



Sembada 188 Paddy Planting

KUALA BELAIT, October 28 - 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 officiated the Sembada Paddy Planting Ceremony at the 1st Phase of the Kandol Agriculture Development Area.

Also in attendance were His Majesty's sons, 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; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Shortly after arrival, His Majesty listened to a briefing on the Kandol Agriculture Development Area as a 500-hectare Commercial Paddy Planting Project presented by Khairunnisa binti Haji Omar Ali, Head of the Paddy and Crop Protection Section, Department of

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam planting the Sembada 188 paddy seedlings at the Kandol paddy plantation site using a paddy transplanter.

Brunei economy goes up in rating

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 24 - The World Bank has published this year's edition of its annual Doing Business report (Doing Business 2020), that recorded Brunei Darussalam's two new reforms, further improving the business regulatory framework. Substantive improvements were seen in the local regulatory framework for the indicators on 'Enforcing Contracts', and 'Resolving Insolvency', championed by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

This can be attributed to the publication of judicial reports and statistics online by the State Judiciary Department and reforms made in improving creditor's rights when undertaking insolvency proceedings, hence contributing to the strengthening of the overall Insolvency Framework of the country.

Other indicators that have shown improvement were 'Dealing with Construction Permits' indicator, championed by the Ministry of Development (MoD); as well as 'Getting Electricity',

championed by the Ministry of Energy, Manpower and Industry (MEMI), which has also made great strides in streamlining the approval process through a reduction in the time taken for obtaining electricity which has improved in terms of its efficiency from 35 calendar days to 25 calendar days.

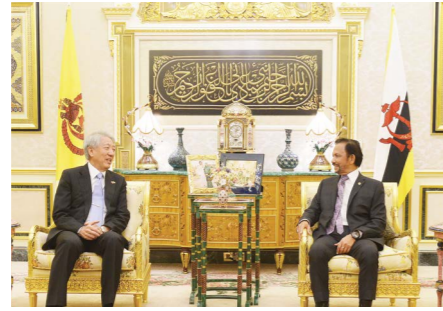
Brunei Darussalam still maintained the number one ranking in 'Getting Credit', together with top-ranking country, New Zealand. This indicator, championed by Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD), reflects the strength of credit reporting systems and borrowers' information, due to the credit registry offering credit scores to banks to better inform their lending decisions, therefore, further easing the process for businesses to obtain financial support.

Meanwhile, indicators that have also maintained their position

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4. Her Majesty receives audiences



5. His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah receives audience



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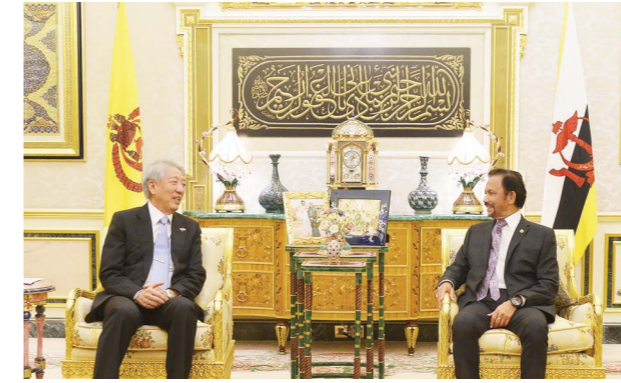
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His Majesty receives audiences

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



His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security of the Republic of Singapore on October 2.



His Excellency Dr. Salim Mohammed A. Al Malik, Director-General of the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) on October 10.



The Honourable Tan Sri Tommy Thomas, Attorney General of Malaysia and The Honourable Mr. Lucien Wong, Attorney General of the Republic of Singapore on October 10.



Yang Berhormat Dato' Saifuddin Abdullah, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia on October 16.



Delegation for the 41st ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (41st AMAF) and related meetings on October 16: In the delegation were His Excellency Veng Sakhon, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Kingdom of Cambodia; His Excellency Datuk Seri Salahuddin Bin Ayub, Minister of Agriculture and Agro-based Industry, Malaysia; His Excellency Dr. Aung Thu, Union Minister at the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation, Republic of the Union of Myanmar; His Excellency Dr. William D. Dar, Secretary of Department of Agriculture, Republic of Philippines; Her Excellency Dr. Amy Khor, Minister of Environment and Water Resources, Republic of Singapore; His Excellency Han Changfu, Minister of Agriculture and Rural Affairs, People's Republic of China; His Excellency Kailash Choudhary, Minister of Agriculture and Farmer's Welfare, Republic of India; His Excellency Bounkhouang Khambounheuang, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Lao People's Democratic Republic; Her Excellency Mananya Thaiset, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Kingdom of Thailand; His Excellency Le Quoc Doanh, Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, Socialist Republic of Vietnam; His Excellency Shinya Fujiki, Parliamentary Vice-Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Japan; His Excellency Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, Secretary General of ASEAN; His Excellency Dr. Momon Rusmono, the Secretary-General at Ministry of Agriculture, Republic of Indonesia; and Mr. Yoon Dong-Jin, Director General as representative of Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, Republic of Korea.

Her Majesty receives audiences

Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam received audiences at the Istana Nurul Iman from:

Madam Teo Poh Yim, spouse of the Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security of the Republic of Singapore on October 2.



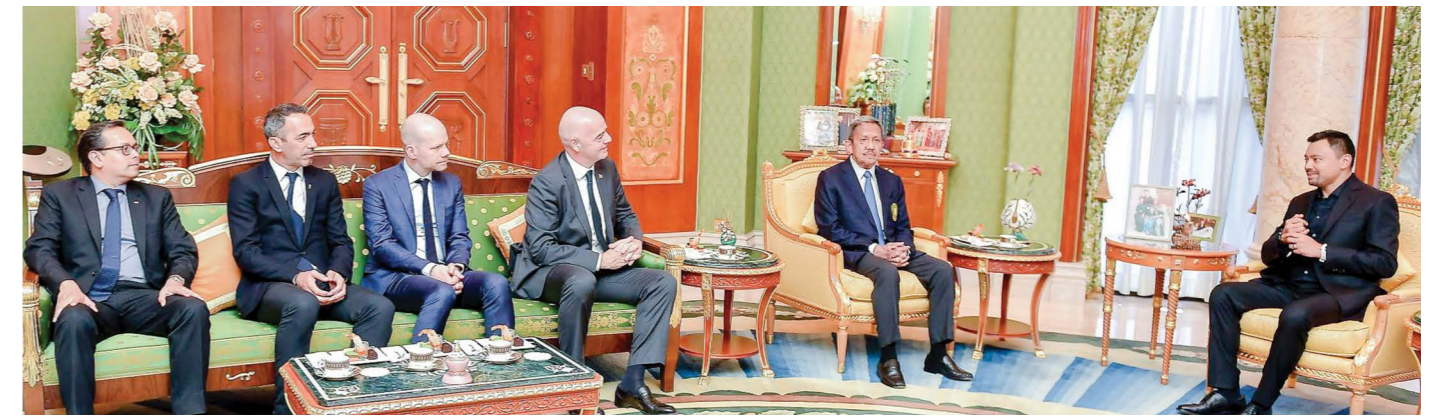
Heads of Diplomatic Missions and wives of Heads of Diplomatic Missions to Brunei Darussalam on October 7. Also in attendance were Her Majesty's daughters, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkiah.

