



برونى دارالسلام

Brunei Darussalam

Brunei Darussalam newsletter

Published by the Department of Information
Prime Minister's Office

JANUARY, 2020
VOLUME 35 ISSUE 1

Improve professionalism, quality of military officers



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 His Royal Highness Captain (U) Prince 'Abdul Mateen grace the Sovereign's Parade Ceremony of the 18th intake of officers cadet of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) at the Parade Square of the Defence Academy, RBAF in Kampung Tanah Jambu.

TANAH JAMBU, January 23 - 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 *titah* (royal speech) noted that in facing the complex and rapidly changing environment, the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) is also proactively involved in achieving together the Brunei Vision 2035.

"This was implemented by requiring every military officer in RBAF to possess personal mastery in military leadership command and management, besides possessing thinking and leadership skills."

This was stated in the *titah* delivered by His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam on the occasion of the Sovereign's Parade Ceremony of the 18th intake of officer cadets, the Officer Cadet School (OCS) which was held at the Parade

Continue on page 5



ASEAN tourism see growth

JERUDONG, January 14 - 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 graced the opening of the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2020. The opening ceremony was held at the Indera Samudera Hall, The Empire Brunei.

Upon arrival, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince consented for a group photo with ASEAN Tourism Ministers attending the forum.

His Royal Highness then proceeded to view a mini showcase by the Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications (MTIC) and Huawei Technologies (Brunei) Sendirian Berhad.

At the exhibit, His Royal Highness was demonstrated on the use of Virtual Reality Technology in travel and was also briefed on Digital Technologies for Smart Tourism by Haji Mohammad Nazri bin Haji Mohammad Yusof, Permanent Secretary at the MTIC as well as the 5G Technology in Smart Travel by Kevin Zhang, Chief Executive Officer of Huawei Technologies (Brunei) Sdn. Bhd.

Continue on page 10



3. His Majesty receives audience



4. Corruption can weaken the administration



7. UTB to contribute to the development of knowledge



8. National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults 1441 Hijrah/2020 Masihi



9. Their Majesties grace JIS drama performance



10. ASEAN tourism see growth



11. Royalty grace 20th DPMM FC Reunion Dinner



12. Tourism strengthen bilateral relationship



13. Luxury eco-resort to be built in Temburong



15. Invite youth to be involved in MPMK activities



JANUARY 2020 - VOLUME 35 ISSUE 1

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

is published monthly 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) please write to the Distribution Unit, Department of Information, Prime Minister's Office, Old Airport, Berakas BB 3510, Brunei Darussalam.

EMAIL US AT: info.dept@information.gov.bn

EDITORIAL Advisory Board:

Mawardi Haji Mohammad
(mawardi.mohammad@information.gov.bn)

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

Editor:

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

Text:

Hajah Zaianit Haji Noorkhan
(zaianit.noorkhan@information.gov.bn)

Layouter:

Khairul Shahrir Haji Abdul Ghafor
(shahrir.ghafor@information.gov.bn)

Proofread:

Siti Faizahanisah Awang Mahani
(faizahanisah.mahani@information.gov.bn)

Photographs

Photography Unit of Department of Information

General inquiries

Tel: (673) 2383 400/ext English Publications
Fax: (673) 2382 012

Department of Information

www.information.gov.bn

Information Gallery

www.infofoto.gov.bn



Follow us

Download **InfoDeptBN**



Instagram - @infodept.bn



Twitter - @Infodept_bn



Facebook - Jabatan Penerangan
Jabatan Perdana Menteri
Brunei Darussalam

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 on January 17, received audiences at the Istana Nurul Iman comprising of Ministers, Deputy Ministers and representatives of Ministers of ASEAN, the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea; the Deputy Secretary-General of ASEAN; the Secretaries-General of ASEAN Centres; and a representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) who were attending the 39th ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2020.



Her Majesty receives audience

Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam received audience at the Istana Nurul Iman, Rosita binti Ismail, spouse of the late Malaysian High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, Ismail bin Haji Salam on January 21.



Congratulatory messages

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 congratulatory messages to:

- His Excellency U Win Myint, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar and Her Excellency Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, State Counsellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, the government and people of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar on the occasion of its 72nd Independence Day on January 4.
- His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said on his appointment as the Sultan of the Sultanate of Oman on January 11.
- His Excellency Mikhail Mishustin, Prime Minister of The Russian Federation following his appointment as the Prime Minister of the Russian Federation on January 16.
- His Excellency Chung Sye-kyun, Prime Minister of the Republic of Korea following his recent appointment as Prime

His Majesty announces granddaughter's name

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 with great pleasure has named His Majesty's granddaughter and 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 Khaalishah Mishbaahul Bolqiah binti His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Khaalishah Mishbaahul Bolqiah was born on Sunday, 10 Jamadilawal 1441 Hijrah, corresponding to January 5, 2020, at 10.08 p.m.



Minister of the Republic of Korea on January 16.

- His Excellency General The Honourable David John Hurley, Retired AC DSC, Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and The Honourable Scott Morrison, MP, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Australia as well as the government and the people of Australia on the occasion of Australia Day on January 26.
- His Excellency Shri Ram Nath Kovind, President of the Republic of India and His Excellency Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India as well as to the government and people of the Republic of India on the occasion of the Republic Day of India on January 26.
- His Excellency Sheikh Khalid Bin Khalifa Bin Abdul Aziz Al Thani, on the occasion of his recent appointment as the Prime Minister of Qatar on January 29.

Corruption can weaken the administration



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 delivers a *titah* during an unscheduled visit to the Ministry of Development and its departments.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 13 - Ministry of Development (MoD) was urged not to carry out work that brings losses to the government and the people. For instance, they are urged not to choose contractors randomly for project development, but to choose contractors with good reputation.

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 stressed the matter in a *titah* (royal speech) during an unscheduled visit to MoD and its departments.

MoD is entrusted to the provision of public infrastructure including houses, roads, water supply, as well as sewerage and drainage, a clean environment, and the use of land and facilities for the development of industries.

His Majesty sends condolences message

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 has consented to send a message of condolences to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq Al Said, Sultan of the Sultanate of Oman on the recent passing of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said Al-Said, Sultan of Oman on January 11.

"Judging by the involvement in various projects, there were opportunities for criminal elements or misconduct to occur in this country, since corruption can weaken the administration and demolished the nation. As a religious community, we must remember that corruption is a bridge to hell," said His Majesty.

The Monarch added, people can be influenced by contractors from abroad, thinking that they would produce good quality work. On the contrary, some of them use cheap materials to earn more profit.

"It was so unfortunate that the responsible parties in the government did not monitor or scrutinised this matter. In fact, they knew about it, but chose to collaborate and deceive, for the sake of gaining remuneration through the back door," said His Majesty.

As a result, the completed houses were badly damaged at the beam structures, with water pipes falling apart due to soil erosion, damaged ceilings and leaked shower pipes.

Regarding the housing scheme under the Housing Development Department, His Majesty highlighted the issues of house owners under the scheme who rented their houses to other locals or to foreign workers.

