



# برونى دارالسلام

## Brunei Darussalam

# Brunei Darussalam newsletter

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### Royal Speech in conjunction with New Year 2012

### HM: 10<sup>th</sup> NDP focuses diversifying nation's economy



PHOTO: PG, HAJI BAHAR PG, HAJI OMAR

"Various efforts will be strengthen in 2012 towards diversifying the economy through the 10<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan," said His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a *titah* to mark New Year 2012 Masihi.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 1** - Various efforts will be strengthen in 2012 towards diversifying the economy through the 10<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan (NDP) which will begin on April 1, 2012.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam said in a *titah* (royal speech) to mark New Year 2012 Masihi.

His Majesty said one of its focuses will be on creating a conducive business environment to boost the growth in the private sector. Therefore, His Majesty's Government will be committed to implement various initiatives and projects under the NDP, especially in providing service to the people.

His Majesty also cautioned his government, the citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam against overspending including government facilities such as subsidies, especially energy where as the new electricity tariff will be implemented on January 1, 2012.

His Majesty said energy conservation will directly reduce the usage of domestic or local oil and gas, which will allow more exports and down-stream industries, for increasing national revenue and boosting employment opportunities.

### Brunei Darussalam-Qatar sign MoU and Bilateral Agreement

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 17** - The bilateral relation between Brunei Darussalam and the State of Qatar has been further strengthened with the signing of a number of Memorandum of Understandings (MoU) and Bilateral Agreements between Brunei Darussalam and Qatar.

The signing ceremony were witnessed by His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of Qatar.

The ceremony was held at Baitul Mesyuarah of the Istana Nurul Iman.

For the Agreement for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income; and for the Agreement on Economic, Commercial and Technical Cooperation, the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was represented by the Minister of Finance II at the Prime Minister's Office, Pehin

Dato Awang Haji Abdul Rahman, while signing for Qatar was its Minister of Economy and Finance, His Excellency Yousef Hussain Kamal.

Brunei Darussalam and Qatar also signed a MoU on Cultural Cooperation. Signing on behalf of the Government of His Majesty was the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair, and signing on behalf of Qatar was its Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Dr. Khaled bin Mohamed Al-Attiyah.

Meanwhile, the MoU for Cooperation in the Field of Education was signed by the Acting Minister of Education, Dato Awang Haji Yusoff on behalf of His Majesty's Government



PHOTO: MOHD. ZUL-IZZI HAJI DURAMAN

Minister of Finance II at the Prime Minister's Office, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Abdul Rahman (right) and Minister of Economy and Finance of Qatar, His Excellency Yousef Hussain Kamal (left) at the signing ceremony of an agreement.

while the Government of Qatar was represented by its Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, His Excellency Dr. Khaled bin Mohamed Al-Attiyah.





بروتين دارالسلام  
Brunei Darussalam

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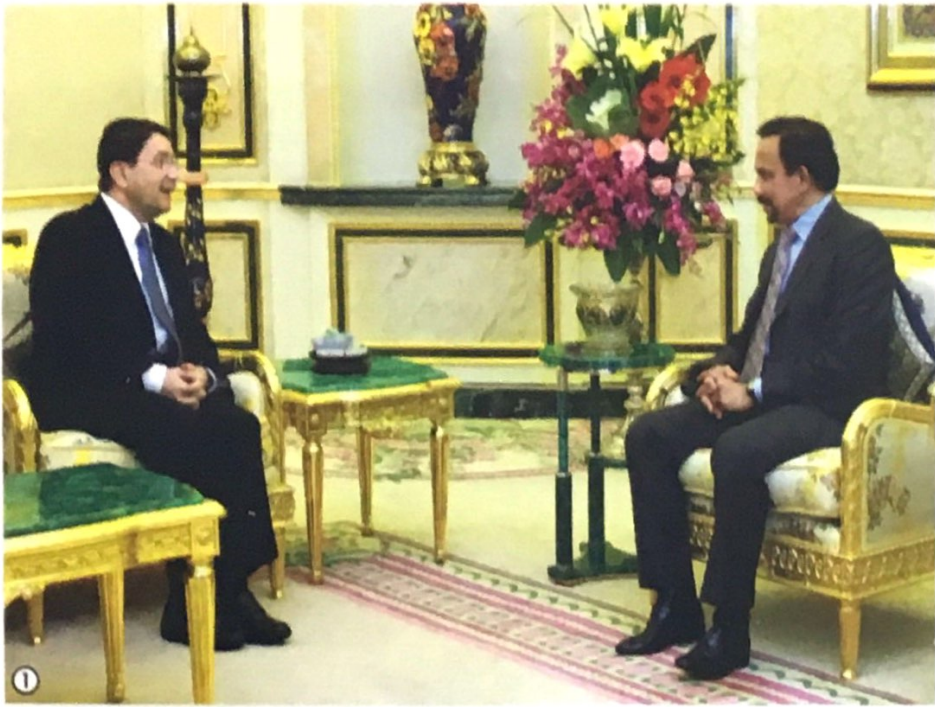
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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman from:



His Excellency Taleb Rifai, Secretary General of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO) on January 9.



His Excellency Hadi Poernomo, Chairman of the Audit Board of the Republic of Indonesia on January 26.

### His Majesty confers title

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 31** – His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) conferred the title of 'The Most Exalted Order of *Paduka Keberanian Laila Terbilang Yang Amat Gemilang Darjah Pertama (D.P.K.T.)*, which brings the title 'Dato Paduka Seri' to General Tan Sri Dato' Sri Zulkifeli bin Mohd. Zin, Chief of Malaysian Armed Forces.

The ceremony took place at the Istana Nurul Iman.



### Her Majesty receives audience



Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha received in audience Yang Berbahagia Puan Sri Datin Sri Umi Kalsom binti Wan Awang, the wife of Chief of Malaysian Armed Forces on January 31. The audience took place at the Istana Nurul Iman.

### HM sends congratulatory messages

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam sent congratulatory messages to:

- ▶ His Excellency U Thein Sein, President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in conjunction with the country's 64<sup>th</sup> Independence Day on January 3.
- ▶ Her Excellency Pratibha Devingsingh Patil, President of the Republic of India and her Prime Minister, His Excellency Dr. Manmohan Singh in conjunction with the India's Republic Day on January 26.
- ▶ Her Excellency Quentin Bryce, Governor-General of Australia and The Honourable Julia Gillard, Prime Minister of Australia in conjunction with the Australia Day on January 26.



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received diplomatic credentials from four newly-appointed envoys to Brunei Darussalam. The ceremony was held on January 21 at the Istana Nurul Iman.

They were:



His Excellency Zheng Xianglin, the newly-appointed non-resident Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam.



His Excellency Ingemar Dolfe, the newly-appointed non-resident Ambassador of the Kingdom of Sweden to Brunei Darussalam.