Crown Prince receives audiences

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



His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security of the Republic of Singapore, and spouse, Madam Teo Poh Yim and delegation on October 2.



Mr. Gianni Infantino, President of Federation Internationale De Football Association (FIFA) and delegation on October 20.

His Majesty sends 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 Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China and His Excellency Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, as well as the government and the people of the People's Republic of China on the occasion of its 70th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1.
- His Excellency Frank-Walter Steinmeier, President of the Federal Republic of Germany and Her Excellency Angela Merkel, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, the government and the people of the Federal Republic of Germany on the occasion of the Day of German Unity on October 3.
- His Excellency Moon Jae-in, President of the Republic of Korea, the government and people of the Republic of Korea on the occasion of its National Foundation Day on October 3.
- His Excellency Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia on the occasion of the appointment of His Excellency as the 8th President of the Republic of Indonesia on October 20.
- His Majesty Emperor Naruhito, Emperor of Japan and Her Majesty Empress Masako on the Enthronement Ceremony on October 22.
- His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan on the occasion of the Enthronement Ceremony of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito, Emperor of Japan and Her Majesty Empress Masako on October 22.
- His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Turkey, the government as well as to the people of the Republic of Turkey on the occasion of the Republic Day on the October 29.

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah receives audience

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien received audience at the Balai Penghadapan Bukit Kayangan:

His Excellency Eiji Yamamoto, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam on October 10.



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Agriculture and Agrifood.

His Majesty also listened to a briefing on the Infrastructure Construction Project presented by Alice Lim Sui Kau, Acting Director General of Public Works.

Meanwhile, the briefing on implementation of planting operations was delivered by Fuziah binti Haji Hamdan, Paddy Operations Manager, PaddyCo Sendirian Berhad.

His Majesty then made a *titah* (royal speech) for the opening of the Paddy Planting and proceeded to plant the paddy Sembada 188 at Lot 1 using a paddy transplanter.

Joining His Majesty in the paddy planting were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

The paddy planting was accompanied with a Tausyeh Syukur, performed by students of Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University (UNISSA) and Seri Begawan Religious Teachers University College (KUPU SB).

His Majesty and Their Royal Highnesses then proceeded to view the exhibition from agricultural entrepreneurs showcasing various agriculture efforts by local companies of the Belait District.

Later, His Majesty and Their Royal Highnesses then consented to visit the Merangking Primary School and Bang Taong Longhouse alias 'Apak-Apak' in Mukim Sukang in the district.

His Majesty's first stop was Merangking Primary School, which is located in rural Ulu Belait. His Majesty toured the school's Administration Department block, teachers' room and the classrooms.

His Majesty also consented to meet the students before leaving to observe the facilities provided at the Multi-Purpose Hall of Kampung Merangking.

His Majesty then visited the Bang Taong Longhouse alias Apak-Apak. Located some 90 kilometres from Bandar Seri Begawan, Bang Taong Longhouse is occupied by about 130 people and is headed by Rantai Anak Jawa.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam being greeted by the students during a visit to Merangking Primary School.



His Majesty visits the Bang Taong Longhouse in Mukim Sukang. Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (left) and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen (right) planting some of the Sembada 188 paddy seedlings.

Brunei economy goes up in rating

From front page

from last year's report were 'Starting A Business' (16) and 'Trading Across Borders' (149).

Nonetheless, even with current efforts in improving business-related processes across all indicators, due to the increasing competitiveness and rate of reforms implemented by other participating economies, as well as a methodology adjustment, several indicators experienced a slip in ranking such as Registering Property; Paying Taxes; and Protecting Minority Investors.

The Doing Business 2020 Report this year sees several changes in methodology and scope of assessment not previously accounted for in past years. For example, the 'Protecting Minority Investors' indicator assumptions now considers corporate governance for listed companies – in the absence of an active stock exchange with at least ten listings (that are not state-owned), no points are awarded under the shareholder governance index for this indicator.

The AMBD and Ministry of Finance and Economy (MoFE) are actively working to establish a national stock exchange.

Overall, this has resulted in Brunei Darussalam being ranked 66 out of 190 economies with Ease of Doing Business's (EODB) score that has shown a gradual increase from 69.6 (adjusted) in 2019 to 70.1 in 2020.

TABLE 1: SUMMARY FOR BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

INDICATORS	EODB SCORE DB2020	EODB SCORE DB2019	DB2020	DB2019	CHANGE IN RANK
OVERALL RANK	▲ 70.1	69.6	▼ 66	55	-11
Starting A Business	94.9	94.9	16	16	0
Dealing With Construction Permit	▲ 73.6	73.5	▲ 54	55	+1
Getting Electricity	87.7	87.7	31	31	0
Registering Property	▼ 50.7	51.5	▼ 144	142	-2
Getting Credit	100.0	100.0	1	1	0
Protecting Minority Investors	40.0	40.0	▼ 128	48	-80
Paying Taxes	74.0	74.0	▼ 90	84	-6
Trading Across Borders	58.7	58.7	149	149	0
Enforcing Contract	▲ 62.8	60.9	▲ 66	67	+1
Resolving Insolvency	▲ 58.2	55.1	▲ 59	64	+5

Brunei Darussalam remained 4th among ASEAN nations behind Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand.