"In the agreement, it is stated that these houses should not be rented to others to live in or to carry out businesses such as office premises, retail shops, or food stalls, or to sell/lease the land or house to others.

Continue on page 5



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the Ministry of Development.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam visits one of the division under the Ministry of Development.

From page 4

Regulations concerning this matter have been clearly stated. Such violations would not occur if relevant agencies or firm with their actions. I want to see it being implemented, instead of just looking good on paper. These are the pressing issues to be dealt with. Lastly, I want the relevant ministries to take



His Majesty the Sultan in a group photo with staff from the Land Department.

note and act,” said His Majesty as he concluded the *titah*.

During the visit, His Majesty toured several divisions and units at the MoD building. From the MoD building, His Majesty then visited the Land Department, Department of Town and Country Planning, Survey Department and ended the unscheduled visit at the Housing Development Department.

Increase professionalism, quality of military officers



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 Sovereign's Parade Ceremony of the 18th intake of officers cadet of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF), the Officer Cadet School held at the at the Parade Square of the Defence Academy, RBAF in Kampung Tanah Jambu.

From page 1

Square of the Defence Academy, RBAF.

His Majesty emphasised the need for the OCS to consistently strengthen its network with the region's OCS through joint training programmes, visit and exchange with foreign OCS to enhance its image, credibility and improve the level of professionalism and quality of Brunei Darussalam military officers to be in line with the standard of military officers in the armed forces of friendly nations in the region, as well as strengthen relations through defence diplomacy.

His Majesty was pleased to see the increasing number of commissioned military officers, however, it is still not adequate, as the RBAF still requires the service of more high-calibre military officers.

A decade since its establishment, said His Majesty, the OCS has produced a total of 523 commissioned military officers and



His Majesty presents the Sword of Honour to Officer Cadet (U) Wan Muhammad Hijazi bin Haji Yusoff



His Majesty presents the Best Military Skills Award to Officer Cadet Awangku Waffaiddin bin Pengiran Ismail.

majority of them holding important posts in units of the RBAF, while others are serving in the OCS as intake commanders.

Continue on page 6

From page 5

His Majesty hoped to see the RBAF continue in generating highly professional, disciplined and quality military officials.

"At the same time, the Directorate of Personnel, which holds possession of the RBAF's career development structure should work closely together with the Defence Academy RBAF and the Training Institute RBAF in further strengthening the recruitment system for training of officer cadets," His Majesty's *titah*.

The Monarch in the *titah* also touched on significant developments of the Defence Academy RBAF as it celebrates its 10 years of establishment, and cited the involvement of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) as the Academic Provider of Courses at the Defence Academy's Staff College.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Captain (U) Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

Shortly after arrival, His Majesty received the Royal Salute and inspected the parade commanded by 1085 Captain Abdul Qahhar bin Haji Abdul Mulok. The ceremony then proceeded with a march-



His Majesty inspects the Guard of Honour Parade consisting of officer cadets.

past by the officer cadets.

At the ceremony, His Majesty awards presentation to the best officer cadets of the 18th intake, who performed exceptionally in various fields throughout the course.

The awards proceeded with a presentation of the Sword of Honour to Officer Cadet (U) Wan Muhammad Hijazi bin Haji Yussof, who holds a Bachelor Degree of Engineering (Hons) in

Aerospace Engineering from University of the West of England, Bristol, the United Kingdom.

Followed by the Best Academic Award to Officer Cadet (U) Muhd. Ghazali bin Haji Suhaili, who holds a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Geology, UBD.

The Best Military Skills Award was granted to Officer Cadet Awangku Waffauddin bin Pengiran Ismail, who holds a Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Chemistry, UBD.

Meanwhile, the Best in Physical Training Award was presented to Officer Cadet Mohd. Zulfetri bin Haji Zoferi, who holds a Higher National Diploma in Religious (Syariah), Seri Begawan Religious Teachers University College (KUPU SB).

The ceremony then continued with a *Junjung Ziarah* ceremony (get-together) from the newly commissioned officer cadets with their respective families.

The Sovereign's Parade is the culmination of the RBAF Officer Cadet School's prestigious intensive military training towards equipping newly commissioned officers with knowledge, faith, discipline, professionalism and leadership skills.

The parade marked the completion of a year's intensive training for 73 officer cadets (54 male and 19 female). Thirty nine officer cadets were commissioned as the Royal Brunei Land Force officers, 21 officer cadets as the Royal Brunei Navy officers and 13 officer cadets as the Royal Brunei Air Force officer. The 52-week Officer Cadet Training Course of the 18th intake began on January 29, 2019, which involved several exercises and military activities dedicated in improving the quality of leadership, character and intellect as required for every RBAF officers.



His Majesty presents the Best in Physical Training Award to Officer Cadet Mohd. Zulfetri bin Haji Zoferi.



His Royal Highness Captain (U) Prince 'Abdul Mateen in a group photo with an officer cadet and his family.

UTB to contribute to the development of knowledge

TUNGKU LINK, January 29 - 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 urged Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) to continue its efforts towards becoming a university that can truly contribute to the development of knowledge, as well as solving contemporary issues through research.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam said in a *titah* (royal speech) during an unscheduled visit to UTB.

His Majesty further highlighted the research efforts being conducted by UTB, including core research on oil and gas, green energy and water, which are important to Brunei Darussalam.

"Unquestionably, UTB offers programmes related to our national interests, such as the Business School which has three field programmes: Economy, Accounting and Management. All of these are contributors towards development," said His Majesty.

In summation, the programmes offered by the faculty are explorations of relevant areas, such as the Faculty of Engineering with four programme areas: Civil Engineering, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Petroleum and Chemical Engineering. All of these serve to generate growth and advancement.

Thus, in His Majesty's view, nothing is lacking, except on the question of ethics, which needs to be indicated. UTB must determine its preferred stance regarding ethics. The stance



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 delivers a *titah* (royal speech) during an unscheduled visit to Universiti Teknologi Brunei.

must be based on Islamic ethics, in line with the nation's cultural identity.

His Majesty in his *titah*, said that this should be taken into account, as a sovereign and independent nation with its own identity. This sense of identity can be lost through a compliant attitude towards foreign culture and influences in life.

Earlier, His Majesty explained that the education centre was established in January 1986, with its initial name, Institut Teknologi Brunei (ITB). In 2008, ITB was upgraded to Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB). It has undergone extraordinary developments, including the expansion of its academic programme portfolio and the establishment of strategic collaborations with industries and universities.

During the visit, His Majesty took a closer look at the university's facilities and infrastructure of the Phase 2 buildings: UTB School of Business (UTB SB) and the School of Computing and Informatics (SCI); UTB's other facilities: Staff and Student Center, Lecture Room, UTB Cooperative, Mushaf Publishing Room, Faculty of Design, Archaeological Studio Room, Electrical Engineering and Communication Labs, Civil and Mechanical Engineering Labs, Concrete Rooms; and Phase 3 of the campus: the Petroleum and Chemical Engineering Laboratory, the Students' Cafeteria, the Student Representative Council's office, and others.

