be said that only a small part of the palace is used as residence of the royal family.

Brunei in Brief

Capital : Bandar Seri Begawan
Land size : 5765 sq. km
Population : 260,000 (1991)
Official Language : Malay
Official Religion : Islam
January rainfall : 28.80 mm
(annual 2,818mm)

PRIME LENDING RATE
January 6%
(quoted by Bankers' Association)

Brunei Malay in a minute

Each month we introduce readers to a Brunei Malay word that is used only in Brunei Darussalam.

For this edition we have selected the word **sarut**.

Sarut is hoarse voice and in

standard Malay is serak or parau.

Let's now use the word in a sentence.

Suaranya **sarut** kerana terlalu banyak bercakap.

He is hoarse from too much talking.

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.