This also coincides with an improvement in its rank in the Global Competitiveness 2019 Report by the World Economic

Forum by scoring 62.8 points out of 100 and climbed to 56th out of 141 economies with improvements in scores of various pillars including 'Macroeconomic Stability', 'Skills', 'Labour Market',

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TABLE 2: BRUNEI DARUSSALAM'S RANKING AMONGST ASEAN COUNTRIES IN DOING BUSINESS REPORT 2020

No	Economy	DB 2020		DB 2019		Change in Rank
		Rank	EODB Score	Rank	EODB Score	
1	Singapore	2	86.2	2	85.8	0
2	Malaysia	12	81.5	15	81.3	▲ 3
3	Thailand	21	80.1	27	79.5	▲ 6
4	Brunei Darussalam	66	70.1	55	69.6	▼ 11
5	Vietnam	70	69.8	69	68.6	▼ 1
6	Indonesia	73	69.6	73	68.2	0
7	Philippines	95	62.8	124	60.9	▲ 29
8	Cambodia	144	53.8	138	53.8	▼ 6
9	Lao PDR	154	50.8	154	49.8	0
10	Myanmar	165	46.8	171	43.5	▲ 6

Brunei economy goes up in rating

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'Financial System', 'Market Size', 'Business Dynamism' as well as 'Innovation Capability'. Meanwhile the top 3 pillars are 'ICT Adoption' (26), 'Labour Market' (30) and 'Product Market' (37).

business regulatory environment is underpinned by a Whole-of-Nation approach spearheaded and monitored by the EODB Steering Committee, chaired by the MEMI, and collectively delivered by respective 'Champion Groups' from departments and agencies under the PMO, MoFE,

Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Religious Affairs, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism, Ministry of Health, MoD, Ministry of Energy, Manpower and Industry, Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications, AMBD and Darussalam Enterprise (DARE).

The drive to improve the domestic

TABLE 3: BRUNEI DARUSSALAM'S RANKING AMONGST APEC COUNTRIES IN DOING BUSINESS REPORT 2020

ECONOMY	Ranking Amongst APEC Nations			DB2020	
	DB2020	DB2019	+/-	Ranking	EODB Score
New Zealand	1	1	-	1	86.8
Singapore	2	2	-	2	86.2
Hong Kong	3	3	-	3	85.3
Republic of Korea	4	4	-	5	84.0
United States	5	5	-	6	84.0
Malaysia	6	7	▲ 1	12	81.5
Australia	7	8	▲ 1	14	81.2
Taiwan	8	6	▼ 2	15	80.9
Thailand	9	10	▲ 1	21	80.1
Canada	10	9	▼ 1	23	79.6
Russian Federation	11	11	-	28	78.2
Japan	12	12	-	29	78.0
China	13	13	-	31	77.9
Chile	14	16	▲ 2	59	72.6
Mexico	15	14	▼ 1	60	72.4
Brunei Darussalam	16	15	▼ 1	66	70.1
Vietnam	17	18	▲ 1	70	69.8
Indonesia	18	19	▲ 1	73	69.6
Peru	19	17	▼ 2	76	68.7
Philippines	20	21	▲ 1	95	62.8
Papua New Guinea	21	20	▼ 1	120	59.8

TABLE 4: BRUNEI GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS INDEX 2019

PILLARS	2019		2018	
	RANK	SCORE	RANK	SCORE
OVERALL RANK	▲ 56	63	62	61
Institution	▼ 50	58	45	58
Infrastructure	▼ 58	70	54	71
ICT adoption	▼ 26	75	17	76
Macroeconomic Stability	▼ 87	74	81	74
Health	▼ 62	82	50	86
Skills	▼ 59	67	58	66
Product Market	▲ 37	60	44	61
Labour Market	▲ 30	67	38	64
Financial System	▲ 98	55	107	51
Market Size	▼ 116	38	115	37
Business Dynamism	▲ 62	62	68	59
Innovation Capability	▲ 51	44	79	34

Swearing-in Ceremony of Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 7 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Swearing-in Ceremony for the newly-appointed Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court. The ceremony was held at Istana Nurul Iman.

Present at the ceremony were His Majesty's brothers, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkhiah; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkhiah.

The ceremony began with the reading of the Letter of Appointment by Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Penggawa Laila Bentara Istiadat Diraja Dalam Istana Pengiran Haji Alauddin bin Pengiran Paduka Tuan Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar, Grand Chamberlain.

It was followed by reading of the oath before His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam by Justice Kannan Ramesh as the Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presents the Letter of Appointment to Justice Kannan Ramesh. Also seen in the photo are His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkhiah; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkhiah.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkhiah; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkhiah during the oath reading by Justice Kannan Ramesh as the Judicial Commissioner of the Supreme Court.

Importance of Act Enforcement Efficacy



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during an unscheduled working visit to the Department of Immigration and National Registration and the Labour Department at Jalan Menteri Besar.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 8 - 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) stressed the importance of effectiveness in enforcing the Acts and Regulations to control the presence of foreign workers without employers which seems to have become widespread.

His Majesty stated the matter in a *titah* during an unscheduled working visit to the Department of Immigration and National Registration and the Labour Department at Jalan Menteri Besar.

His Majesty emphasised that the control and regulations are made so that the interests of the country are protected, security guaranteed, socio-economy develops properly to fulfil the government's aspiration to see the country as a Business and Tourism Hub.

His Majesty raised questions on the enforcement of controls for foreign workers where currently there are foreign workers in the country without employers, or under any registered companies in this country.

This issue appears to be increasingly pervasive, it seems easy for foreigners to start a business without a local partner, and they are even bold enough to bring their relatives into this country to expand their businesses. This shows the weakness and incompetence of the department in monitoring and enforcement activities.

His Majesty also questioned the effectiveness of national security and

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His Majesty during the unscheduled working visit to the Labour Department.



His Majesty interacting with the officers of the Department of Immigration and National Registration.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivers a *titah* during an unscheduled working visit to the Department of Immigration and National Registration and the Labour Department at Jalan Menteri Besar.

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the enforcement of acts or regulations. One of the examples is the Visitors Pass section, which is still viewed as unable to manage employment agents or individuals who sponsor foreigners without constraint, in exchange for fees.

Touching on Brunei International Airport Immigration Control Post, His Majesty recalled an incident where a foreigner on transit in the country was found to have exited the departure lounge without restrictions or perhaps the incident was unknown to any of the agencies on duty at the airport, including the Department of Immigration and National Registration itself. The matter only came to light when the passenger approached the RB counter for check-in. This showed the officers' weakness and negligence.

The Land Border Control Posts are also

in need of effective monitoring, since there may be unnecessary incidents such as oversight on the part of the officers at the border inspection posts. Another frequent occurrence is the functioning of only one counter, causing long queues, despite the fact that another officer is also on duty.

On the Labour Department, His Majesty highlighted the supervision of foreign workers' monitoring and recruitment. The increasing presence of foreign workers in the country has become public concern, compared to steps taken to safeguard the well-being of local manpower in the private sector.

Labour authorities are viewed as lenient and easily influenced by foreign employment agents in the increase of quotas for foreign workers and the speeding up the contract renewal process.

His Majesty also highlighted on the use of freelance quotas that allows foreign workers to work in the country by paying a certain amount to the quota holders.

There are also issues of local entrepreneurs renting out business licences to foreigners in exchange for monthly fees. In turn, these foreigners took advantage of the business licences to bring in more foreign workers to work for them. Consequently, the numbers of foreign workers continue to increase without any limits, while the local entrepreneur only gets his rental fee.

