

# بروني دارالسلام

## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

Published by the Department of Information  
PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

28 February 1997



Participants of the various displays and on-lookers flood the Taman Haji Sir Omar Ali Saifuddien, Bandar Seri Begawan, capital of Brunei Darussalam on 23 February during the country's thirteenth National Day celebration. With old and modern buildings standing imposingly in the background, His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam (inset) returns the salute as contingents staged their colourful displays and performances in front of the royal dais.

## A balanced socio-economic development is important : His Majesty

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has said a balanced socio-economic development is important towards the success of long-term na-

tion building.

"Not less important are efforts towards economic diversification, providing proper public facilities and infrastructure, effective development of manpower resources, implementation of relevant technology and continuous

control of environmental quality," said His Majesty.

His Majesty's government has allocated B\$7.2 billion for projects to be carried out under the country's 7th Na-

• Continued on centre page

## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

is published fortnightly by the Department of Information. It reports on government, social and business events in the country. All money values are expressed in Brunei dollars \$, unless otherwise stated. Any information in this newsletter may be reproduced; a clipping of the publication would be appreciated. For free subscription (excluding postage) write to the Distribution Division, The Department of Information, Old Airport, Berakas 2041, Brunei Darussalam.

### Editorial Staff

Chief Editor  
**Mahari Haji Ismail**

Editors  
**Aisah Haji plee**  
**Hanafiah Mohamad**  
**Hajjah Zalanit Haji Noorkhan**

Layout/Design  
**Editorial Staff**

Photographs  
**Photography Unit of  
The Department of Information**

### YOUR TURN

The next issue of the Brunei Darussalam newsletter will appear on 15 March 1997. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel: 02-383941 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. All editorial rights reserved.



The Union of Myanmar's outgoing ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency U Kyaw Myint during his farewell audiences with His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at Istana Nurul Iman (above), and with the Sultanate's Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Bandar Seri Begawan (below).

## Monarch grants audience to outgoing ambassador of Myanmar

**H**is Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has granted an audience to the outgoing ambassador of Myanmar, at Istana Nurul Iman on 25 February.

His Excellency U Kyaw Myint is the non-resident envoy of the Union of Myanmar to the Sultanate since 1995. He is based in Singapore.

The following day, the outgoing diplomat was received by His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister.



# Brunei envoys get new appointments, and two foreign diplomats present credentials



His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has appointed two new envoys, to the United States of America and the United Kingdom. The presentation of letters of appointment were held at Istana Nurul Iman on 17 February.

The two diplomats are Pengiran Anak Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Puteh who will take up the ambassadorial post to the United States of America, while Pehin Orang kaya Laila Utama Dato Paduka Haji Awang Jaya will serve as the country's new High commissioner to the United Kingdom.

Pengiran Anak Dato Haji Puteh, 46, is a graduate in psychology from London University and he also holds a Master degree in international relations.

He has previously served as ambassador to Japan in 1986, and became the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1987.

Meanwhile, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Jaya, 58, is a graduate from the Faculty of Public Administration of the University of Manchester. He has been previously posted to Malaysia, the Philippines, Canada, Switzerland and as the Permanent Repre-

• Continued on page 4



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting Pengiran Anak Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Puteh, top left, and Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Utama Dato Paduka Awang Haji Jaya, centre left, their letters of appointment on their respective appointment as Brunei Darussalam's Ambassador to the United States of America and High commissioner to the United Kingdom. Thailand's new ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Mr. Maitiri Chuladul, below right, and South Africa's non-resident High commissioner, Her Excellency Ms Maite Emily Mohale presented their credentials to the Brunei monarch on 17 February on taking up their appointment to the Sultanate.



His Majesty greeting Admiral Joseph W. Prucher, Commander-In-Chief of the United States Pacific Command on the latter's arrival at Istana Nurul Iman for an audience with the ruler. Mrs Suzanne Prucher was granted separate audiences by Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha at Istana Nurul Iman, below left, and by Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam at Istana Nurul Izzah.