His Excellency Beibut Atankulov, the newly-appointed non-resident Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan to Brunei Darussalam.



His Excellency Joseph Hayes, the newly-appointed non-resident Ambassador of the Ireland to Brunei Darussalam.

PHOTOS: MASRI OSMAN

## His Majesty welcomes Emir of the State of Qatar



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Highness The Emir of the State of Qatar during a one-to-one meeting.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 17** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received a courtesy visit from His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar who was on a one-day state visit to Brunei Darussalam.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik. Also present was Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-At-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The ceremony was held at the Istana Nurul Iman.

Brunei Darussalam and Qatar established diplomatic relations since October 1991.

Soon after, His Majesty and His Highness held a one-to-one meeting.

The meeting was held at Cheradi Ratna Kenchana at the Istana Nurul Iman.

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(His Majesty welcomes Emir of the State of Qatar)

In the evening, a state banquet was hosted by His Majesty in honour of His Highness' state visit to the country.

The state banquet was held at the Istana Nurul Iman.

Also present at the state banquet were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-At-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



PHOTO: AMPUAN HAJI MAHMUD AMPUAN HAJI TENGAH

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani at a state banquet.

## Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2012



PHOTO: IHSAN PUSAT SEJARAH

His Majesty leading the team comprising of Brunei Darussalam Regatta's Executive committee.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 22** - Bandar Seri Begawan has attracted thousands of its citizens and residents including tourists to witness the historic Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2012.

More than 1,100 local and overseas participants took part in the Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2012. The regatta became more significant with His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam participating in the Fibre Glass 15 paddlers special race with His Majesty himself leading the team of Brunei Darussalam Regatta's Executive committee.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince led the Permanent and Deputy Permanent Secretaries' team; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah led the team of Pehin; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik led the team of Brunei-Muara Penghulu Mukim and Village Heads.

The special race was held at the Kampung Bendahara Lama of Brunei River.

The special race was won by the team of Brunei-Muara Penghulu Mukim and Village Heads. In second place was the team of the Brunei Darussalam Regatta's



PHOTO: AMPUAN HAJI MAHMUD AMPUAN HAJI TENGAH

His Majesty presents the prizes to the winner of 20 paddlers event.

Executive committee, third was the Permanent and Deputy Permanent Secretaries' team and in fourth was the team of Pehin.

At the ceremony, His Majesty also watched other events competed that include Jet Ski race, F-one, speedboat race and the water taxi race; and launched the start of the final event, the 30 paddler Marathon boat race. The race started at Kuala Lumapas about five kilometres from the Waterfront. The race was participated by 19 teams from Brunei Darussalam, Kalimantan, Sabah and Sarawak. The event was won by the Lawas 'A' team.

His Majesty also presented the prizes to the winners.

The championship will become an annual event and will be included in the 'Calender of Events' to glorify the atmosphere of Bandar Seri Begawan and attract domestic and overseas tourists.

The Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2012 was organised by the Ministry of Home Affairs with the collaboration of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources and relevant departments.



## Republic of Indonesia wins 10<sup>th</sup> BISAM

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 28** - The 10<sup>th</sup> Brunei International Skill-At-Arms Meet (BISAM) saw the participation of nine countries from Australia, Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, Sultanate of Oman, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Republic of Singapore, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.

The champion for the 10<sup>th</sup> BISAM was Indonesia.

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces officially closed and grace the prizes presentation to all of the winners of the 10<sup>th</sup> BISAM.

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



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presents the trophy to the champion team of the 10<sup>th</sup> BISAM.

PHOTO: PG. HAJI BAHAR PG. HAJI OMAR

## 10<sup>th</sup> Badminton Championship Women's Patron Cup

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 22** - Women's Institute (WI) of Brunei Darussalam emerged as an overall champion after defeating Pertiwi Association in the final of the 10<sup>th</sup> Badminton Championship Women's Patron Cup. Meanwhile, the Brunei Malay Teachers Association (PGGMB) and Girl Guides' Association of Brunei Darussalam (PPPBD) finished joint third.

Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha, Patron of Women's Council of Brunei Darussalam (MWNBD) graced the 10<sup>th</sup> Badminton Championship Women's Patron Cup.

Also present were Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah; Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

The event took place at the Multipurpose Hall of the Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Secondary School.

At the tournament, Her Majesty also presented the prizes to the winner. The tournament is held every two years among the MWNBD members.



The Women's Institute (WI) of Brunei Darussalam received the trophy from Her Majesty The Raja Isteri.

PHOTO: AZMAH HAJI AHAD

## Their Royal Highnesses on official visit to Singapore



His Royal Highness takes a closer look at the operations of Singapore Currency House.

**SINGAPORE, January 9** - 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 are in the Republic of Singapore for a five-day official visit.

Accompanying Their Royal Highnesses were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Muntaqim; and Her Royal Highness Princess Muneerah Madhul Bolqiah.

Also accompanying His Royal Highness was Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Qawi.

His Royal Highness The Crown Prince began the official visit programme to Singapore with the visit to the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) on January 9.

At the MAS Building, His Royal Highness who is also the Chairman of Autoriti Monetari Brunei Darussalam (AMBD) attended a meeting with the Board of Directors of MAS and was given a briefing on the history of the establishment, roles and functions of the MAS.

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(Their Royal Highnesses on official visit to Singapore)



Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Muntaqim during a visit to the Jacob Ballas Children's Garden.

His Royal Highness also visited Singapore Currency House (SCH) in Pasir Panjang Road where His Royal Highness received a briefing before taking a closer look at the operations of SCH.

Meanwhile, in a separate programme, Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah visited the Jacob Ballas Children's Garden.

With Her Royal Highness was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Muntaqim.

The Jacob Ballas Children's Garden is Asia's first children's garden, designed to provide unique discovery and learning experiences in a garden setting.

After the visit to the Jacob Ballas Children's Garden, Her Royal Highness visited Singapore Flyer. The Singapore Flyer is the world's largest observation wheel presenting a panoramic view of Singapore.

After visiting the Singapore Flyer, Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah visited the Singapore Art Museum (SAM) where art collections from local and international artists were on display.



Their Royal Highnesses at the official dinner hosted by the President of the Republic of Singapore, His Excellency Dr. Tony Tan Keng Yam and Madam Tan.

In the afternoon, Their Royal Highnesses attended a high tea reception hosted by His Excellency K. Shanmugam, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Law of Singapore and Madam Shanmugam held at the Grand Hyatt Hotel.

Her Royal Highness attended a luncheon reception hosted by the spouse of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance of Singapore, Madam Tharman at the Raffles City Hotel.

Meanwhile, in the evening, Their Royal Highnesses attended an official dinner hosted by the President of Singapore, His Excellency Dr. Tony Tan Keng Yam and spouse, Madam Tan.