In the *titah*, His Majesty also mentioned the activities of a syndicate among foreign nationals which recruits foreign workers using fake company licenses. These companies are registered at the Labour Department and approved by the Court authorities; however these companies do not exist.

His Majesty questioned how the management and administration can be so poor. It could be due to insufficient manpower, laziness, lack of focus or worst of all, corruption.

During the visit, His Majesty visited several sections of the headquarters including the Visa, Visit and Diplomatic Section; Policy and International Affairs Section; Foreign Worker's Pass Section; Entry Permit Section; Research, Development and Computer Section; Administration and Finance Section; Citizenship Section; Enforcement Section; Labour Standard and Employment Agency Division; the Workplace, Safety and Health Division; Finance Unit; and units under the Foreign Worker Recruitment Division as well as the Labour Enforcement Division.

BKISHHB to become one-stop Islamic tourism destination



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 the Knowledge Convention 2019. Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 12 - During the opening ceremony of the Knowledge Convention 2019, 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 name the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Islamic Exhibition Hall as 'Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah' (BKISHHB).

His Majesty in the *titah* (royal speech) touched on civilisation of the Ummah and stated that it will normally reflect on the history of Islamic civilisation during the Abbasiyyah era in Baghdad during the reign of two caliphs, Harun Al-Rashid and Al-Ma'mun, where knowledge related activities were conducted by *Baitul Hikmah*, which has produced great scholars and intellectuals.

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BKISHHB to become one-stop Islamic tourism destination

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



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 'Abdul Wakeel at the ceremony.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah at the ceremony.



His Majesty confers the Brunei Darussalam National Knowledge Award in the form of 'Honorary Professor' title to Yang Berhormat Pehin Jawatan Dalam Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama (Dr.) Haji Awang Mohd. Jamil Al-Sufri bin Begawan Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Umar.



His Majesty together with 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 'Abdul Wakeel tours the exhibition gallery.



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha together with His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah takes a closer look at one of the exhibits.

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9th Convocation of KUPU SB

BERAKAS, October 15 - Teachers are conduits of learning, while education is the most crucial asset in nation-building, thus, teaching is the most important career as it is the teacher's efforts that produce professional human capital or resource in various fields.

Therefore, teachers' responsibility is to pass down the knowledge to the nation, and those who receive the legacy should put it to use and distribute it.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Chancellor of Seri Begawan Religious Teachers University College (KUPU SB) delivers a *titah* during the 9th Convocation of KUPU SB.



Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkiah; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At the event, His Majesty conferred the Brunei Darussalam National Knowledge Award in the form of 'Honorary Professor' title to Yang Berhormat Pehin Jawatan Dalam Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama (Dr.) Haji Awang Mohd. Jamil Al-Sufri bin Begawan Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Umar.

The ceremony continued with a special talk titled, '*Manuskrip Islam Mercu Tanda Ketamadunan Umat*' or 'Islamic Manuscript the Landmark of the Ummah's Civilisation' by the State Mufti.

Their Majesties and other members of the royal family were then ushered to the BKISHHB gallery for a closer look at the at the various knowledge and artifact treasury that are placed in nine galleries.

From the gallery, Their Majesties and other members of the royal family proceeded to the *Surau* and Herbal Garden of Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, Balai Kenangan Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien Exhibition.

Their Majesties also consented to visit the Knowledge Convention 2019 Expo, where local products by Village Consultative Councils from four districts were exhibited.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah takes a closer look at one of the exhibits.

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah takes a closer look at one of the exhibits.

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In His Majesty's view, the BKISHHB is similar to *Baitul Hikmah* because of its wide role such as collecting, preserving, reviewing and spreading the treasures of knowledge for the progress of Islam and Ummah in general.

His Majesty hopes that the BKISHHB will become a knowledge heritage centre which is capable of activating the culture of knowledge.

The Monarch also pointed out that the BKISHHB has the potential to become a one-stop Islamic tourism destination centre.

Also gracing the Knowledge Convention 2019 was Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam.

Accompanying Their Majesties were His Majesty's children, brothers and sister, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, 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; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah binti Dato Haji Nasir; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah

9th Convocation of KUPU SB



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presents a certificate to the graduates.

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Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam who is the Chancellor of Seri Begawan Religious Teachers University College (KUPU SB) outlined the matter in his *titah* (royal speech) during the 9th Convocation of KUPU SB at the International Convention Centre.

His Majesty also outlined the importance of education as a lifelong investment that knows no limits or borders, and it cannot be subdued under numbers, and numbers cannot be used to restrict investment in knowledge.

His Majesty added that education is definitely an investment, while career or employment is a separate investment. Both are equally important, but investing in education takes precedence. Employment may happen later, but education cannot be delayed.

His Majesty reminded all higher education institutions to work together in encouraging academic activity that is beneficial for the nation.

Touching on Jawi writing, His Majesty thinks that it should not be entrusted solely to KUPU SB since it is the nation's joint property, then all parties, particularly higher education institutions, should join forces and work together in upholding this heritage.

Based on this rationale, His Majesty has given consent for the establishment of a Jawi Studies Centre.

His Majesty also emphasised on the need for Islamic history to be taught in schools. His Majesty also noted that KUPU SB has organised a seminar on this topic. It illustrates the beauty of Islamic history that corresponds to the Malay Islamic Monarchy (MIB) concept and a Zikir Nation.

As to our obligation towards religion and the nation, His Majesty wish to remind that we should think and act as true Bruneians, and not otherwise.

His Majesty then conferred the degrees and diplomas to 259 graduates. From the 259 graduates, one received a PhD degree; six received the Master's degree; 51 received the Post Graduate Diploma; and 96 received the Bachelor's degree in Religious Teaching respectively.



Meanwhile, 101 graduates received the Higher Diploma in Religious Teaching and 4 received the Diploma in Al-Quran Arts Study.



His Majesty joining in a group photo with the graduates and family.



One of the graduates with his family at the 9th Convocation of Seri Begawan Religious Teachers University College.

Badges Presentation of the Basic Airborne Course and Military Freefall Course



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 presents the Basic Airborne Course and Military Freefall Course badges to His Royal Highness Captain (U) Prince 'Abdul Mateen.



His Majesty inspecting the Royal Guard of Honour.



TUTONG, October 16 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Closing Ceremony and the Badges Presentation of the Basic Airborne Course and Military Freefall at Penanjong Garrison.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.

Also present was His Excellency Lim Hong Huai, High Commissioner of Singapore to Brunei Darussalam.