Towards the end of the visit, His Majesty received a *junjung ziarah* (get-together) from students, lecturers, senior officers and staffs of UTB.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam mingling with students during the visit.



His Majesty takes a closer look at one of the creation of UTB's students.



His Majesty listens to a briefing and sharing problems from UTB's students.

National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults 1441 Hijrah/2020 Masihi: Not appropriate to reduce the Al-Quran periods

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 30 - 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 *titah* (royal speech) wishes for all education institutions in the country, to give serious attention to Al-Quran studies. It is unconscionable to regard it as insignificant and lessen the learning periods for Al-Quran compared to other subjects.

In the case of Religious Teachers' Institutions, it is irrational to reduce the Al-Quran periods, since as future religious officers or teachers, they are required to be proficient and master all aspects of Al-Quran.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made the *titah* during the prize presentation ceremony of the Final of the National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults 1441 Hijrah/2020 Masihi at the International Convention Centre.

People from all walks of life in this country should devote themselves to read Al-Quran and give its prominence in all aspects of their daily life and activities, said His Majesty in a *titah*.

His Majesty added, aside from reading Al-Quran, comprehending the verses should also take precedence. It is because of that we made the arrangements for the complication of the Mushaf Brunei Darussalam and its interpretation, which is currently in progress.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty extended his appreciation to the participants of the competition, saying, "Winning or losing is not the main



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 delivers the *titah* (royal speech) at the prize presentation ceremony of the Final of the National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults 1441 Hijrah/2020 Masihi at the International Convention Centre.

objective, but the sincerity in expecting blessings from Allah the Almighty."

Accompanying His Majesty were His Majesty's sons and brother, 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 'Abdul Mateen; and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah.

The ceremony commenced with the reading of Al-Quran verses by an invited qariah from Morocco, Hasnae Khouali, champion qariah of the International Tilawah Al-Quran in Kuala Lumpur,

Malaysia 2012.

This year's qari champion was Mohammad bin Ali. Meanwhile, Dayangku Siti Ummi Syazana binti Pengiran Haji Marjuki was crowned as the qariah champion.

The runner-up qari and qariah was Pengiran Muhammad Amirul Aiman bin Pengiran Haji Marjuki and Dayangku Fauziah Nadhirah binti Pengiran Haji Jofri.

Third-place qari and qariah went to Mohamad Zul-Hafiz bin Awang Tengah and Siti Zahrina binti Haji Abdul Wahab.

Continue on page 9



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presents the prizes to champion qari of this year's National Al-Quran Reading Competition for Adults, Mohammad bin Ali and champion qariah, Dayangku Siti Ummi Syazana binti Pengiran Haji Marjuki.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presents the prizes to the runner up qari and qariah, Pengiran Muhammad Amirul Aiman bin Pengiran Haji Marjuki and Dayangku Fauziah Nadhirah binti Pengiran Haji Jofri.

From page 8

Gracing the opening ceremony of the Final of the National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah which was held on January 28 was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office. Also in attendance was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince emphasised in his *sabda* (royal speech) that reading Al-Quran should be made a regular practice by the country's citizens and residents, especially among the youth.

This is very important, particularly in the current era of globalisation that has influenced the way people think, ideology and culture including bringing various negative foreign elements. Only Al-Quran can guide us to always be in the right and safe path, in life and the hereafter.



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 and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah graces the Opening Ceremony of the Final of the National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for Adults 1441 Hijrah/2020.

While gracing the second night of the ceremony on January 29 was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

This year's Musabaqah theme '*Menjana Keberkatan Rezeki dengan Al-Quran*' or 'Generate Blessed Sustenance with

Al-Quran', stressed that Allah Subhanahu Wata'ala is the giver of sustenance, commanding His servants to strive in obtaining sustenance using the right and blessed path so that what has been gained comes with blessings.

Their Majesties grace JIS drama performance



JERUDONG, January 22 - 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 consented to grace the Year 8 Drama Performance at the Jerudong International School (JIS).

Participating in the performance that consist

Continue on page 10

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 consented to grace the Year 8 Drama Performance at the Jerudong International School.



ASEAN tourism see growth

From page 1

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, the Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism in his welcoming speech, highlighted that the ASEAN tourism industry has seen significant growth in the last decade and continues to be an important contributor to ASEAN's socio-economic development.

In 2019, Yang Berhormat explained, ASEAN welcomed over 133 million international arrivals, an increase by 7 per cent from 2018, with intra-ASEAN travel comprising 36.7 per cent of international arrivals in 2018.

His Royal Highness then consented to officiate the ATF 2020 and launched the new ASEAN Tourism website.

The ASEAN Tourism website serves as a one-stop platform for integrated information on ASEAN tourism products and activities.

It hopes to drive more interest to the Southeast Asian region as a preferred destination to experience the culture and authentic life of the ASEAN people thereby, strengthening people-to-people connectivity and deepening cross-culture understanding.

Before leaving the event, His Royal Highness received a *junjung ziarah* (get-together) from ATF 2020 delegates.

Brunei Darussalam hosts ATF 2020 with a theme 'ASEAN - Together Towards a Next Generation of Travel' which takes place from January 12 to 16.

This year's ATF theme is relevant for what the world is facing, as it reflects the way in which the tourism industry has been rapidly



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 officiates the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2020 and launches the ASEAN Tourism website.



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince views and listens to a briefing on mini showcase by the Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications and Huawei Technologies (Brunei) Sendirian Berhad.

progressing.

In this regard, ASEAN Tourism recognises that innovation and technology brought benefits to the tourism industry, and shapes the way in which governments, key stakeholders and communities embrace the current trend of digital transformation.



His Royal Highness in a group photo with ASEAN Tourism Ministers attending the forum.

Their Majesties grace JIS drama performance

From page 9

of 161 students was His Majesty's son, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel in their production of Shakespeare's, The Tempest.

Performing one of William Shakespeare's famous plays which takes place on a ship at sea during a tempest, and on a remote island, where the sorcerer Prospero lives with his daughter Miranda holds important lesson in life.

The drama production is part of JIS' curriculum created through students exploring and developing ideas to empowering them with the skill of performance, teamwork and communication.



His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel performing a drama, The Tempest.

Royalty grace 20th DPMM FC Reunion Dinner



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 and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab. Rahaman in a group photo with members of the DPMM FC.

JERUDONG, January 29 - His Royal Highness the Crown Prince's Football Club, better known as DPMM FC has reached its 20th year since its establishment in 2000. It first started as a college football team in 1994, before officially becoming a top club to this day.

The 20th Anniversary of DPMM Football Club Reunion convened former and present players.

Gracing the Reunion Ceremony were 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 and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab. Rahaman.

Also in attendance was Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

Also present were the sons and daughter of His Royal

Highness the Crown Prince, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim; Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah; and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda Muhammad Aiman and other members of the royal family.

Upon arrival, His Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness joined the players and management of DPMM FC for a group photo and interacted with them.