The official banquet was held at Istana, Singapore.

Accompanying Their Royal Highnesses were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Qawi.

## His Royal Highness visits Murai Urban Training Facility



His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah during a visit to Murai Urban Training Facility (MUTF) in Lim Chu Kang.

**SINGAPORE, January 10** - His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office continued his official visit to the Republic of Singapore with a visit to Murai Urban Training Facility (MUTF) in Lim Chu Kang.

The MUTF allows the Singapore Armed Forces to conduct urban operations training in realistic environment. During the tour, His Royal Highness tested drive the Infantry Carrier Vehicle-Terrex, an armored military vehicle developed and built in Singapore.

Accompanying His Royal Highness during the visits were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Qawi.

After the visit to the MUTF, His Royal Highness continued his official visit to the Sembawang Airbase. His Royal Highness proceeded to the hangar and took a closer look at the Sikorsky S-70B helicopter's static show and the Seahawk and Rescue helicopter, one of the military helicopters that was used by the Singapore Air Force. His Royal Highness also visited the Helicopter Simulation Centre where His Royal Highness was briefed and tried out one of the helicopter simulation programmes available at the centre.

PHOTOS: MASRI OSMAN  
AK. JEFFERI PG. DURAHMAN



## Bilateral relationship, regional and international matters discussed

**SINGAPORE, January 10** - Discussion on bilateral relations and an exchange of views on regional and international issues of mutual concern between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Singapore were discussed between His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Singapore on the third day of His Royal Highness' official visit to Singapore.

The matters were discussed during a courtesy call held at the Istana, Singapore.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Qawi.

Following the meeting, His Royal Highness and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah attended a luncheon hosted by His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Singapore and spouse, Madam Ho Ching.

Late in the afternoon, His Royal Highness The Crown Prince visited the Singapore Sports School.

Here, His Royal Highness witnessed the signing ceremony for DPMM Football Club's admission to the S-League of the republic.

Held at the Heritage Room, the signatory for DPMM Football Club was its Manager, Pengiran Haji Mohd Waslimin bin Pengiran Setia Jaya Pengiran Haji Abdul Momin.

In the evening, His Royal Highness watched the Malaysia Super League Match between Singapore Lion XII against Kelantan at Jalan Besar Stadium.

Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Qawi. Present to watch the football match was the President of Republic of Singapore, His Excellency Dr. Tony Tan Keng Yam and Mr. S. R. Nathan.



Their Royal Highnesses in a group photo with His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, Prime Minister of Singapore and spouse.



The signing ceremony for DPMM Football Club's admission to the S-League of the republic. The signatory for DPMM Football Club was its Manager, Pengiran Haji Mohd Waslimin.

## Matters of mutual concern discussed



His Royal Highness and Former Minister Mentor His Excellency Lee Kuan Yew discuss bilateral relations as well as regional and international matters of mutual concern.

**SINGAPORE, January 11** - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office discussed bilateral relations as well as regional and international matters of mutual concern with Former Minister Mentor His Excellency Lee Kuan Yew.

The Crown Prince made a call on the Former Minister Mentor His Excellency Lee Kuan Yew during his fourth day official visit that was held at the Istana, Republic of Singapore.

Accompanying His Royal Highness during the call were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Qawi.

His Royal Highness The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri ended the official visit to Singapore on January 12.



## Football match for a good cause



His Royal Highness is introduced to the players of both teams.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 18** - A friendly football match between Brunei DPMM FC and Chiang Rai Utd. (United) from the Kingdom of Thailand was held at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium in Berakas.

The friendly football match was held as one of the activities to collect donation for Thailand and the Kingdom of Cambodia Flood Victims Fund.

Present to witness the game was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office. Also present were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and other members of the royal family.

The game witnessed Brunei DPMM FC beat the visiting team by 2-1 goals.

## His Royal Highness officiates 10<sup>th</sup> BISAM



His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah at the 10<sup>th</sup> Brunei International Skill-At-Arms Meet (BISAM).

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 19** - Brunei International Skill-At-Arms Meet (BISAM) was first incepted back in 1985. It is an international shooting competition event pioneered by the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) and competed by firers and marksmen from countries of this region and beyond.

His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office officiated the 10<sup>th</sup> BISAM which took place at Gallery 1, Binturan Shooting Range, Penanjong Garisson.

Although historically, BISAM sets its target on the participation of ASEAN armed forces, but over time, participation in the competition expanded to include other countries beyond the region. Participation of other countries like Australia, New Zealand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, among many others, are paramount in raising the standard and value of this international competition.

## His Royal Highness launches Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2012



His Royal Highness launching the Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2012.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 22** - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office launched the Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2012.

The event took place at the Waterfront Jetty.

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

The Brunei Darussalam Regatta 2012 was organised as an effort towards further developing the nation's tourism industry. The event with the concept of 'Kenali Negara Kitani' or 'Know Our Country' is aimed at making Bandar Seri Begawan a tourist attraction centre.



## ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Retreat Meeting

**PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA, January 11** - ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Retreat Meeting was held at the Kingdom of Cambodia where the ministers discussed ways to implement decisions made at the November 2011 Leaders' Summit and reviewed priorities for the upcoming summit.

Present on behalf of Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Accompanying His Royal Highness was Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Mansurah Izzul Bolkiah.

Meanwhile on January 10, His Royal Highness and other ASEAN Foreign Ministers attended a dinner hosted by the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Government of Cambodia, His Excellency Hor Namhong and Madame Lok Chumteav Bory Hor.

The dinner took place at the Sokha Angkor Hotel.



His Royal Highness and other ASEAN Foreign Ministers at the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Retreat Meeting.

PHOTO: AMPUAN HAJI MAHMUD AMPUAN HAJI TENGAH

## His Royal Highness attends 26<sup>th</sup> SEA Games Post-Mortem Meeting



His Royal Highness made the *sabda* at the 26<sup>th</sup> SEA Games Post-Mortem Meeting.

PHOTO: AZMAH HAJI AHAD

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 7** - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) in a *sabda* (royal speech) hoped that national athletes will enhance their spirits to achieve better achievements in 2012 compared to previous years.

His Royal Highness made the *sabda* at the 26<sup>th</sup> SEA Games Post-Mortem Meeting held at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium's Lecture Theatre in Berakas.

In his *sabda* at the meeting, His Royal Highness raised several issues, among them, whether there is a need to change the existing policy to achieve the desired objective; and if there is a need for the country to change the athlete selection criteria to allow young athletes who do not have the desired achievement to participate in the national team.

His Royal Highness also urged the Brunei's Contingent Secretariat to upgrade their services and communication skills in updating the latest timetable and result of the games especially with the manager of the teams involved in the future.