Shortly after arriving, His Majesty proceeded to the dais for a Royal Salute and then inspected the Royal Guard of Honour.

His Majesty then witnessed the final freefall jump of the course participants and followed with the badges presentation of the Basic Airborne Course and Military Freefall Course to His Royal Highness Captain (U) Prince 'Abdul Mateen and other course participants.

Both courses were attended by His Royal Highness Captain (U) Prince 'Abdul Mateen and eight other personnel from the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF).

Meanwhile, the Military Freefall Course was also attended by four personnel from the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF).

His Majesty then proceeded to view the static display of the parachuting capabilities of the RBAF, before proceeding to the Dining Hall for a luncheon.

The Basic Airborne Course is conducted by the Royal Brunei Air Force, while the Military Freefall Course is jointly conducted by the Special Forces Regiment of the RBAF and the Special Operations Training Support Centre of the SAF.

Both courses were held from September 9 to October 16 at the Penanjong Garrison.

His Majesty together with His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office during the ceremony.

Official Inauguration Ceremony of the 8th President of the Republic of Indonesia



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 Prince 'Abdul Mateen in a group photo with His Excellency Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia and spouse, Ibu Hajah Iriana Widodo.



His Majesty greets His Excellency Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia.

REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA, October 20 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Official Inauguration Ceremony of the 8th President of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency Joko Widodo, and held a bilateral meeting with The Honourable Scott Morrison MP., Prime Minister of Australia.

Accompanying His Majesty to the ceremonies was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

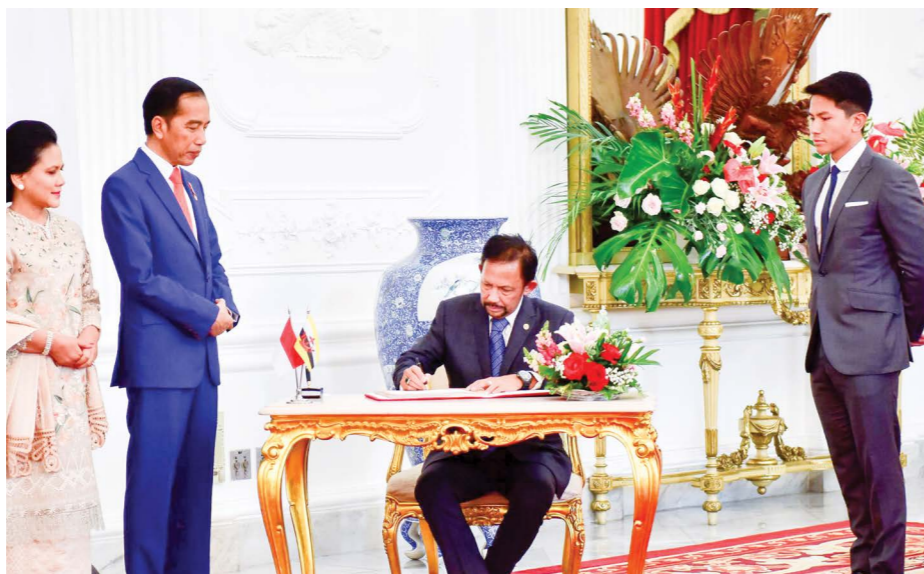
His Majesty first attended the Official Inauguration Ceremony of the President of the Republic of Indonesia at the Sidang Paripurna.

His Majesty then consented to witness the Swearing-in Ceremony of His Excellency Joko Widodo as the 8th President of the Republic of Indonesia, which was followed by the swearing-in of His Excellency Ma'ruf Amin as the new Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia.

This was followed by the signing of the letters of appointment of the President and Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, and the inaugural address by the President.

His Majesty, other Head of States and Governments as well as other invited guests, then proceeded to the center stage to congratulate His Excellency

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His Majesty signing the Istana Merdeka's guest book. Also in the photo is His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.



His Excellency Joko Widodo, President of the Republic of Indonesia during the Official Inauguration Ceremony.



His Majesty and The Honourable Scott Morrison MP., Prime Minister of Australia during the bilateral meeting.

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Joko Widodo and spouse; His Excellency Ma'ruf Amin and spouse as well as Bapak Jusuf Kalla, former Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia and spouse.

His Majesty then made a courtesy call to His Excellency Joko Widodo at the Istana Merdeka. During the session, His Majesty and His Excellency discussed bilateral issues and cooperation between both countries, exchanged views and mutual concerns on regional and international matters.

His Majesty also held a bilateral meeting with The Honourable Scott Morrison MP. at Grand Hyatt Hotel.

During the session, His Majesty and The Honourable Prime Minister of Australia discussed bilateral issues and cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and Australia, exchanged views and mutual concerns on ASEAN, regional and international matters.

The Honourable Scott Morrison MP., is the 30th Prime Minister of Australia and sworn in as the Prime Minister of Australia on August 24, 2018.



His Majesty with His Excellency Joko Widodo, the 8th President of the Republic of Indonesia and spouse at the Istana Merdeka in Jakarta. Also present was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.



His Majesty together with the President of the Republic of Indonesia and spouse during the courtesy call. Also present was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Enthronement Ceremony of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan

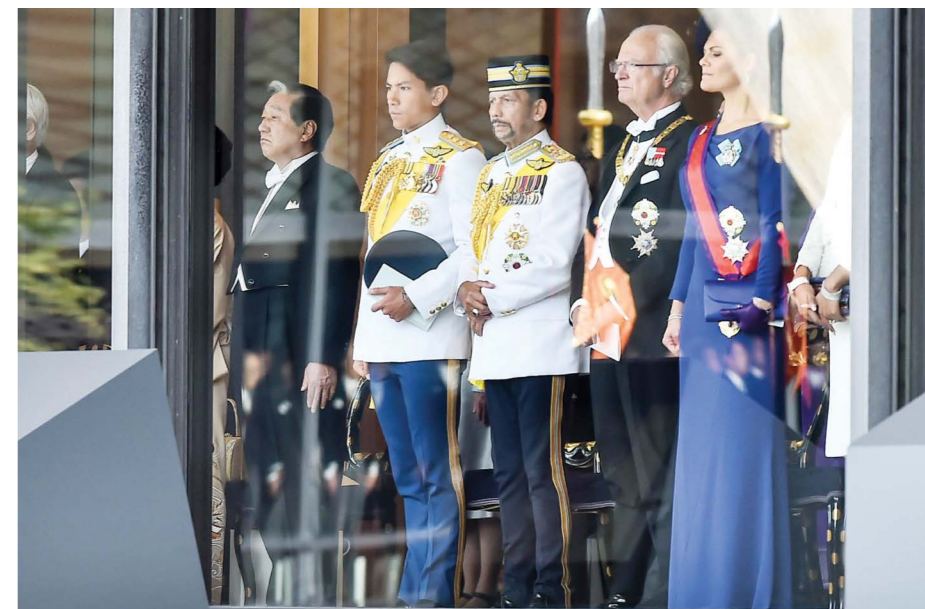
TOKYO, JAPAN, October 22 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Enthronement Ceremony of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito, Emperor of Japan, which was held at the Imperial Palace, Tokyo.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Upon arrival at the Imperial Palace, His Majesty was then invited to proceed to the *Shunju-no-Ma* Hall joining other distinguished guests who were attending the ceremony.