In his opening remarks, Mohammad Ali bin Haji Momin, General Manager of DPMM FC said, "As a member of the DPMM FC, we should be proud of the achievements that we have carved from the beginning until now. DPMM FC has already been recognised not only in the ASEAN region but also outside the ASEAN region."

Mohammad Ali added, DPMM FC initially started as a college football club, namely the Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah College team in 1994, only playing in matches organised by the college.

Work harder undergoing training, urged President BDNOC

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 22 - The Brunei Darussalam contingent's achievement during the 30th Southeast Asian Games (30th SEA Games), last year in the Republic of the Philippines was one of the country's best achievements in the SEA Games since 1977.

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) made the *sabda* (royal speech) at the Philippines 30th SEA Games 2019 Post-Mortem Meeting. The meeting took place at the Lecture Hall of the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium.

His Royal Highness in his *sabda* urged the athletes and teams who did not succeed in obtaining any medals and were unable to achieve their targets, to always strive in undergoing training much more diligently. His Royal Highness also hoped for the athletes to try again at future contingent sports if they are selected to represent the country. The secret for success is relentless effort and never giving up.

His Royal Highness also conveyed his thanks to the Secretariat of the Brunei's contingent, Chef de Mission and assistant Chefs de Mission who worked hard to ensure the entrusted tasks were



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 made the *sabda* at the Philippines 30th SEA Games 2019 Post-Mortem Meeting.

carried out smoothly despite the venues of competitions being far apart.

Earlier, His Royal Highness conveyed his thanks to Brunei Darussalam's contingent, especially for the athletes and team's achievement who brought home two gold medals, five silvers and six bronze medals.

Tourism strengthen bilateral relationship



Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs consents to officiate the Brunei-China Year of Tourism 2020. Also present was Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar, Chief of Adat Istiadat Negara.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 17 - Tourism contributes positive impact and diverse relations between Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China by bringing in mutual benefit to the economy, mutual understanding between people and promoting cultural exchange between the two countries.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism said for Brunei Darussalam, China is one of the largest source of air connectively tourism and saw an increase of 21.1 per cent with 65,563 tourist arrivals from China in 2018 in comparison to Chinese tourist arrivals of 54,125 in 2017.

"Relations between Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China have expanded through flights to Shanghai, Hong Kong, Changsa, Nanning, Kunming, Hanhgzhou, Haikou and most recently, Beijing. This reflects the support for strengthening the development of the network, built on strong bilateral relationships through dedicated, coordinated and ongoing efforts," said Yang Berhormat at the Brunei-China Year of Tourism 2020 held at the Arts Centre of Jerudong International School.

With the Brunei-China Year of Tourism 2020, Yang Berhormat is assured of enhancing cooperation with the aim to increase bilateral tourist visits and promoting relations between Brunei Darussalam and the People's Republic of China.

Present to officiate the Brunei-China Year of Tourism 2020 was Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum

Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Also present was Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar, Chief of Adat Istiadat Negara.

While, Mr. Zhang Xu, Vice Minister of Culture and Tourism of the People's Republic of China, in his speech said, Brunei Darussalam is famous for its Islamic culture and its social harmony which attract tourists from China.

He added that the People's Republic of

China will continue to work closely with Brunei Darussalam to implement the two countries leaders' agreement and based on mutual respect and trust, as well as making the Year of Tourism a benefit for both parties.

Her Excellency Yu Hong, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam in her remarks said, the Brunei-China Year of Tourism 2020 will further enhance the mutual understanding between the two countries.

Her Excellency said, the initiatives were an opportunity to strengthen the bilateral cooperation in various fields, strengthen China-Brunei strategic cooperative partnership and prepare for the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and Brunei Darussalam in 2021.

The ceremony also saw cultural performances by both countries.

Before leaving, Her Royal Highness consented to a group photo session with participants of cultural performances from both countries.

The Brunei-China Year of Tourism 2020 aims to provide a platform to strengthen tourism cooperation through people-to-people and cultural exchanges, enhance bilateral cooperation, capacity building and furthering collaboration and partnership between the two countries.

The year-long event is also an opportunity to build wider business and trade connections in other areas beyond tourism.



Cultural performance during the event.

Luxury eco-resort to be built in Temburong



Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism attends the signing ceremony of the contract between the Tourism Development Department under the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (MPRT), Eco-Green Development Sendirian Berhad and Sunshine Borneo Tours and Travel Sendirian Berhad.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 6 - Development projects in the Temburong District will not only provide existing tourism products and activities, it will also create over 40 jobs in the next five years as well as business opportunities to the local residents and as the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in the district.

A contract-signing ceremony for two projects between the Tourism Development Department under the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism (MPRT), Eco-Green Development Sendirian Berhad and Sunshine Borneo Tours and Travel Sdn. Bhd. held at the MPRT's VIP Room was witnessed by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism.

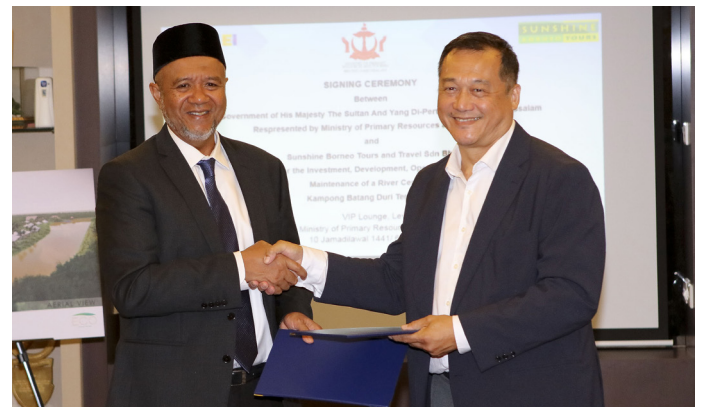
The first contract was signed by Haji Zulzalani bin Haji Osman, Acting Director of the Tourism Development Department witnessed by Pengiran Haji Kamalrudzaman bin Pengiran Haji Mohd. Ishak, Permanent Secretary at the MPRT.

Meanwhile, Director Lim Wei Su signed on behalf of Eco-Green Development Sdn. Bhd. in the presence of Yang Berhormat Siti Rozaimeriyanthi binti Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Abdul Rahman, member of Legislative Council (LegCo) and Principal Architect of Eco Bumi Arkitek.

The second contract was signed by Acting Director of the



The contract signing ceremony between the MPRT, Eco-Green Development Sendirian Berhad and Sunshine Borneo Tours and Travel Sdn. Bhd.



Pengiran Haji Kamalrudzaman bin Pengiran Haji Mohd. Ishak, Permanent Secretary at the MPRT exchanges document with Managing Director Chieng Hock Kiet of Sunshine Borneo Tours and Travel Sdn. Bhd.

Tourism Development Department Haji Zulzalani bin Haji Osman, witnessed by Pengiran Haji Kamalrudzaman bin Pengiran Haji Mohd Ishak, Permanent Secretary at the MPRT.