## Monarch grants audience to visiting US Commander-In-Chief for the Pacific

**H**is Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented to grant an audience to the visiting Commander-In-Chief of the United States Pacific Command, Admiral Joseph W. Prucher. The ceremony was held at Istana Nurul Iman on 22 February.

During the audience, His Majesty

and Admiral Prucher exchanged views and discussed bilateral and regional issues.

The commander was in the country for a two-day visit. He was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Suzanne Prucher, whom Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam granted separate audiences at

Istana Nurul Iman and Istana Nurul Izzah respectively.

Meanwhile, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister also received the admiral at the Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan.

During the meeting, the admiral briefed His Royal Highness on the United States security arrangements in the Asia-Pacific region.

• From page 3  
(New envoys)

representative to the United Nations in New York, and Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the United States of America.

On the same day, the Brunei monarch received the credentials of the

new Thai and South African diplomats to the Sultanate in separate ceremonies also held at Istana Nurul Iman.

The monarch first received the credential of Thailand's Ambassador, His Excellency Mr. Maitri Chuladul.

The 58-year-old diplomat, who holds a Master degree in international relations and international law, joined

the foreign service in 1963. He has previously served in Tokyo, Calcutta, Warsaw, Bern, Kuwait and Bahrain.

His Majesty afterwards received the credential of the non-resident High Commissioner of South Africa, Her Excellency Ms Maite Mohale. The 34-year-old envoy is based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.



*Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah at a dinner with ASEAN and EU ministers in conjunction with the launch of the Asia Europe Foundation, ASEF during the Asia Europe Ministerial Meeting in the Republic of Singapore, left. Below: the ASEAN-EU ministers posing for a group photograph following the launch of ASEF.*



## First Asia-Europe Foreign Ministers' Meeting (ASEM)

**B**runei Darussalam has participated at the first Asia-Europe Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in the Republic of Singapore on 15 February. The Sultanate was represented by His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister.

The one-day meeting, held at the Raffles City Convention Centre has brought together the foreign ministers of the seven ASEAN member countries, as well as Japan, Korea and China along with their European counterparts comprising those of United Kingdom,

France, Spain, Greece, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Ireland, Germany, Austria, Luxemborg, The Netherlands, Portugal, Sweden and Italy.

The meeting was chaired by the

• *Continued on page 9*



• From page One  
(Balanced development)

tional Development Plan for the period 1996 - 2000. The programme which is part of the country's long-term development is aimed at improving the wellbeing and quality of life of the citizens and people of the country, as well as upgrading economic achievement, said His Majesty.

In a titah (royal address) in conjunction with the country's 13th National Day, broadcast nationwide on radio and television Brunei on 22 February, His Majesty said that efforts towards the long-term development was begun before and after the country resumed its full independence and sovereignty. The 20-year long-term development programme began in 1985.

"To achieve the goals of the long-term nation building, I believe the development of a balanced socio-economic development is important," said His Majesty.

On economic diversification, the Brunei monarch highlighted the importance of the

• Continued on page 8



From the royal dais at the Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddin in the Brunei Darussalam capital of Bandar Seri Begawan; His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam returns the salute during the colourful displays at the country's Thirteenth National Day celebrations on 23 February. With His Majesty on the dais were other members of the royal family.



Civilians marching and military band musical displays, top and below, made up a part of the National Day celebration programme.