The Enthronement Ceremony or the *Sokui no Rei* filled with customs and tradition began with the consecutive entrance of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito, and the entrance of Her Majesty Empress Masako into the *Seiden Matsu-no-Ma* Hall.

At the hall, Their Majesties then respectively ascended to the Imperial Throne or the *Takamikura* and the August Seat or the *Michodai*, before His



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 Prince 'Abdul Mateen at the Enthronement Ceremony.

Majesty the Emperor delivered his Royal Address.

After the Enthronement Ceremony, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the other distinguished guests then proceeded to leave the Imperial Palace.

At the end of the ceremony, His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and Her Majesty the Empress of Japan then proceeded to leave the hall.

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Enthronement Ceremony of His Majesty the Emperor of Japan

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In the evening, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Court Banquet in conjunction with the Enthronement Ceremony of His Majesty Emperor Naruhito, the Emperor of Japan which took place at the Imperial Palace, Tokyo.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

Upon arrival, His Majesty then proceeded to the *Seiden-Take-No-Ma* Hall where

His Majesty was greeted by His Majesty Emperor Naruhito and Her Majesty Empress Masako.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and other guests also congratulated His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and Her Majesty the Empress of Japan on the Enthronement Ceremony that was held in the morning.

His Majesty then proceeded to join other distinguished guests to the

Houmei-Den Hall for a Court Banquet.

During the banquet, distinguished guests were entertained with Japanese Imperial Court music.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam is scheduled to attend a Tea Ceremony hosted by His Majesty the Emperor and Her Majesty the Empress of Japan, which will be held at the Akasaka Imperial Residence, Tokyo on October 23.

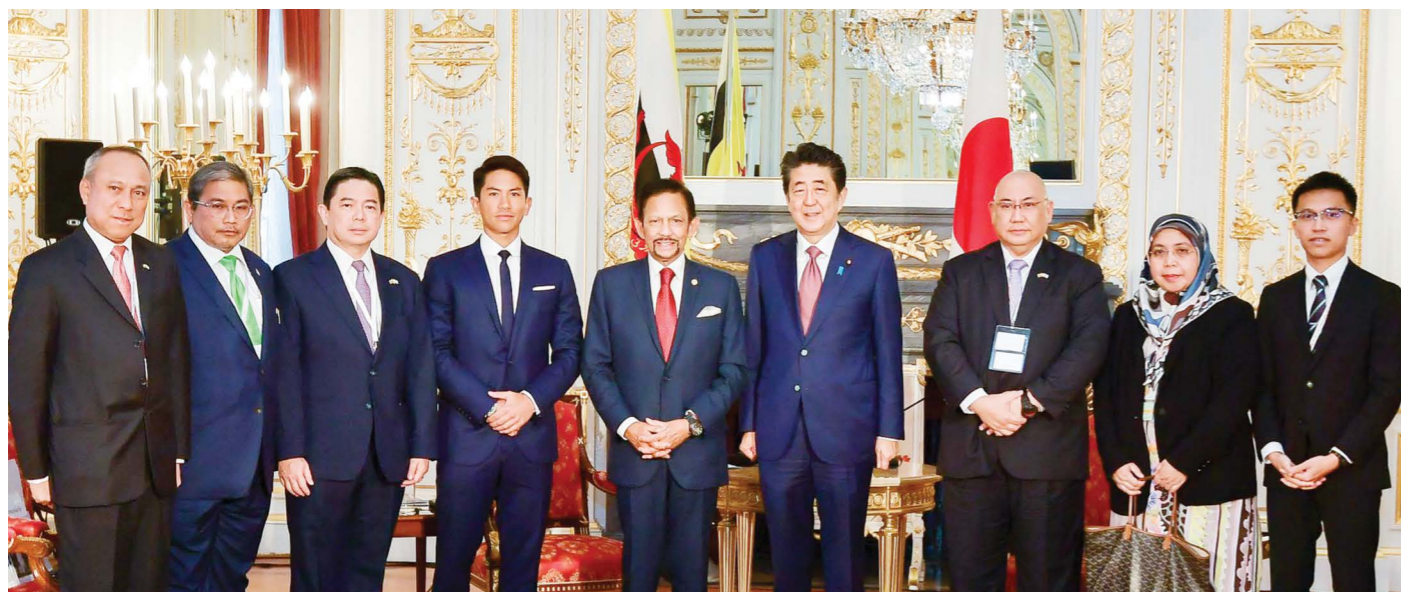


His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen being greeted by His Majesty Emperor Naruhito, Emperor of Japan and Her Majesty Empress Masako at the Court Banquet.



His Majesty Emperor Naruhito, Emperor of Japan delivers his Royal Address.

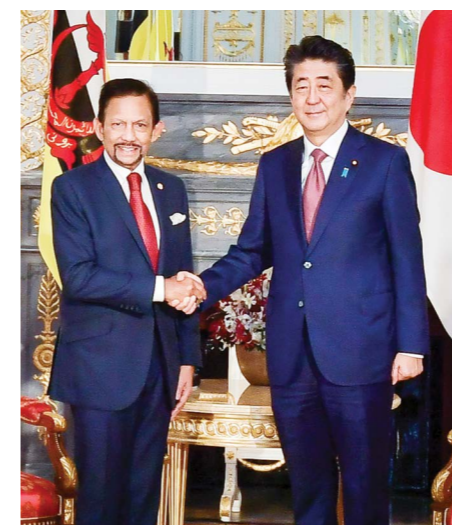
Bilateral Meeting and Tea Ceremony



His Majesty and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen in a group photo with His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan.

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TOKYO, JAPAN, October 23 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam held a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan at the State Guest House.



His Majesty during a bilateral meeting with His Excellency Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan at the State Guest House.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

During the bilateral meeting, both leaders reaffirmed the close ties and friendship between Brunei Darussalam and Japan that have long existed, while exchanging views and discussions on regional and international matters specifically in enhancing cooperation in the field of trade; and the cooperation for

ASEAN. On the same day, His Majesty attended a Tea Ceremony hosted by His Majesty the Emperor and Her Majesty the Empress of Japan. The event took place at Akasaka Imperial Palace.