Meanwhile Chieng Hock Kiet, Managing Director of Sunshine Borneo Tours and Travel Sdn. Bhd. signed on behalf of Sunshine Borneo Tours and Travel Sdn. Bhd. in the presence of Jerome Fang Yau Yong, its Director.

Continue on page 14



An artist's picturesque impression of the luxury eco-resort in Temburong District.

Luxury eco-resort to be built in Temburong

From page 13

Eco-Green Development Sdn. Bhd. has been appointed to develop a luxury eco-resort at Kampung Perdayan, and to refurbish and operate the old District Office at Pekan Bangar.

The project aims to create a luxury eco-resort that has comprehensive elements that is sustainable, safe, reliable, attractive and affordable tourism products in Kampung Perdayan that can be enjoyed by local and foreign visitors.

It is the initiative of Corporate Social Responsibility by Eco-Green Development Sdn. Bhd to refurbish and operate the old District Office at Pekan Bangar. The company will operate and maintain the building, provide an information centre for visitors and exhibit spaces for the local communities to showcase and sell their traditional handicrafts products.

Sunshine Borneo Tours and Travel Sdn. Bhd. has been appointed to develop a



An artist's picturesque impression of the luxury eco-resort in Temburong District.

river centre for the safe provision of *temuai* or longboat shuttle service from Kampung Batang Duri to the Ulu Temburong National Park.

The river centre will also serve as a comfortable ante-room for tourists awaiting for the arrival of their longboat.

The facilities includes a surau, an ablution area, restrooms and changing rooms for added comfort.

The river centre will also showcase cultural products and handicrafts, through partnership with youths and local communities in Temburong.

Brunei - Myanmar: Continue efforts to further intensify friendly relations

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 21 - The Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Brunei Darussalam hosted a dinner reception to celebrate its 72nd anniversary of the Independence Day of Myanmar at the Indera Samudra Grand Hall of The Empire Brunei.

Present on behalf of the Government 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 was Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism and spouse Datin Hajah Norhaida binti Haji Sulaiman.

Also present was His Excellency U Htin Lynn, Ambassador of

Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam and spouse.

The event started with the singing of the national anthems of both countries followed by a welcoming speech by Ambassador of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam, Mr. U Htin Lynn, in which he highlighted the strong diplomatic ties between Brunei and Myanmar since 1993.

"27 years on, continued efforts are being made to further intensify friendly relation between the two countries and people," he said.

The ceremony continued with a cake-cutting ceremony by the minister and spouse and Mr. U Htin Lynn and spouse. Traditional Myanmar performances also enlivened the night.



Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism and His Excellency U Htin Lynn, Ambassador of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam with some members of the Diplomatic Corps and guests.

Invite youth to be involved in MPMK activities

TUNGKU LINK, January 9 - Given the present changes in demographic, in which accounts to youth 60 per cent of the population, it is vital for them to be involved in the implementation of Village and Mukim Consultative Councils (MPMK) plans either as a member, or to be engaged actively in any MPMK programmes.

The matter was underlined by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs at the launching of Leadership Strengthening Workshop for Mukim Penghulus, Acting Mukim Penghulus, Village Head and Acting Village Heads at the Civil Service Institute.

"We have witnessed the active involvement of the youths in several Village Consultative Councils (MPK) project, which have inspired villagers and changed the MPMK format with economic and welfare activities. Towards this, we should explore the best approaches to invite more youth into the MPMK programmes," said Yang Berhormat.

From the economic aspect, said Yang Berhormat, MPMK have been conducting the One Village One Product (1K1P) for more than 20 years, but on the whole, it has not met its objective to increase village revenue.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, Minister of Home Affairs at the launching of Leadership Strengthening Workshop for Mukim Penghulus, Acting Mukim Penghulus, Village Head and Acting Village Heads at the Civil Service Institute.

"No doubt, we have achieved success in penetrating the local market. But with the ever-changing economy, business climate and consumer preference, we should give serious attention to this matter and to review, coordinate and adapt it to suit present trends by way of products, operations, and so on," said Yang Berhormat.

The workshop features briefing on effective communication, the Service Scheme for Mukim Penghulus and Village Heads, General Orders and Financial Regulations, as well as talks by various agencies.

It is hoped that the workshop will further enhance the leadership qualities, credibility, integrity, work etiquette and to boost the participants' knowledge in terms of handling village residents and their active involvement in planning and implementation of community affairs.

The 2-day workshop is the effort and initiative of Ministry of Home Affairs attended by Mukim Penghulus, Acting Mukim Penghulus, Village Head and Acting Village Heads.



Among the Mukim Penghulus, Acting Mukim Penghulus, Village Head and Acting Village Heads participate the 2-day leadership workshop.

Preparations towards a low carbon nation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 12 - The Brunei Darussalam National Council on Climate Change (BNCCC) held its 3rd meeting at the Ministry of Development.

The meeting was held to discuss the draft of the Brunei Darussalam National Climate Policy (BNCP) that was designed to steer Brunei Darussalam towards low carbon and climate resilient pathways for a sustainable nation in accordance to Brunei Vision 2035, while safeguarding the welfare of the people and ensuring a clean, green and healthy environment.

The meeting was co-chaired by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Engineer Awang Haji Suhaimi bin Haji Gafar, Minister of Development and Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mat Suny bin Haji Md. Hussein, Minister of Energy.



The Brunei Darussalam National Council on Climate Change meeting were co-chaired by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Engineer Awang Haji Suhaimi bin Haji Gafar, Minister of Development and Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mat Suny bin Haji Md. Hussein, Minister of Energy. Meanwhile, the council members were Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism and Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Mutalib bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Setia Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yusof, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications.

Continue on page 16

Preparations towards a low carbon nation

From page 15

Meanwhile, the BNCCC members are Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism and Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Mutalib bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Setia Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yusof, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications.

The BNCP has been prepared by a wide range of stakeholders and this reflects the government's efforts to ensure climate change issues are fully addressed and integrated as these issues are 'cross-sectoral' and require a 'Whole-of-Nation' approach.

A total of 39 agencies consisting of government, private sector, research institutions, academics, associations and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) have been appointed as members of the Climate Policy Drafting committee.

A group of 51 representative also reviewed the BNCP to provide insight from youth's perspective.

As the world moves into a new decade, it is the decade that determines whether or not the global average temperature increase will exceed the critical danger level of 1.5°C. It is important for Brunei Darussalam to take steps in shaping the direction of low carbon development and enhancing the capacity and preparedness of the nation in dealing with the effects of climate change.

The BNCCC was established to strengthen climate change governance and to ensure a whole-of-nation approach to address the challenge and impacts of climate change on a national level.

On the operational front, the Brunei Climate Change Secretariat was established in 2018 and has been given the mandate to develop, implement, monitor and evaluate climate change policies, strategies and actions in Brunei Darussalam to coordinate the climate change governance.



126 establishments, entities in ASEAN receives awards

JERUDONG, January 16 - Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism speaking at Closing Ceremony of ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2020 held at the Indera Samudra Ballroom, The Empire Brunei, highlighted the launching of the revamped ASEAN Marketing website which will facilitate their efforts to meet the demands of digital tourism experiences and current trends.