At the 26<sup>th</sup> SEA Games, the national team collected four silver medals and seven bronzes through Shorinji Kempo, Karate-do, Wushu, Pencak Silat and Taekwondo.

## Go-Kart Race 2012



His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik launches the Go-Kart Race in conjunction with the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the re-naming of Bandar Brunei to Bandar Seri Begawan.

PHOTO: AMPUAN HAJI MAHMUD AMPUAN HAJI TENGAH

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 15** - A Go-Kart Race in conjunction with the 41<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the re-naming of Bandar Brunei to Bandar Seri Begawan was held in the capital.

It is one of the cooperations between the Ministry of Home Affairs and the Bandar Seri Begawan Municipal Department to involve the public in enhancing the joyous occasion as well as the attraction of the capital's Town Centre.

Present to officially launch the race was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik where His Royal Highness also watched the final races for Open Class category and Rotax 125cc category.

His Royal Highness also presented the prizes to the winners of the three Go-Kart Race categories. Emerged as champion in the Novice category was Haji Mohd. Fauzan bin Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman. The Open class Go-Kart category was won by Chan Key Hong and the Rotax 125cc category was won by Haji Harith bin Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Aziz.

The race was organised by the Municipal Department and conducted by Syarikat Mentari Merah Construction Sendirian Berhad in collaboration with the Brunei Darussalam Go-Kart Association.



## Patents Order 2011

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 2** - His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented for the implementation of the Patents Order, 2011 and the establishment of the Patent Registry Office (PRO).

It was announced by the Attorney General's Chambers (AGC) and the Brunei Economic Development Board (BEDB). The PRO will be operated under the BEDB's administration in cooperation with the Intellectual Property Division, AGC.

The PRO started its operation on January, 1 at the Knowledge Hub (KHub) in Anggerek Desa and will be in-charge to preserve and protect the local and investors ideas and creations in the country.

## UBD signs MoU with UCSD

**TUNGKU LINK, January 3** - Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with University of California, San Diego (UCSD).

The MoU was signed by the Vice Chancellor of UBD, Dato Paduka Dr. Haji Zulkarnain bin Haji Hanafi and the Deputy Chancellor of UCSD Research Affairs, San Diego, United States of America.

The signing ceremony was witnessed by Dr. Anita Aziz, Deputy Vice Chancellor for Education and International and Professor Tong Chee Kiong, UBD Academic Special Advisor.

The MoU was an agreement cooperation in basic research and high education for the mutual interest of both institutions.



PHOTO: AMPUAN HAJI MAHMUD AMPUAN HAJI TENGAH  
The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair and the Minister of Religious Affairs, Pengiran Dato Dr. Haji Mohammad as the Joint-Advisor of the Fund Committee at the launching of the Humanitarian Fund for the Victims of Tropical Storm Washi, the Republic of the Philippines.

## Humanitarian Fund set up

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 4** - A Humanitarian Fund for the Victims of Tropical Storm Washi has been established.

The setting up of the humanitarian fund was launched by Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair as the Joint-Advisor of the Fund Committee.

Also present was the Minister of Religious Affairs, Pengiran Dato Dr. Haji Mohammad also as Joint-Advisor of the Fund Committee.

The ceremony continued with the fund committee meeting that jointly-chaired by Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Awang Haji Mohd. Rozan and Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Religious Affairs, Awang Haji Abdul Aziz.

The meeting among others discussed the matters related to Brunei's effort in collecting the fund to assist in reducing the burden experienced by the victims in the Republic of the Philippines. Also discussed was the donation period that is three months from the launching date.

## 9<sup>th</sup> Consumer Fair as platform to sale product

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 4** - The 9<sup>th</sup> Consumer Fair (CF9) is not only exhibit products for sales but also as a platform to built regional and international business relation among traders.

The Brunei Darussalam's CF9 was held at the International Convention Centre in Berakas and was launched by Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair.

At the event, the minister also received donation a sum of \$10,000 for National Charity Fund from the Managing Director of Sunlit Advertising Agency, Jackson Ting.

CF9 which ran until January 8 was participated by more than 330 booths from 10 countries that offered the latest goods and services in various categories including Info-Technology and Communications, clothes, house hardware and foods on the special prices.



PHOTO: AZMAH HAJI AHAD  
Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair (right) launched CF9.



## International Merchandise Trade Statistics (IMTS)

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 5** - According to the Department of Economic, Planning and Development (JPKE), an overall performance for the total trade in Third Quarter (Q3) year 2011 increased by 20.8 per cent from BND4,332.12 million to BND5,234.49 million over the previous quarter.

Trade balance showed an increase of 18.7 per cent from BND2,621.75 million to BND3,112.85 million. Both total trade and trade balance increased by 31.6 and 40.7 per cent respectively compared to the same quarter in 2010.

The exports performance for the total exports in Q3 2011 increased by 20.0 per cent from BND3,476.94 million to BND4,173.67 million over the previous quarter. Exports of Methanol increased by 76.2 per cent and followed by exports of LNG (36.8 per cent). Higher exports of LNG was attributed to increase in exports to Japan by 44.6 per cent. While the exports market for the exports to Japan contributed 46.8 per cent of total exports and followed by Republic of Korea (14.6 per cent), ASEAN (13.4 per cent), Australia (10.4 per cent) and Republic of India (6.3 per cent).

Quarter-on-Quarter (Q-on-Q) exports to United States of America (USA) increased by 751.7 per cent from BND0.89 to BND7.58 million due to an increase in the export of Methanol. This was then followed by New Zealand (227.3 per cent) which was due to the increase of Crude Oil export by 235.2 per cent. Increases were also recorded for Korea (33.2 per cent), Japan (31.4 per cent) and ASEAN (11.4 per cent). Year-on-Year (Y-on-Y) exports to the USA and ASEAN increased by 153.2 per

cent and 101.7 per cent respectively.

For an imports performance, the total value of imports increased by 24.0 per cent from BND855.19 million to BND1,060.82 million. The increases were attributed to higher growths of Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials (96.1 per cent), Miscellaneous Transactions and Commodities N.E.C (88.4 per cent), Beverages and Tobacco (62.1 per cent), Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels (60.5 per cent) and Manufactured Goods (28.8 per cent).

Y-on-Y total imports grew by 20.2 per cent. High growths were recorded in Crude Materials, Inedible Except Fuels, Lubricants (98.3 per cent); Mineral Fuels, Lubricants and Related Materials (80.3 per cent) and Manufactured Goods (60.2 per cent).

The imports markets from ASEAN accounted for 51.8 per cent which mainly came from Republic of Singapore and Malaysia with BND255.67 million and BND205.71 million respectively. This was followed by USA (14.2 per cent), European Union (9.1 per cent), People's Republic of China (7.5 per cent) and Japan (6.0 per cent).