The Tea Ceremony was also attended by other Royal Families who were guests at the Enthronement Ceremony.



His Majesty and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen attending a Tea Ceremony hosted by His Majesty the Emperor and Her Majesty the Empress of Japan.

His Majesty's working visit to RBPF Special Operation Squad



His Majesty with Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Mohammad Irwan bin Haji Hambali, Commissioner of the Royal Brunei Police Force.



His Majesty during a working visit to the Royal Brunei Police Force Special Operations Squad Complex Headquarters in Gadong.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 31 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkhiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam made a working visit to the Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF) Special Operations Squad Complex Headquarters in Gadong.

During the visit, His Majesty took a closer look at the capabilities and

endurance test of the RBPF's Special Operations Squad.

Established in 1974, the mission of the RBPF Special Operations Squad is to provide high-quality and credible human resources for the purpose of ending crises that threatens the security and well-being of the country.

Its vision is to enhance professionalism, improve the quality and performance of the special services, increase

the confidence of the people and the nation as well as expand the squad by forming units under it to be innovative, robust and strong in line with present and future turbulence.

The Special Operations Squad provide the troops that are specially trained for any possible threats or activities related to criminal and political violence, as well as to provide special services at the direction of Commissioner of Police in accordance with team procedures.

Her Majesty's Birthday Celebration

JERUDONG, October 30 - Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam graced Her Majesty's birthday celebration organised by the Group of Wives of the Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, Deputy Permanent Secretaries and the Affiliated Members at the Royal Berkshire Hall of the Jerudong Park and Polo Country Club on October 13.

Also in attendance were Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman; Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkihah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

Shortly after arrival, Her Majesty and other members of the royal family consented to join in a group photo session.

At the ceremony, Her Majesty cut a birthday cake and received a *pesambah* (souvenir) presented by the group members.

The ceremony was further enlivened with several singing performances by the group members and presented a song titled, '*Selamat Puja Usia*' which was specially composed to celebrate Her Majesty's birthday.

Asimilar event was also held at the Serambi Suluh Hall, Terindak D'Seni, Arts and Handicraft Centre on October 30. The event was hosted by the Brunei Darussalam Women's Council (MWNB)



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam cut the cake during Her Majesty's birthday celebration organised by the Group of Wives of the Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, Deputy Permanent Secretaries and the Affiliated Members at the Royal Berkshire Hall.

in collaboration with Police Wives and Family Welfare Association (PEKERTI), Brunei Darussalam Nurses Association (PENJURU) and the Brunei Shell Ladies Association (BSLA).

Also present were Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman; Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkihah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkihah; Her

Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkihah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

At the event, Her Majesty cut the birthday cake and received birthday greeting card as well as *pesambah* from association members. The birthday celebration was enlivened with several religious performances.

Before leaving, Her Majesty and other members of the royal family consented to receive a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet).



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha, Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah, Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkihah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkihah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkihah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, the Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam in a group photo at the event.

Brunei International Flower Show 2019

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 23 - To increase the number of tourist arrival in the country apart from further increasing the floriculture output that can contribute towards the country's Gross Domestic Product, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism through the Tourism and Development Department and the Agriculture and Agrifood Department with the collaboration of KN Nursery Sdn. Bhd. organised Brunei International Flower Show (BIFS) 2019 for the first time.

Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam officiated the BIFS 2019 held in conjunction with Her Majesty's birthday celebration.

Accompanying Her Majesty were Her Majesty's daughters and sisters, Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkihah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkihah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism in a welcoming speech expressed his deep appreciation for Her Majesty's presence at the event and hope that the BIFS will become an annual event in the



Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah; Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkihah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkihah; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs touring the exhibition held at the Rimba Garden Central.

country's Calendar of Events and also can be further expanded as a prestigious event in this region as well as attract participation of local and international floriculture enthusiasts.

Apart from promoting the floriculture industry in Brunei Darussalam, BIFS was also held to broaden market opportunities including boosting business matching between entrepreneurs, locally and overseas.

Her Majesty then consented to view the greenhouse and floriculture exhibition showcased by local and international

companies in the main building of Rimba Garden Central (RCG) and the timber deck outside the main building.

Her Majesty and other members of the royal family were then ushered to the exhibition and watched performances at the waterfall area, waterwheel and gardening activities by students at the Recreational Park of RCG.

With the theme, 'Brunei in Bloom', the BIFS was enlivened with various activities such as workshop, floral installations, exhibition from local and international participants.



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam; Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman; Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah; Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah binti Dato Haji Nasir; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkihah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkihah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam in a group photo at the Brunei International Flower Show 2019.

Establishment of Joint Working Group in Agrifood

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 2 - 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 Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security of the Republic of Singapore together in a joint statement announced the establishment of the Brunei Darussalam and Republic of Singapore Joint Working Group in the field of Agrifood.

The announcement was made during the 7th Singapore-Brunei Young Leaders' Programme in Brunei Darussalam.

His Excellency Teo Chee Hean stated that the establishment of the Agrifood Joint Working Group is an important turning point in the special bilateral relations between Brunei Darussalam and Republic of Singapore. It will facilitate collaborations between the private sector in the field of agrifood to attract investments and create jobs, especially in aquaculture. This is a 'win-win partnership' that will further strengthen bilateral cooperation and bring benefits to business and the people of both countries.

Meanwhile, His Royal Highness also welcomed the initiative of the establishment of the Brunei Darussalam and Republic of Singapore Joint Working Group.

His Royal Highness believes that the Joint Working Group will provide opportunities in strengthening friendship and cooperation, of which in the initial stage will be focused on cooperation in the aquaculture industry.

His Royal Highness also noted that the



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 together with His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security of the Republic of Singapore.

Joint Working Group will be co-chaired by Permanent Secretaries from relevant ministries in both countries.

There are natural complements between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Singapore in the agrifood sector. Brunei Darussalam has a large area of land and numerous natural resources while Singapore has a strong research eco-system, agriculture technology companies and logistics.

The Joint Working Group will facilitate cooperation between the public and private sectors in the two countries, such as investment facilitations, Research and Development cooperation, quality assurance and capacity building.

The Joint Working Group will be co-chaired by Pengiran Haji Kamalrudzaman bin Pengiran Haji Mohd. Ishak, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Primary Resources and

Tourism, Brunei Darussalam and Mr. Lee Chuan Teck, Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Trade and Industry, Republic of Singapore.

The Permanent Secretaries of both countries will report on the work progress and proposals made by the Joint Working Group to the Joint Ministerial panel.

The panel will comprise of Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism Brunei Darussalam, and 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 as well as His Excellency Chan Chun Sing, Singapore's Minister of Trade and Industry and His Excellency Chee Hong Tat, Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry and Education, Singapore.