Yang Berhormat further said the commitments and cooperation from all ASEAN Member States and strategic partners has helped ASEAN progress rapidly in becoming a quality tourism destination offering a unique, diverse ASEAN experience, which contributes significantly to the socio-economic well-being of ASEAN people.

Following the event, Yang Berhormat handed over the Chairmanship to The Kingdom of Cambodia, as the Host Country of the 40th ASEAN Tourism Forum 2021 with the theme 'ASEAN - A Community of Peace and Shared Future'.

His Excellency Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism of Cambodia in his speech said the theme articulates Cambodia's commitment as a key stakeholder in the region's tourism eco-system.



Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism delivers a speech during the Closing Ceremony of the ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2020 held at Indera Samudera Grand Hall, The Empire Brunei.

Meanwhile, ASEAN Tourism Ministers accorded several awards to recognise their achievements.

Brunei Darussalam was among the ASEAN member states to receive a number of awards in the ASEAN Tourism Awards Presentation Ceremony.

The ASEAN Tourism Ministers accorded a number of Awards to 126 establishment and entities in ASEAN as a token of appreciation and to recognise their achievements and contribution to the promotion of the ASEAN Tourism Standards.

46 establishments were honoured with the 7th ASEAN Green Hotel Award and 41 establishments were awarded with the 2nd ASEAN MICE Venue Awards. 21 cities in ASEAN were presented with the 2nd ASEAN Clean Tourist City Awards 2020, and 18 establishments were honoured with the 2nd ASEAN Sustainable Tourism Awards 2020.

For Brunei Darussalam, the 7th ASEAN Green Hotel Award was presented to Ulu-Ulu Resort and Radisson Hotel for their green initiatives in energy saving, use of green products and community involvement.



His Excellency Dr. Thong Khon, Minister of Tourism of Cambodia delivers a speech during ASEAN Tourism Chairman handover to The Kingdom of Cambodia, as the Host Country of the 40th ASEAN Tourism Forum 2021.

Continue on page 17



126 establishments, entities in ASEAN receives awards



Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apeng, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism presents the award to one of the recipients at the ASEAN Tourism Awards Presentation Ceremony.

From page 16

While Pekan Bangar, Temburong District received the 2nd ASEAN Clean Tourist City Award. Meanwhile, Mutiara Ballroom, Radisson Hotel; Syndicate Room, Armada Properties Sendirian Berhad; and Serambi Suluh Hall, Tarindak D'Seni, received the 2nd ASEAN MICE Venue Award for the Meeting Room category.

The 2nd ASEAN Sustainable Tourism Award (ASTA) for the Urban Sustainable Product was awarded to Kampong Ayer.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apeng, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism presented the award at Presentation Ceremony.

According to Yang Berhormat in the Press Conference of Tourism Ministers of ASEAN, in 2019 statistic showed that ASEAN welcomed over 133 million international arrivals, with an increase by 7 per cent from 2018, of which the number of intra-ASEAN tourist arrivals accounted for about 36.7 per cent.

As a result of the meeting under the framework of the ongoing ASEAN Tourism Forum (ATF) 2020, Yang Berhormat explained that the ministers appreciate the ASEAN National Tourism Organizations (NTOs) and the ASEAN NTOs Committee in implementing of the ASEAN Tourism Strategic Plan (ATSP) 2016 - 2025 and it was noted that 47 out of 73 activities or 64.4 per cent of the ATSPs have been implemented or completed.

Yang Berhormat realised that digital tourism is one of the key activities to be aligned in enhancing the public's experience in accessing information and services, and developed a declaration



The Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism speaks at the ASEAN Tourism Ministers Press Conference.

on ASEAN digital tourism to be considered and adopted by ASEAN Leaders at the 37th ASEAN Summit in Vietnam towards the end of 2020.

Regarding Protocol to Amend the Mutual Recognition Arrangements on Tourism Professional - MRA-TP, Yang Berhormat said the ministers are working towards signing in 2020, on an ad referendum basis to enable the MRA-TP to expand the recognition of more professional under tourism and hospitality industries.

"The ministers were pleased to acknowledge that in 2019, the ASEAN Plus Three (APT) region attracted 244.5 million international visitor arrivals, which is an increase by 5.8 per cent from 2018 and confident that the region's tourism industry will continue to grow as the ASEAN Plus Three Countries strengthen their cooperation through profitable projects and activities," said Yang Berhormat.

During the meeting, the ministers also endorsed the ASEAN Plus Three Framework on Environment Management Standards, and also agreed to develop the successor document to the APT Tourism Cooperation Work Plan this year to synergise the subsequent work plan with the ATSP 2016-2025.

ATF 2020 was held from January 12 to 16, in Brunei Darussalam with the theme of 'ASEAN - Together Towards a New Generation of Travel'.

ATF was also joined by 263 exhibitors and attended by 160 international buyers as well as 40 local and international media.

Second Minister of Defence receives courtesy calls

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 22 - Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Second Minister of Defence received a courtesy call from Mr. Greg Moriarty, the Secretary of Defence of Australia, who is currently in Brunei Darussalam for a one-day visit.

Mr. Greg Moriarty was the first Australian Secretary of Defence to make a working visit to Brunei Darussalam.

During the call, both sides reaffirmed their

Continue on page 18



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Second Minister of Defence receives a courtesy call from Mr. Chan Heng Kee, The Republic of Singapore's Permanent Secretary (Defence).

Second Minister of Defence receives courtesy calls

From page 17

longstanding and close friendship between both countries in the field of defence.

The Australian Secretary of Defence's visit underscores the long-standing defence relations between Brunei Darussalam and Australia that was fostered through a spectrum of bilateral engagements including in the form of exchange of visits; agreements; intelligence exchanges; Joint Defence Working Committee meetings; military exercises; trainings; and courses.

Beyond bilateral engagements, both sides are also actively interacting through multilateral engagements including under the ambit of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) where Brunei Darussalam and Australia were the current co-chairs of the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group on Military Medicine for the current 2020-2023 cycle.

On January 9, Yang Berhormat received a courtesy call from Mr. Chan Heng Kee, the Republic of Singapore's Permanent Secretary (Defence) who was on his introductory visit to Brunei Darussalam



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, the Second Minister of Defence received a courtesy call by Mr. Greg Moriarty, the Secretary of Defence of Australia.

from January 8-9.

As part of the programme, Mr. Chan Heng Kee visited the Royal Brunei Armed Forces Museum and Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Institute of Defence and Strategic Studies.

Mr. Chan Heng Kee's visit underscored

the close and long-standing defence relations between Brunei Darussalam and Republic of Singapore. Both defence and military establishments have extensive and regular interactions in the form of exchanges of visits, dialogues, meetings, military exercises, trainings, courses, exhibitions and development and interaction programmes.