Q-on-Q imports from Republic of the Union of Myanmar registered an increase of 142.9 per cent followed by Taiwan (63.9 per cent) and Hong Kong (61.1 per cent). However, imports from Australia decreased by 23.7 per cent. Y-on-Y imports from main trading partners also increased except for Japan which decreased by 34.1 per cent, followed by Hong Kong (-30.2 per cent) and Australia (-15.4 per cent).

The IMTS full reports for Third Quarter 2011 are available from JPKE's website: [www.depd.gov.bn](http://www.depd.gov.bn).

## Consumer Price Index (CPI), November 2011

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the first eleven months of 2011 increased by 2.0 per cent on average compared to the same period in 2010. CPI for November 2011 increased by 1.5 per cent compared to November 2010. The year-on-year increase was largely due to higher indices for Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages.

Month-on-month changes showed that the CPI for November 2011 decreased by 0.3 per cent over October 2011. This was due to decreases in the indices for Clothing and Footwear (2.6 per cent), Recreation and Culture (1.0 per cent) and Transport (0.9 per cent). On the other hand, increases were recorded in Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages (0.2 per cent) and Miscellaneous Goods and Services (0.1 per cent), while the indices for Tobacco; Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels, Health, Communication and Education remain unchanged.

A decrease of 4.8 per cent in the price of Clothing Material and 9.8 per cent in Shoes and Other Footwear mainly contributed to the decrease in the Clothing and Footwear index. The index for Recreation and Culture decreased due to lower costs of Package Holidays and Pilgrimages by 5.1 per cent. The decrease in the Transport index was caused by a 7.9 per cent decrease in the price of Transport Services by Air.

The index of Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages rose as a result of increased prices of Rice and Cereals including Cakes, Pastries and Noodles; Chicken; Dairy Products and Eggs, Oils and Fats, Fruits, Sugar, Jam, Honey, Other Food Products including Salt and Spices, Coffee, Tea and Cocoa and Fruit and Vegetables Juices. Meanwhile, the increase in the index of Miscellaneous Goods and Services was due to higher prices of Jewellery; and Travel Goods and Bags.

Note: CPI is a measure of price changes of goods and services paid by the consumer in a specified period. The list of goods and services in the CPI is based on the average expenditure per household from the Household Expenditure Survey. Full reports for November 2011 are available at [www.depd.gov.bn](http://www.depd.gov.bn).

## Brunei's FDI for Third Quarter 2011 increases

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 5** - Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in Quarter Three (Q3) 2011 increased by 76.8 per cent from \$273.48 million to \$483.64 million over the previous quarter, according to Department of Economic, Planning and Development (JPKE).

The largest share of total investment came from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (61.4 per cent), followed by Japan (22.9 per cent), Kingdom of the Netherlands (14.8 per cent) and United States of America (0.3 per cent).

Mining and Quarrying sector (oil & gas industry) remained the largest recipient of FDI with 94.6 per cent shares. The investment came from European countries with a total of \$369.23 million in which Netherlands contributed \$297.25 million and \$71.98 million respectively.

Manufacturing sector was the second highest recipient accounting for 4.9 per cent shares. The major investor came from Japan which contributed \$23.37 million. The third highest FDI was in Administrative and Support Services Activities. The main contributors were Hong Kong, British Virgin Island and Republic of Singapore.

Full reports on the FDI's Q3 2011 are available from JPKE's website: [www.depd.gov.bn](http://www.depd.gov.bn).



## Model Schools will be introduced



PHOTO: AMPUAN HAJI MAHMUD AMPUAN HAJI TENGAH

**Minister of Education, Pehin Dato (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar during the press conference on the establishment of the 'Model Schools'.**

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 5** - Ministry of Education had agreed to implement new initiative this year as continuation for the initiatives implemented in 2009. The new initiative implemented will be the establishment of the 'Model Schools'.

The matter was stated by Minister of Education, Pehin Dato (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar at the press conference held at the ministry's building.

The establishment of the 'Model Schools' is in accordance with education policy as aligned in the Vision 2035 that is to provide first class schools at the primary, secondary, vocational and higher education levels for producing experts and professional for the nation's need.

Ministry of Education had recognised five potential schools to be made as the 'Model Schools'; that is three primary schools, one secondary school and one vocational school.

The frameworks concept of the 'Model Schools' is based on the international benchmark that has been adapted in Brunei Darussalam context, said the minister.

These 'Model Schools', he said, will provide one education system

which laid on the Malay Muslim Monarchy philosophy; practicing the best international practice in learning and teaching; utilising information technology in learning and teaching; promoting research, development and innovation in education; provides autonomy to school in innovative curricula, pedagogy, operation and financial strategy; providing quality and highly 21<sup>st</sup> century skilled teachers; producing 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and knowledgeable students; providing school leadership through the School Leadership Programme (SLP) and Purpose, Energy, Affirmation, Knowledge & Sustainability (PEAKS) programme and responsible for the enhancing of all student achievement.

"In this effort, Ministry of Education had provided early preparation and planning for realising the initiative from the requirement of human power resource, infrastructure, financial source, policies and curriculum," he said.

The ministry also welcomed involvement of stakeholders which made up of parents, private and public communities in contributing in the success of the establishment of the 'Model Schools'.

## UBD hosts iCUBE

**TUNGKU LINK, January 9** - Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) hosted the International Consortium of Universities for the Study of Biodiversity and the Environment (iCUBE) at the Institute of Leadership, Innovation and Advancement (ILIA) Auditorium, UBD.

It was hosted for 11 days and attended by 23 graduates from eight universities namely, King's College London, Korea University, Monash University, National University of Singapore, University of Auckland, University of Bonn, University of North Carolina, including the hosted university, UBD.

It aimed to elaborate the knowledge, encourage awareness and understandings about the climate changes and its effect towards natural environment among different young scientists, nation, backgrounds and cultural as the future guardian, besides preserving the resources and later strengthening the new international relationship among the graduate and consortium officers through intellectual interaction, cultural and people-to-people for better understandings.

The consortium brings together a selected group of research universities from around the globe who are committed to research and education on biodiversity, climate change, and the environment. It provides a framework that promotes collaboration and co-operative activities for multi-disciplinary research, teaching and learning, drawing on complementary capabilities of the partner universities, and in the process, strengthening



PHOTO: AK. AMIRULNIZAM PG. HAJI MOHD. ALI

**Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Yahya at the launching of the iCUBE.**

the research capacities of each partner university. It also promotes intellectual and educational exchanges and interaction amongst scholars and students.

The iCUBE was officially launched by the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Yahya.



## Islamic tourism attracts visitors

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 9** - The tourism industry in Brunei Darussalam is getting more developing including in terms of Islamic tourism as an attractions of visitors from within and outside the country who wish to explore the beauty of Islam.