Their Royal Highnesses graces Breakfast

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 4 - 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 graced a breakfast at the Royal Berkshire Hall of



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah during a Breakfast in conjunction with the 7th Young Leaders' Programme. Also present were His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security of the Republic of Singapore and spouse, Mrs. Teo Poh Yim.

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41st ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Meeting



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 officiating the Opening Ceremony of the 41st ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Meeting.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 15 - Brunei Darussalam is currently carrying out the initiative on 'Agriculture Pilot Project Scheme', with objective to accelerate growth of agricultural output through technology and innovations using high-yielding varieties; producing high value commodities; targeting export market; establishing contract farming and encouraging youth participation in agriculture, in line with national aspiration of promoting growth of food and agriculture sectors as well as nurturing youth as the next generation of farmers.

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 emphasised the matter in his *sabda* (royal speech) at the Opening Ceremony of the 41st ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry (41st AMAF) Meeting at The Empire Hotel & Country Club.

His Royal Highness in his *sabda* commended on the development of ASEAN's food security cooperation since the implementation of the ASEAN Integrated Food Security Framework (AIFS) and the Strategic Plan of Action on Food Security in the ASEAN Region 2015-2020; and the implementation of the ASEAN Plus Three Emergency Rice Reserve Agreement with the Plus Three Partners.

ASEAN along with its dialogue partners, international organisations as well as other third parties have worked together towards fulfilling the common objectives of sustainable forest management.

His Royal Highness also stressed that ASEAN needs to increase the production and productivity of the agricultural and food sector and believes that technological advances and innovation in the sector will help the country achieve the goal.

In the *sabda*, His Royal Highness also outlined the importance of forests as a natural source of economic, environmental and socio-cultural benefits.

Meanwhile, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ali bin Haji Apong, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism in his welcoming address, said that the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry are tasked to formulate and implement cooperation activities in food, agriculture and forestry for the benefit of ASEAN member states.

As a result, progress through various sectoral bodies is working on a clear set of strategic goals.

At the event, His Royal Highness visited an exhibition themed 'Forest to Reef' that was held in conjunction with the 41st AMAF meeting.

Before leaving the event, His Royal Highness interacted with the attending ASEAN ministers.



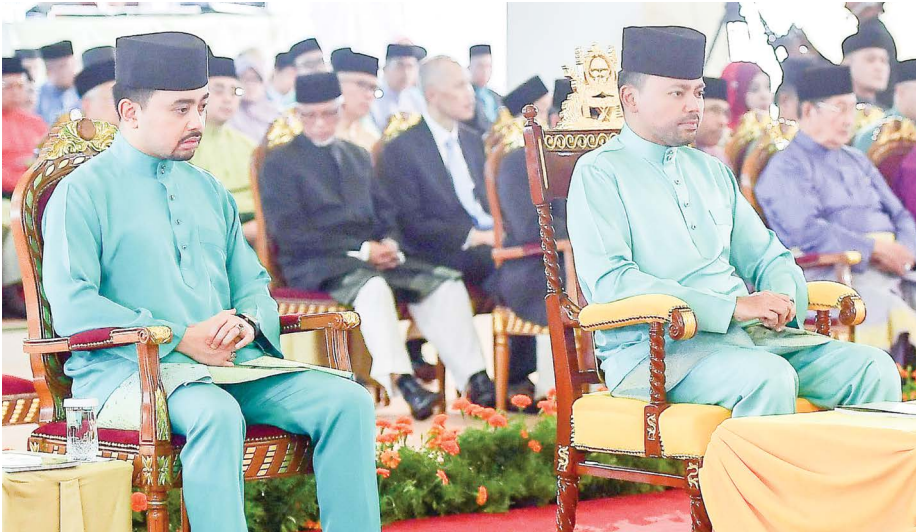
His Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah with His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security of the Republic of Singapore and spouse, Mrs. Teo Poh Yim in a group photo with Brunei Darussalam and Singapore delegation as well as 7th Young Leaders' Programme participants.

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the Jerudong Park and Country Club in conjunction with the 7th Young Leaders' Programme together with His Excellency Teo Chee Hean, Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security of the Republic of Singapore and spouse, Mrs. Teo Poh Yim.

Their Royal Highnesses, His Excellency Teo Chee Hean and his spouse then attended a get-together session with participants of the Singapore-Brunei Youth Leadership Exchange Programme (SBYLEP).

Knowledge Convention 2019 Premier Forum



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 during the Knowledge Convention Premier Forum held at Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah. Also in attendance was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 16 - 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 attended the Knowledge Convention 2019 Premier Forum held at Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah at Jalan Pengiran Babu Raja on October 14.

Also in attendance was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Haji Bahrom bin Pengiran Haji Bahar, Deputy Minister of Religious Affairs as Chairman of the Knowledge Convention 2019 Premier Forum Working Committee in a welcoming remarks stated that the

title of the premier forum and the theme for Knowledge Convention this year is '*Manuskrip Islam Mercu Tanda Ketamadunan Umat*' or 'Islamic Manuscript the Landmark of the Ummah's Civilisation'.

The Deputy Minister also stated that Islamic manuscript is an intellectual heritage and treasure left by ancient Islam scholars and intellectuals, and it reflects the civilisation of a nation and society.

The forum panellist comprised of Professor Dr. Osman Fathurahman, a staff of Ministry of Religious Affairs in Communication and Information Management, Republic of Indonesia; Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Mazanan bin Haji Yusof, Assistant State Mufti at

the State Mufti Department; Associate Professor Ampuan Dr. Haji Brahim bin Ampuan Haji Tengah, Director of the Sultan Omar Ali Saifuddien Centre for Islamic Studies at Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD); and Professor Dr. Jelani Harun from Universiti Sains Malaysia.

The forum moderator was Associate Professor Dr. Haji Awang Asbol bin Haji Mail from the the Faculty of Arts and Social Science at UBD.

The panellists shared information and knowledge related to the importance of Islamic manuscripts in the development and expansion of Islamic da'wah or propagation that is capable of producing a glorious civilisation in the history of human civilisation's national conduct or constitution.

Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman today graced the Knowledge Convention 2019 Premier Talk held at Balai Khazanah Islam Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah.

Also present 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.

Associate Professor Dr. Siti Sara binti Haji Ahmad, Dean of the Arabic Language Faculty at the Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University, delivered a premier talk titled '*Manuskrip Melayu Jawi Legasi Intelektual Sepanjang Zaman*' or 'Malay Jawi Manuscript the Intellectual Legacy of All Time'.



Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a group photo during the Knowledge Convention 2019 Premier Talk.