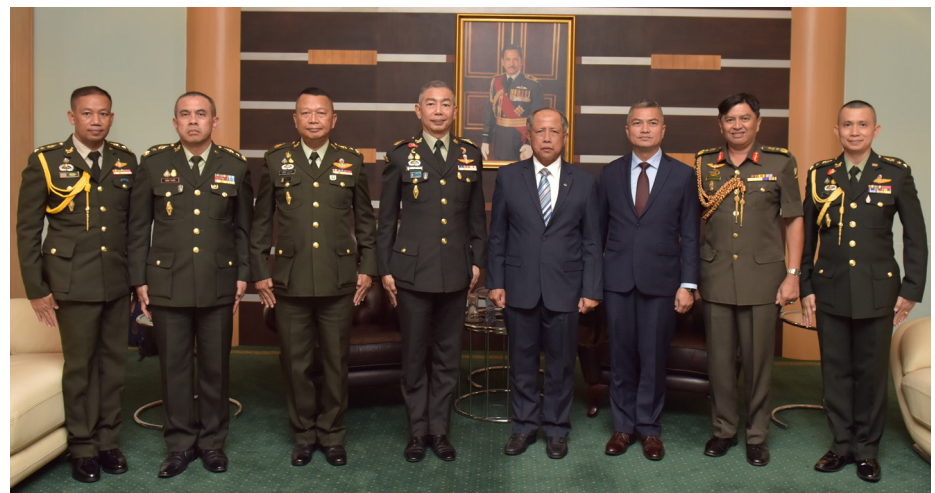
Introductory visit reaffirms close military cooperation

BERAKAS, January 28 - The Royal Brunei Land Force (RBLF) received a visit from General Apirat Kongsompong, Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army at the RBLF Headquarters, BRKAS Garrison as part of his introductory visit to Brunei Darussalam from January 28-29.

Upon arrival at the RBLF Headquarters, the Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army was welcomed by Brigadier General Dato Seri Pahlawan Awang Khairul Hamed bin Awang Haji Lampoh, Commander of the RBLF, followed by the inspection of the guard of honour mounted by the personnel of First Battalion RBLF.

General Apirat Kongsompong then proceeded to call on the Commander of the RBLF. During the courtesy call, both sides reaffirmed the close cooperation between the two land forces and discussed other avenues to strengthen military cooperation.

As part of his visit programme, General Apirat Kongsompong had courtesy calls with Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Second Minister of Defence and Major General Pengiran Dato Paduka Seri



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Second Minister of Defence and General Apirat Kongsompong, Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army and during the courtesy call.

Aminan bin Pengiran Haji Mahmud, Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) at the Ministry of Defence.

During the call, both sides expressed satisfaction on the flourishing bilateral defence relations, and expressed pleasure with the ongoing bilateral cooperation in military-related activities at the bilateral level. Both sides were also pleased with the continued engagement at the multilateral level

through various avenues, particularly the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting (ADMM) and the ADMM-Plus frameworks.

An official dinner hosted by the Commander of the Royal Brunei Land Force was also held at the Officers' Mess, Berakas Garrison. It was attended by senior officers and officers of RBLF. General Apirat Kongsompong was appointed as Commander-in-Chief of the Royal Thai Army on October 1, 2018.

Digital transformation in world modernisation

JERUDONG, January 24 - DST launched its revamped products and services as part of the relaunch of its brand following the restructuring of the telco industry held at Indera Kayangan Ballroom, The Empire Brunei.

The launching ceremony was officiated by the guest of honour, 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 in his capacity as Chairman of DST with Radin Sufri bin Radin Basiuni, Chief Executive Officer of DST.

"A year ago we announced the Brunei ICT Sector initiative to accelerate the nation's digital agenda. The transformation to the sector was necessary for Brunei to keep pace with the rest of the world as they move ahead with the digital revolution. Since then, we have witnessed colleagues from across DST, Progresif, TelBru and United National Networks (UNN) learning from one another and collaborating to shape a sustainable future for the industry and country," said the Minister.

"DST is constantly drawing on the best of the organisations to collectively drive the transformation forward and find new ways of working and improving. We can already see real tangible benefits and progress happening."

Yang Berhormat explained that UNN as the infrastructure provider, has commenced work on consolidating and modernising Brunei's network. The 4G network is being presently upgraded, bringing users the 4G+ experience where 98 sites have been activated.

Radin Sufri also emphasised DST's key company objective which has always been to serve the communities in Brunei. Having this as DST's guiding commitment, DST has materialised and transformed its long-serving products both as new or much duly improved and worth the wait for its customers.

Through the launch, DST revealed a perspective on what it meant to 'Enable Limitless Connectivity, Everywhere' via Eas!, Freedom, Mobi and Infinity.

Easi, with the masses voicing out requests for the most popular prepaid service in Brunei Darussalam to follow through to offer better value, Easi Prepaid is now easier than ever to enjoy with customers' favourite options and introductions of new bundles of local SMS and data, the Combo 8 and Combo 22. To add on, DST also revised its data-add on packages with more value



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 who is also Chairman of Datastream Digital Sdn. Bhd. (DST) during launching of the new DST product.

for money.

Freedom is the new mobile broadband product to replace the GO! Broadband. It is the number one sought-out mobile broadband throughout Brunei Darussalam for its flexibility to be used anytime, anywhere. With Freedom 18, Freedom 38 and Freedom 63 subscribers can enjoy the use of data for any occasion.

Mobi Previously familiar among the masses as Prima Postpaid, Mobi has simplified its monthly plans to BND30, BND50 and BND80. Calls and SMS are all unlimited with data quota bundles ranging from 8GB, 20GB and 65GB which are nearly triple their data to suit everyone's lifestyle needs.

Furthermore, Infinity products were also introduced namely DST 'Fibre' that offers monthly plans for homes as low as BND38 with a luxurious 200GB data quota and the unlimited fibre plans which start at BND98 onwards.

As part of the launch, DST revealed its most exciting promotions as a kick start to 2020 whereby Easi users will be rewarded a total of 6GB for over the next three months after downloading the MyDST App from the App Store or Google Play Store. While for a limited time only, DST is offering a free Eas! SIM when purchasing a BND20 top up and for a limited time only.

DST is offering Easi customers a free Samsung or Oppo smartphone for sign-ups to Mobi 30 and Mobi 50.

Meanwhile DST subscribers who upgrade their current Mobi plan to a higher plan will continue to enjoy the previous plan's rental price for up to three months. DST is offering a converge plan where four Mobi plans combined will receive one INFINITY 38 with 200GB quota for 24 months for free. The promotion is for a limited period.

The CEO of DST also revealed that over the coming months, DST is committed to introduce more value through better subscription, campaigns, rewards and promotions for customers.



Customers being introduced to DST's new products and services.

MoU enhances the quality of healthcare



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 in his capacity as the Chairman of the Pantai Jerudong Specialist Centre (PJSC) Board of Directors; Dr. Haji Mazrul Adimin bin Haji Besar, Executive Director of PJSC; Dr. Sadayoshi Watanabe Vice President of Southern TOHOKU Hospital Group; and Professor Kanichi Seto, Senior Advisor at STHG and President of the International Health Care Foundation during the signing ceremony.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 18 - Pantai Jerudong Specialist Centre (PJSC) and Southern TOHOKU Hospital Group (STHG) of Japan signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

Signing the MoU on behalf of PJSC was Dr. Haji Mazrul Adimin bin Haji Besar, Executive Director and for Southern TOHOKU Hospital Group (STHG) was Dr. Sadayoshi Watanabe, Vice President of STHG.