In this regard, the Secretary General of the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), His Excellency Taleb Rifal held a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Yahya at The Empire Hotel & Country Club.

In the meeting, His Excellency was given a briefing on the tourism products introduced in the country including Islamic Tourism by the Acting Director of Tourism Development, Awang Nordin bin Ahmad.

The objective of His Excellency's two-day visit was to have a closer look at the success of the 5<sup>th</sup> United Nations World Tourism Organisation Executive Training programme in Brunei Darussalam held in June last year.

## Marine ambulance for Temburong residents

**TEMBURONG, January 12** - Ministry of Health had launched its marine ambulance for delivering patients from Temburong District to the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha (RIPAS) Hospital in the capital.

Delivery of patient from Temburong to RIPAS Hospital is a service that has long existed to provide comprehensive treatment to the people and citizen of the country, including the residents of Temburong District.

The provision of such facility is one of the ministry's steps to enhance the level of its primary treatment services and handling emergency cases in the district.

The marine ambulance is equipped with latest equipment as the land ambulance and served as transportation to deliver patient from Temburong District to RIPAS Hospital and also in assisting in handling emergency cases.

Present to launch the marine ambulance was Minister of Health, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Adanan.

## Deaths due to tobacco to increase by 2030

**GADONG, January 12** - An annual death from epidemic tobacco users worldwide is estimated to increase up to 8 million people by 2030. Killed 100 million people in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it is estimated that tobacco will kill 1 billion people in the 21<sup>st</sup> century where 80 per cent are from developing countries.

The matters was stated by the Acting Chief Director of Health Services, Pengiran Dr. Haji Mohd. Khalifah at the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the ASEAN Focal Points on Tobacco Control (AFPTC) that was held at The Rizqun International Hotel.

Some 30 participants consisting of representative members of ASEAN countries and ASEAN Secretariat as well as delegations from partner organisations and international agencies attended the three-day meeting.

The AFPTC is a working group established in 2010 under the Health Cooperation Activities, ASEAN Socio-cultural Community Blueprint aims at reviewing the status and progress of the bi-annual work plan as well as the formulation of the subsequent work plan, centred around issues related to tobacco control.



Some 30 participants at the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the ASEAN Focal Points on Tobacco Control (AFPTC).

PHOTO: MOHD. SAHRIZAL HAJI SAID

## HPV Vaccination Programme starts in schools



PHOTO: AK. AMIRULNIZAM PG. HAJI MOHD. ALI

Deputy Permanent Secretary (Administration and Finance), Dayang Hajah Siti Mariam during a visit to Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan Science College to take a closer look on the HPV Vaccination Programme.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 16** - All Year 7 and Year 11 female students will receive Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) Vaccination under the HPV Vaccination Programme for schools in Brunei Darussalam.

The HPV Vaccination Programme which aims in protecting the female teenagers is an early step of prevention of the cervical cancer in the future.

Director of Health Services, Dr. Hajah Maslina stated the matters during her visit to the Paduka Seri Begawan Sultan (PSBS) Science College in Muara where about 190 female students involved in the programme.

In conjunction with the launch of the programme in school, a team led by Deputy Permanent Secretary (Administration and Finance), Dayang Hajah Siti Mariam made a visit to the college to take a closer look on the programme.

Since implemented in November last year, the programme had well received by the public whereas about 5,000 doses had been used as vaccination.

The HPV Vaccination Programme is given in three doses by phase, where the second dose will be given a month after the first dose, while the third dose will be given six month after the first dose.



## 34<sup>th</sup> SEAMEO High Officials Meeting

**BANGKOK, January 16** - Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) holds its 34<sup>th</sup> SEAMEO High Officials Meeting at the Grand Millennium Sukhumvit Hotel, Bangkok, the Kingdom of Thailand, from January 17 to 19, 2012.

The High Officials Meeting is an annual event of SEAMEO that serves as forum for discussion on priority issues of SEAMEO, review proposals and presentation of accomplishments.

The meeting conclude with the endorsement of the SEAMEO 10-Year Strategic Plan (2011/2020) and the five-year development plans of four SEAMEO Regional Centres, namely, SEAMEO Regional Language Centre (RELK), SEAMEO Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (RIHED), SEAMEO Regional Centre for Tropical Biology (BIOTROP), and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SPAFA).

Progress reports were also presented on various existing projects and initiatives of the SEAMEO Member Countries, the SEAMEO Regional Centres, the SEAMEO Secretariat, and SEAMEO partners such as those that relate to Education for All, disaster risk reduction, and climate change.

Proposals for greater collaboration on various priorities and concerns were also presented such as those by International Council for Open and Distance Education (ICDE) on distance and online learning, and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on Early Childhood Care and Education and Education for All.

During the meeting, arrangements were firmed up for the implementation of the SEAMEO-Japan Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) Award, a new collaboration

between SEAMEO and Japan. It aims to promote ESD and recognize best practices on ESD in SEAMEO Member Countries.

Another project were also launched at the meeting, namely the Regional Fit for School Programme, a project between the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) and SEAMEO Regional Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology (INNOTECH) that focuses on health of school children, and will be implemented in the Kingdom of Cambodia, Republic of Indonesia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, and Republic of the Philippines.

Haji Mahrub Haji Murni, Permanent Secretary (Core Education), Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam chaired the meeting and he was assisted by Dr. Witaya Jeradechakul, Director of SEAMEO Secretariat.

The 6<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Education (SOM-ED), and the ASEAN+3 SOM-ED were also convened back-to-back with the 34<sup>th</sup> SEAMEO High Officials Meeting in Bangkok, Thailand.

Education vice ministers, undersecretaries, permanent secretaries, directors general, and other high-level education officials from the SEAMEO member countries and associate members and affiliates attended the meeting. Other SEAMEO partners include the ASEAN Secretariat, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Bangkok, UNICEF Regional Office for East Asia and the Pacific (EAPRO), Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT), Japan; Asian Development Bank, and Korean Education Development Institute as well as the SEAMEO Regional Centres and the Secretariat also participated in the meeting.

## 4,700 houses will be distributed



Minister of Development, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Suyoi takes a closer look on the HABITEX and Roadshow.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 17** - A sum of 4,700 houses are expected to be distributed to qualified applicants this year. Meanwhile in 2011, 3,508 houses had been awarded by His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

The Minister of Development, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Suyoi stated the matters during officiating ceremony of the Habitat Exhibition (HABITEX) and Roadshow in conjunction with World Habitat Day 2011 in Berakas.

In introducing any changes on the national housing programme, said the minister, the government will continue to take into account the needs of the people particularly in enhancing the well-being and quality of living.

It is estimated that, 16,500 units of houses are required to accommodate housing requirements until 2017, he said.

The development of these houses through 'landed properties development' will require an estimated of 775

hectares of land; while through 'Vertical Development', it will only need 580 hectares, said the minister.