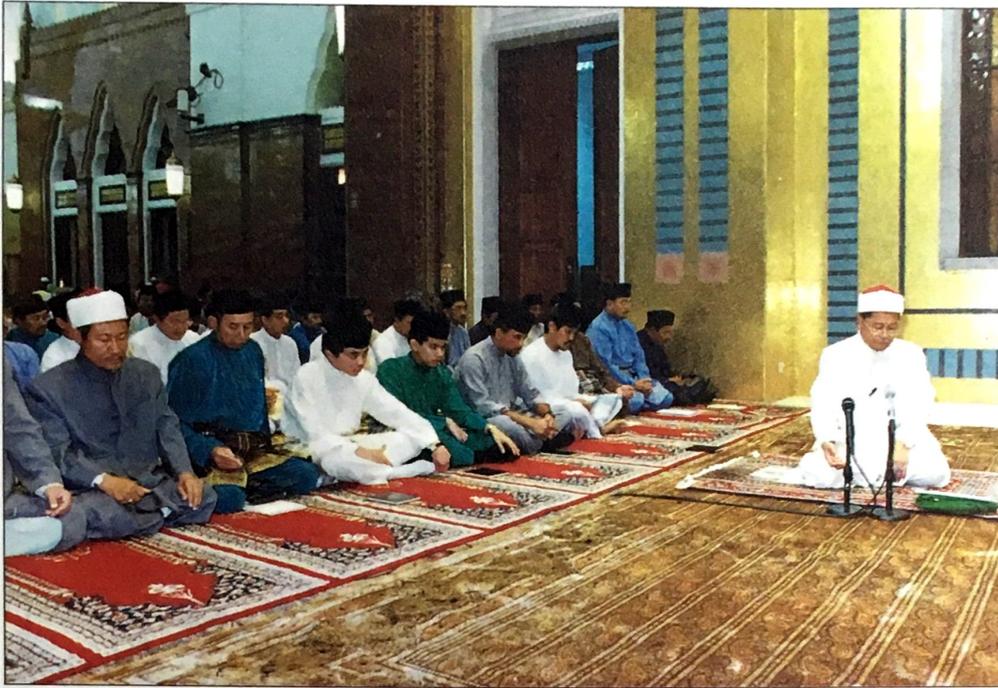


The reading of the pledge of loyalty to the ruler, country and religion also featured at the celebration, which was watched not only by those at the taman (park), but also by people in their homes through live television coverage.



Physical drills, more marches and the waving of flags-all contributed to make the National Day celebration a memorable event, one filled with colour and splendours.





*On the eve of the National Day anniversary, Muslims in their thousands thronged mosques and other prayer halls throughout the country to perform thanksgiving prayers marking the occasion. At the Omar Ali Saifuddien mosque in the capital, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam joined his Muslim subjects in the prayers, left. Other members of the royal family were also there.*

• From page 7 (*Balanced development*)  
country's involvement in the external trade arena.

"Local businesses cannot rely upon home market alone, but should look for opportunities in the regional and international markets," he said.

The ruler hoped that the country's efforts to diversify the economy will achieve its goal with the establishment of the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), particularly through the country's participation in the Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines-East Asian Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA) and through dynamic and effective involvement of the private sector.

"In relation to this, the private sector as the agent of the country's economic growth, should play a pivotal role and increase their efforts," His Majesty urged.

His Majesty further stressed the need to give continuous attention to such aspects as the development of manpower resources, particularly in the field of training and skills in order to produce a skilled, efficient and dedicated workforce.

Besides giving emphasis to efforts in economic diversification, the National Development Plan also continues to implement projects of social and community interests, including basic infrastructures, housing construction, educational facilities, medical services as well as transportation and communication.

However, in implementing the projects, close cooperation between the Government and private sector should be enhanced, as this is an important prerequisite towards achieving the goal of the country's long-term development, especially by the year 2000, he stressed.

Efforts in planning and developing the country involve the strengthening of a proper and capable governmental system, the ruler said.

"However, it is also important to remember that any development can only be properly carried out and continued through the maintenance of security and peace, reminded the ruler.

"We, therefore, should not let the country's peace and security be spoiled by any element, both from within and outside the country," said the monarch.

Brunei Darussalam is not a nursery for the cultivation of crime or other evil-doings, but a place for the citizens and people to live in while enjoying peace and prosperity.

His Majesty hoped that the appropriate authorities in particular, and citizens in general, will always give due concern to issues related to peace and security, so that they really exist and are established firmly.