It was witnessed by 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 in his capacity as the Chairman of the PJSC Board of Directors; and Professor Kanichi Seto, Senior Advisor at STHG and President of the International Health Care Foundation.

According to PJSC, the MoU will support it in achieving health-related targets, advance value-based innovation and enhance

the quality of healthcare services under its portfolio.

PJSC is a specialised healthcare provider consisting of three specialised medical service centres namely, The Brunei Cancer Centre (TBCC), Brunei Neuroscience, Stroke and Rehabilitation Centre (BNSRC) and Maxillofacial, Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Centre (MFPRSC) which are equipped with state-of-the-art medical and rehabilitative care facilities.

The Japanese guests had the opportunity to visit and tour the centres.

STHG is a conglomerate of medical and social welfare service corporations in Japan.

STHG pioneered the development of Proton Beam Therapy (PBT) Centre and the world's first accelerator-based Boron Neutron Capture Therapy (BNCT) Research Centre to become a critical care centre for local and international patients.

People of Brunei Darussalam are the assets of the nation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 8 - 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, emphasised the main role of Agenda for Sustainable Development 2030 which has driven Brunei Darussalam's collective global scale efforts towards achieving a better and sustainable future for all.

Yang Berhormat also acknowledged that while progress has been made in some areas such as reduced number of people living in extreme poverty, other areas require more attention such as combating the adverse effects of climate change.

Yang Berhormat noted this in his keynote address at the Opening Ceremony of the Voluntary National Review (VNR)

Workshop for Brunei Darussalam held at The Rizqun International Hotel.

As such, Yang Berhormat encouraged the country to continue its collective and multilateral collaboration in addressing such challenges.

Touching about Brunei Darussalam's efforts in achieving the country's development, Yang Berhormat stressed that people are one of the Brunei's greatest assets.

Yang Berhormat continuously stressed on the commitment of His Majesty's government that continues to invest for the people's quality of education and health services, finance inclusion as well as improvements in labour productivity.

The VNR workshop conducted by Minister of Finance and Economy with the support of United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was



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 at the Opening Ceremony of the Voluntary National Review (VNR) Workshop for Brunei Darussalam held at The Rizqun International Hotel.

Continue on page 21

People of Brunei Darussalam are the assets of the nation

From page 20

held for two-days which began on January 8 to 9.

The VNR workshop forms part of the nation's preparations for its first VNR session, the report of which will be presented during the UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, UN HLPF in July 2020.

The workshop involves the relevant stakeholders in the

country and showcases the country's commitment towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals which were adopted by all UN member states in 2015.

The UN was represented by Doctor Katinka Weinberger of the Environment and Development Division, UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, UN ESCAP, as well as other officials from UN ESCAP and UNDP.

New Imagine branch at LTAB launched

BERAKAS, January 24 - In an effort to provide competitive and latest branding especially for locals and visitors to the country, Telecommunication Services Supervisor Company, Imagine Sendirian Berhad (Imagine) launched the opening of its 10th branch at both the arrival and departure halls of Brunei International Airport.

It was officiated by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Motalib bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Setia Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yusof, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications and witnessed by Yang Mulia Dato Seri Paduka Dr. Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, Deputy Minister of Finance and Economy (Economy), who is also TelBru's Chairman.

The branches at both the departure and arrival halls are strategically located for the convenience of travellers and visitors alike, and will better position the company to cater to the needs of tourists to help them keep in touch with home through Imagine's nationwide WiFi network allocated in various strategic locations as they explore Brunei Darussalam.

Imagine's presence at Brunei's main port of entry is also aimed at showcasing Brunei as a nation that is moving towards the advancement of technology as imagine aims to fully support the Government 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's Smart Nation and tourism initiative as part of Vision 2035's in diversifying the Bruneian economy away from oil and gas.

Similar to Imagine's branches, this newly-opened branch offers



Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Motalib bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Setia Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yusof, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications visits a new Imagine branch at the departure halls of Brunei International Airport.

signups for broadband and voice services, post-paid mobile, prepaid WiFi cards that can be used through imagine's nationwide WiFi network, upgrades and bill payment, as well as Customer Experience Centre to assist customers with connecting to the WiFi facility at the airport.

Earlier, Suzanna Suharju, CEO of Imagine in her speech said that Imagine will continue to build on engaging its customers through all available platforms as part of the company's customer-centric cultural-vision that emphasises the customer's needs as part of Imagine's vision and mission.



Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Motalib bin Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Setia Dato Paduka Haji Mohammad Yusof, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications, Yang Mulia Dato Seri Paduka Dr. Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, Deputy Minister of Finance and Economy (Economy), who is also TelBru's Chairman and senior officials from the ministries, Imagine and TelBru in a group photo.

NBD - Commonwealth of Dominica, establishes Diplomatic Relations

NEW YORK, January 23 - The Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica have established diplomatic relations with effect from January 22.

The signing of the Joint Communiqué took place at the Permanent Mission of Brunei Darussalam to the United Nations in New York.

The Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was represented by Her Excellency Hajah Noor Qamar binti Haji Sulaiman, Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to the United Nations in New York.

Whilst The Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica was represented by Her Excellency Loreen Ruth Bannis-Roberts, Permanent Representative of the Commonwealth of Dominica to the United Nations in New York.



Her Excellency Hajah Noor Qamar binti Haji Sulaiman, Permanent Representative of Brunei Darussalam to the United Nations and Her Excellency Loreen Ruth Bannis-Roberts, Permanent Representative of the Commonwealth of Dominica to the United Nations exchange signed documents.

AMBD - MAS sign new areas of cooperation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 23 - Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD) and the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) committed to new areas of cooperation, with the signing of an enhanced Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Bilateral Cooperation at the 3rd AMBD-MAS Bilateral Roundtable on January 22.

The MoU, signed by Rokiah binti Badar, AMBD Managing Director and Ravi Menon, MAS Managing Director builds on the longstanding cooperation between both countries in many areas, including the Currency Interchangeability Agreement.

New areas of cooperation include financial sector development, cross-border supervision, crisis management, AML/CFT, as well as currency management and operations.

At the Roundtable, AMBD and MAS discussed recent economic, monetary and financial developments, FinTech collaboration and currency management.



Rokiah binti Badar, Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD) Managing Director and Ravi Menon, Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) Managing Director at the 3rd AMBD-MAS Bilateral Roundtable.





InfoDeptBN

اقليكاسي موده اليه جابتن قنرغن

The Department of Information's Mobile Application

- Facilitates in Accessing the **Latest News**
- Increases the **Sharing of Information**
- **Easy** and **Fast** Accessibility
- Supports the **Paperless** and **Green IT**

Use Our Application Today!

Easy download and access




'Nurturing an Informed Society'