Ministry of Development through Department of Housing Development has a government housing policy and strategy in managing the land requirement for long-term housing development that is the 'high density residential development' and 'green building and settlement concept and design', added the minister.

The National Housing Programme, stated the minister, will introduce the preparation project of flats in Brunei-Muara District that will be carried out by phases.

The ministry through Department of Housing Development and its departments will continuously make effort in implementing changes and innovative initiatives and meet the needs of those who depend on the National Housing Programme, said the minister.

As stated in His Majesty's *titah* (royal speech) on July 15, 2011, which will continue to lead to the achievement of the core or key targets that is to accelerate the construction and provision of the desire house that own by the applicant within not more than 10 years, the use of development resources such as optimal usage of land and continue to provide affordable homes to the people, he added.

Speaking on the theme of the World Habitat Day 2011, 'City and Climate Change', the minister gives an overview on the relations of development and environment particularly on how the development of the city had an impact to climate change and their effects if not properly manage.

HABITEX and the roadshow will be held for seven-days, among others featuring the roles and function of the Department of Housing Development and several government and private agencies. The involvements of these agencies are to create progression of development, environmental beauty, well-being, health, comfort, harmonisation for every people and residents of the country.



## Archive System 'e-Arkib' launched

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 19** - The Archive System e-Arkib project is one of the e-government projects by the National Archives, Department of Brunei Museums, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports. It started on March 11, 2009 where CFK Automation Sendirian Berhad was appointed for its implementation.

E-Arkib is the first to be established in the country that using Electronic Records Management System (ERMS). It estimated cost is around \$1.9 million. The implementation of the system takes into account the development needs of the archival institutions around the world in the line with the National Vision 2035 in achieving electronic services and administration in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

A total of 2.8 million records had been transferred and stored in digital format. Digital records is one of the way in safeguarding the security and preserve records and other saving materials for long-term period of time. This will give opportunity for the public to gain access of the selected records through the National Archives of Brunei Darussalam's available at [www.arkibunei.gov.bn](http://www.arkibunei.gov.bn).

Two main aims of the system are providing a database of archived records for various media collection aged 25 years and above; and providing the management of public records under the aged of 25 years before it was appraised for archival.

The records can only be accessed or referenced by the National Archives of Brunei Darussalam government and



**Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair launches the Archive System 'e-Arkib'.**

private sectors, higher education institutes and research, schools also publics. It comes in two version, namely Malay and English in helping to propagate its use and facilitate the public, stakeholders and National Archives running their affairs.

Attending the launching ceremony of the Archive System e-Arkib was Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair. The launching ceremony was held at the Digadong Hall.

## 130<sup>th</sup> WHO Executive Board Session

**GENEVA, January 23** - Minister of Health, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Adanan attended the 130<sup>th</sup> World Health of Organization (WHO) Meeting in Switzerland together with other 33 member countries as representative of all 194 member countries.

At the meeting session between Minister of Health, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Adanan and Director-General of WHO, Dr. Margaret Chan, both of the parties discussed issues related to public health namely, the Implementation of International Health Regulations, strategies of cooperation on national and international health matters, development of health systems and infrastructure as well as

technical assistance from WHO.

While the 130<sup>th</sup> WHO Executive Board Session among others discussed WHO reformation agenda and other technical issues that cover global public health matters priority for action by member states namely the Achievement Progress of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) related to health and Plan of Global Health Goals 2015, the Implementation of International Health Regulations 2005, and the Implementation of Global Strategies about the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases.

Global burden of mental illness and a comprehensive and integrated

coordination needs from health and social sector at the national level, Implementation of comprehensive action on nutrition of mothers and babies, Elimination, prevention and control of diseases, namely Poliomyelitis, Global Vaccine Action Plan Draft, Response and the role of WHO as the health cluster in meeting the health needs in humanitarian emergencies also discussed in the meeting.

Result, support and resolution from the meeting will be brought to the 65<sup>th</sup> World Health Assembly on May, 2012 to be discussed for resolution.

## EGEDA aid economy in building accounts capacity and energy statistic

**RIMBA, January 24** - Capacity Building Workshop on Energy Statistics for Brunei Darussalam is parts of APEC's continuous efforts under the workforce program to improve and enhance overall energy data and statistic from collection, compiling, interpretation and validation of Brunei Darussalam economy.

The Deputy Permanent Secretary (Downstream and Energy), Prime Minister's Office, Awang Haji Jamain stated the matter at the Capacity Building Workshop on Energy Statistics for Brunei Darussalam facilitated by Energy Department, Prime Minister's Office held at Penglibatan Hall, Public Service Institute.

The workshop is participated by EGEDA made up of six experts on data

from various APEC member economies organisations namely Institute of Energy Economics, Japan; The Kyodo Computing Corporation, Japan; The Korea Energy Economics Institute and The Department of Energy, Republic of the Philippines.

Four sessions set by the workshop will cover the process of compilation energy data, understanding of energy balance and energy efficiency indicators, and development of database management system.

The three-day workshop where participated by 25 participants from Department of Energy, Prime Minister's Office; Department of Electrical Service; Department of Economic Planning and Development; Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sendirian

Berhad; Brunei LNG Sendirian Berhad; BruneiShellMarketingSendirianBerhad and Berakas Power Management Company.

At the workshop, experts from Japan, the Republic of Korea and the Republic of the Philippines also shared their best expertise with participants.

The workshop aimed to improve energy data and overall statistic performance and also to enhance awareness on the importance of data integration among the key stakeholders. Energy data and statistic considered as a vital part in information that will become the foundation for future policies and policy directions for energy efficiency and conservation.



## Production and Investment Agreement

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 24** - The Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Royal Dutch Shell Limited (RDS) as the shareholders of Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sendirian Berhad (BSP) have signed the Production and Investment Agreement.

The signing ceremony was held at RDS Headquarters in the Hague, Kingdom of the Netherlands.

Signing on behalf of His Majesty's Government was the Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office,

Pehin (Rtd.) Colonel Dato Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Yasmin. Meanwhile, RDS was represented by its Executive Officer, Dato Seri Laila Jasa Peter Voser and Mr. Ken Marnoch represented BSP.

The agreement set out between the Brunei Government and Shell focuses on the mechanisms to support, sustain and increase the production of oil and gas by BSP. It will form an integral part of future investment decisions undertaken by Shell in BSP, in relation to BSP's entire project portfolio, including further exploration, development and

production, in areas under existing Concession Agreements.

The signing ceremony was held during the minister's working visit to United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Netherlands. During the visit, the delegates also visited Shell Offices, private sector companies and educational institutes in Aberdeen and the Hague to gain firsthand updates on technology, competency and local business developments.