Besides upgrading the efforts on the physical aspects of nation building, spiritual development and the upholding and practising of noble values are also important and should not be ignored, stressed His Majesty.

"With strong and close unity between the Government and people of the country, we should certainly be able to maintain the country's stability and prosperity."

This year's National Day Celebration was highlighted by a splendid and colourful display held at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddien in the capital, Bandar Seri Begawan on 23 February.

Thousands of citizens and people of the country as well as foreign visitors watched the events in which about nine thousand people, comprising members of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces and Royal Brunei Police Force, officials and staff of ministries and government departments, uniformed organisations, associations, private sector, students and citizens took part.

Joining the thousands to watch the display was His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, accompanied by his brothers, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, and two of His Majesty's sons, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Abdul 'Azim and His Royal Highness Prince Abdul Malik.

The theme of this year's National Day celebration was "Kemajuan Ekonomi Teras Kesejahteraan" or "Economic Progress is the Basis for Prosperous Wellbeing."

# Congratulatory messages on Sultanate's 13th National Day

**H**is Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has received congratulatory messages from foreign heads of states and dignitaries in conjunction with the Sultanate's 13th National Day anniversary.

The messages were from His Majesty Seri Paduka Baginda Yang Di-Pertuan Agung Tuanku Ja'afar of Malaysia, Their Majesties King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand, King Qaboos of Oman, King Hussein of Jordan, King Fahd of Saudi

Arabia, King Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Dev of Nepal, King Juan Carlos I of Spain, King Hassan II of Morocco, King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden and His Highness Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait.

Greetings were also received from President Soeharto of Indonesia, President Ong Teng Cheong of Singapore, President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak of Egypt, Iranian President Hojatole Eslam Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Indian President Dr. Shanker Dayal Sharma, President Kim Young Sam of Korea, President Roman Herzog of Germany, President William J. Clinton

of the United States of America and President Jacques Chirac of France.

Other messages were from Governor-General William Deane of Australia, Governor-General Romeo LeBlanc of Canada, President Bonnici of Malta, President Lansana Conte of Guinea, President Mary Robinson of Ireland, President Cassam Uteem of Mauritius, President Arpad Goenez of Hungary, President Emil Constantinescu of Romania, Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir, Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong of Singapore and the British Prime Minister, Mr. John Major.

## • From page 5 (ASEM)

Singapore Foreign Minister, His Excellency Professor S. Jayakumar. In his statement at the close of the meeting, the chairman among others noted that the ministers recalled that their leaders had described the first ASEM as a historic and momentous occasion, which marked the dawning of a new era of partnership and cooperation between Asia and Europe for the benefit of both regions and also for the world as a whole. They reiterated their commitment to the new comprehensive Asia-Europe Partnership for Greater Growth forged by the leaders.

The ministers considered the Review Paper of ASEM Follow-Up activities, and were pleased to note that, in a relatively short time since the First Asia Europe Leaders' Meeting (ASEM I, held in Bangkok, Thailand in March 1996) substantial progress has been made in many areas of ASEM cooperation. Concrete programmes have been identified. Cooperation in economic areas has advanced rapidly and the foundations for a more intense political dialogue have been laid.

The ministers also discussed Asia-Europe cooperation in the context of new global and regional challenges.

They observed that the world is increasingly characterised by multi-polarity and that global integration is making the economies of nations ever more interdependent.

Agreeing that new global problems like terrorism, drug trafficking and environmental degradation require global responses, the ministers also noted that regional integration is progressing rapidly in many parts of the world and prompting regional approaches to economic and security issues. They stressed the importance of mutually reinforcing regional and global approaches to emerging challenges.

The ministers also exchanged views on the nature of the political and security dialogue that should be undertaken by ASEM. They agreed that the dialogue should begin by discussing issues of common interest and broaden the topics of the dialogue in due course on a gradual basis.

The ministers recalled that their leaders had recognised that the growing economic links between the two regions form the basis for their strong partnership. They emphasised the importance of strengthening economic cooperation between Asia and Europe.

They also noted that there is a need for a greater private sector role in new programmes of economic co-

operation such as the Asia-Europe Business Forum and the Asia-Europe Business Conference for the benefit of the peoples from both regions. In particular, they called for the participation of more small and medium-size enterprises in these programmes.

The partnership between Asia and Europe should be based on a common commitment to market economy, open multilateral trading system, non-discriminatory liberalisation and open regionalism. The meeting stressed that any regional integration and cooperation should be WTO-consistent and outward-looking.

The ministers further emphasised that Asia-Europe cooperation should be multi-faceted, encompassing all fields of human endeavours, including economics, politics, culture, education, environment and science and technology.

The ministers adopted a declaration to welcome the establishment of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in Singapore and they, too, participated in the launching of the Foundation. Many ASEM partners pledged their contributions to the ASEF.

The ministers recognised the im-

• Continued on page 10

• From page 9  
(ASEM)

portance of an orderly and coordinated development of ASEM activities in the long term and agreed to consider an early elaboration of an Asia-Europe Cooperation Framework that outlines the principles and mechanisms for ASEM cooperation in agreed areas.

They supported the establishment of an Asia-Europe Vision Group at ASEM II in 1998 to provide ideas for the development of the ASEM process into the next century.

They also noted that the ASEM II would be held in London in April 1998, and agreed that the second Foreign Ministers meeting would be held in Germany in 1999.



## Asia-Europe Foundation aimed at building cultural and human bridges between the two continents

The 25 Foreign Ministers of the Asia-Europe Meeting have held highly constructive and frank discussions and produced many practical ideas, at their first meeting held in the Republic of Singapore on 14 February.

The meeting is a follow-up to the inaugural Asia Europe Leaders' Meeting (ASEM I) held in Bangkok in March last year, which launched a new era for Asia Europe cooperation. ASEM's main theme was to forge a new comprehensive Asia Europe Partnership for Greater Growth. The leaders proposed a wide ranging list of follow-up measures to strengthen Asia Europe cooperation in economic, politics, people-to-people exchanges, the environment and science and technology.

The Asia Europe Foreign Ministers' Meeting saw the launch of the Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF), located at Nassim Hill in Singapore. The opening ceremony was co-officiated at by the Singapore Foreign Minister, Professor S. Jayakumar and the Dutch

Foreign Minister, Mr. Hans Van Mierlo.

ASEF is the first institution to be established under the ASEM process. Speaking at the launch, the Singapore Foreign Minister said that for ASEM to succeed, it must be firmly anchored on four pillars. The first pillar consists of the thickening web of relationships between the political leaders. The second pillar represents the growing ties and rapport between officials of the two sides. The third pillar comprises the networking between the Asian and European private sectors, while the fourth pillar concerns the engagement of scholars, intellectuals, cultural leaders and outstanding young citizens.

"The purpose of ASEF is to strengthen the fourth pillar", he said, while adding that "culturally, Asia and Europe have so much to offer each other. I hope that in a modest way, ASEF will succeed in building many cultural and human bridges between Asia and Europe".

The launch of ASEF was witnessed by all the 25 foreign ministers, at

Brunei Darussalam's Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah signing condolence book at the People's Republic of China's embassy in Bandar Seri Begawan on the demise of Former Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping.

### Prince signs condolence book for the late Chinese leader

Brunei Darussalam's Minister of Foreign Affairs, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah has signed the book of condolence for the former leader and statesman of the People's Republic of China, the late Deng Xiaoping.

On behalf of His Majesty's Government, the prince signed the book at the republic's embassy in the capital, Bandar Seri Begawan on 22 February.

Deng Xiaoping, acknowledged as the architect of China's Programme of Economic Reform, died on February 19 at the age of 93.

which Brunei Darussalam was represented by His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah.

A Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Department of Brunei Darussalam, Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Ahmad bin Dato Paduka Matnor is one of the ASEF's governors.

# *Brunei Darussalam and the United States sign air agreement*



Brunei Darussalam's acting Director of Civil Aviation, Pengiran Haji Abdul Rahman and the United States Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Glen R. Rase signing agreement, witnessed by senior officials from both sides.

The Brunei Darussalam national flag carrier, Royal Brunei Airlines may soon add the United States of America as yet another of its destination, thus, bringing to nearly 30 the number of destinations on its services.

This follows the signing of an 'open air' agreement in principle on 6 February between the two countries aimed at developing the aviation and tourism industries between them.

Under the agreement, the two countries agreed to lift a number of economic restrictions pertaining to commercial flights, such as aircraft

types, cargoes and air lanes.

A press release issued by the Ministry of Communications said the two governments are confident that the agreement would open up many beneficial opportunities to consumers, shipping and air transportation between Brunei Darussalam and the United States of America.

The lifting of certain restrictions on commercial flights would also mean increased services and lower costs for tourists to cross the Pacific, the press release added.

The full agreement is expected to

be signed in June this year by the Brunei Darussalam Communications Minister, with the United States expected to be represented by a senior official.

The signing of the preliminary agreement in Bandar Seri Begawan earlier this month was officiated at by the acting Director of the Department of Civil Aviation, Pengiran Haji Abdul Rahman bin Pengiran Seri Indera Haji Ismail for Brunei Darussalam, and by His Excellency Ambassador Glen R. Rase for the US.

## Congratulations on Australia Day

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has expressed pleasure at the warm relations and close understanding that have long existed between the Sultanate and

Australia.

In separate messages to the Governor-General of Australia, The Rt. Hon. Sir William Deane AC, KBE and to The Hon. Prime Minister John Howard in conjunction with Australia Day, His Majesty hoped these relations and understanding would continue to be en-

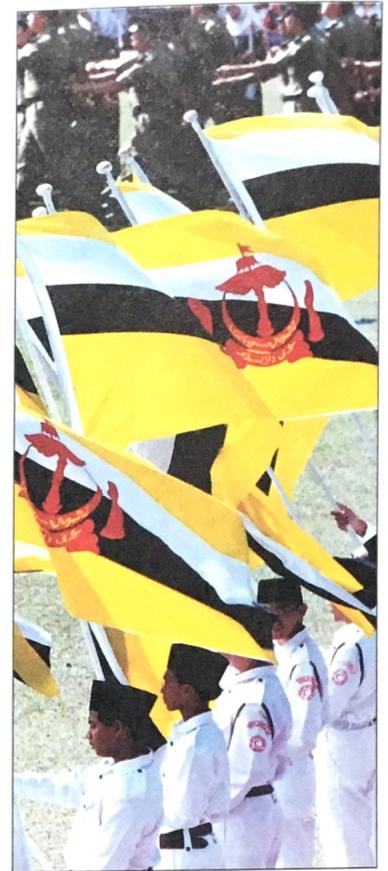
hanced for the benefits of both countries and their peoples.

His Majesty also wished both leaders and the people of Australia continued prosperity and well-being.

Australia Day was observed on 26 January.



More scenes of the colourful displays at this year's celebration of the National Day of Brunei Darussalam. Thousands participated in the displays, while thousands more either watched them at the celebration venue itself or on television. The celebration was the first to be held after being missed for several years due to the National Day anniversary falling during the fasting month of Ramadan.



### *Brunei in Brief*

Capital : Bandar Seri Begawan  
 Land size : 5765 sq. km.  
 Population : 296,000 (1995)  
 Official Language : Malay  
 Official Religion : Islam  
 February rainfall : 248.0 mm  
 (annual 2,818mm)

### *Brunei Malay in a minute*

Readers have the opportunity to learn a Brunei Malay word that is particularly peculiar to the country through each edition of the Brunei Darussalam Newsletter.

In this edition we have selected the word **limpar**.

**Limpar** is overflowing, and limpah in standard Malay.

Let's use the word in a sentence:

Air dalam baldi itu **limpar**.  
 The water in the pail is overflowing.

**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.**