## National Youth Symposium



Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair officiates the National Youth Symposium.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 24** - Youths must strive for excellence in various fields, according to their individual capabilities in order to achieve the status of big-hearted youths. Their achievements can be used to develop their individual talents and potential.

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Hazair stated the matter at the opening of the National Youth Symposium held at the Youth Centre in the capital.

The minister said that youths must be prepared to meet any obstacles and challenges in life, if they want to achieve success. Youths should live according to the principle of thinking big, guided by the teachings of Islam. Youths should also draw lessons and examples from Muslim as well as international leaders. In this context, youths should not be arrogant, they must possess a habit of wanting to achieve big things and should contribute to the community. This means respecting the surrounding community by possessing a noble personality and character, and initiating change by making an impact on themselves and the community.

A total of 80 youths took part in the national symposium, aimed at discussing and exploring youth issues through the involvement of youths, experts and academics towards encouraging big hearted youths. The symposium, organised by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports and carried out by the Youth and Sports Department.

## 4<sup>th</sup> Brunei International Conference in Engineering and Technology (BICET) 2012



Minister of Development, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Suyoi officiates the 4<sup>th</sup> BICET 2012.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 25** - The 4<sup>th</sup> Brunei International Conference in Engineering and Technology (BICET) 2012 was held for two days. The two-day conference that started on January 25 brought up 'Sustainable Development through Advances in Engineering and Technology' as its theme.

The conference was organised by Institut Teknologi Brunei (ITB) and attended by local and foreign researchers, science experts also practitioners that contributed in the latest engineering and technology development.

BICET was an academic discussion platform in exchanging experts' knowledge in international research, Science experts and practitioners in handling main issues and progress that related with the field of engineering and technology.

It aimed in providing a forum for disciplinary exchange of research and latest in engineering and technology also in providing an opportunity to explore the potential of collaboration research among the conference participants.



# Two workshops for Ministry of Education Strategic Plan 2012-2017

**JERUDONG, January 25** – A ‘Strategy Building: Strategic Formulation’ workshop was held from January 25 until 28. The workshop was aimed in providing the Strategic Plan 2012 until 2017 for the Ministry of Education.

This first four-day workshop was held at Indera Samudera Grand Hall, The Empire Hotel & Country Club and officiated by Minister of Education, Pehin Dato Dr. Haji Awang Abu Bakar. The participants of the workshop were from policy makers to Assistant Directors under the Ministry of Education.

Another three-day workshop with the title ‘Strategy Building-Strategy Cascading’ was held from January 30 until February 1 at the same venue. This workshop was held for the department’s strategic plan Directors, Assistant Directors, Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators.

The second workshop would determine the suitable Key Performance Indicator (KPI) that will be able to help the departments in the Ministry of Education in implementing the ministry’s strategic plan, forming targets and main initiatives also developing scorecard for every departments.

The facilitator for the workshop is Mr. P Rajoo, a 20 years experienced consultant in forming strategy.

# United Nation Conference

**KOTA BATU, January 25** - Thirty participants attended the United Nation Conference on Trade and Development Improving Port Performance (UNCTAD IPP) received their certificate from Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Development, Awang Abd. Motalib.

It was held at the Mangrove Paradise Resort, Kampung Sungai Belukut. This rare organised conference was held in collaboration with Port Department, Royal Custom and Excise Department, Shipping Association Brunei Darussalam (SABD), Brunei Freight Forwarders Association, Federation of Transportation and Stevedoring of Brunei Darussalam and New Muara Container Terminal Services (NMCTS).

It was a follow-up conference from two national/ industry courses, namely UNCTAD Seaport and Port Operations and UNCTAD on Container Terminal Operations that was held on January and February last year.

The conference was operated by one certified consultant by United Nation Conference on Trade and Development, namely Advancing Training and Consultancy from Johor, Malaysia. The conference was divided into two sessions, namely from November 8 until 23 last year and from January 9 until 24.

It was an initiative of Port Department that geared towards supporting the Ministry of Communications fifth strategic objectives in increasing the professionalism and talent also preparing training and education for officers and staffs of Port Department. Current best practices can be introduced and applied particularly in Port Department and other related agencies.

# Successful breeding of Black Tiger prawn recorded

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 27** - Brunei Darussalam has succeeded in producing specific pathogen-free (SPF) species in the region. It is the breed of *Penaeus Monodon* (Black Tiger prawns).

This is a five-year-project collaboration between Integrated Aquaculture International (IAI), United States of America and the Fisheries Department in the aquaculture industry.

They developed an environmentally-friendly system to produce high yield of large, disease-free black tiger prawns with great efficiency and minimum wastage.

Present at the harvesting ceremony at the Aquaculture Research and Development Centre, Telisai was the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Yahya.



Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Yahya at the harvesting ceremony at the Aquaculture Research and Development Centre in Telisai.

PHOTO: DK. NURHAFLAH PG. OSMAN

# Seven new ambulances for better health care

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 31** - In its effort to continuously improve its health care services, the Ministry of Health has launched their seven new ambulances. The new ambulances are under Special Allocation Budget 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 that amounted more than \$3 million.

The Minister of Health, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Adanan, officiated the new ambulances. The replica key for the seven ambulances was handed-over by Syarikat Bayu Ilham Motors Sendirian Berhad General Manager, Awang Rolan Tii to the Deputy Permanent Secretary (Professional and Technical), Ministry of Health, Dr. Hajah Norlela binti Dato Paduka Haji Abdul Jalil.

It is hoped that with the supply of new ambulances will improve the quality and Emergency Medical Ambulance Services (EMAS) efforts in handling medical emergency situations besides as an addition to the existing ambulances.



Minister of Health, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Adanan sprinkles scented flowers on the new ambulances.

PHOTO: AMPUAN HAJI MAHMUD AMPUAN HAJI TENGAH



## Pasar Serbanekaria Kampung Masin and Kampung Bebatik officially open

**MASIN, January 1** - One of the Brunei-Muara District Department's (JDBM) Long-Term Strategic Goals is the preparing sites for establishing market or stall.

This was stated by the Acting Deputy Permanent Secretary of Home Affairs, Awang Haji Jamain at the launching ceremony of the Pasar Serbanekaria Kampung Masin and Kampung Bebatik.

The stall, said Awang Haji Jamain is the first stage and JDBM will build an extension building if the involvement of the hawkers are encouraging. It will give an opportunity to trade not only vegetables, but also varieties of sales.

Currently, JDBM in its strategic goals is setting up few stalls, namely in Mukim Lumapas, Kampung Belimbing Subok, Kampung Katimahar and

## Masin and Kampung Bebatik

market in Mukim Sungai Kebun for the resident of Kampung Ayer.

Awang Jamain also hoped that the people will be able to use the stall provided in increasing their sources of income and in keeping the stalls' cleanliness and safety together.

The new Kampung Masin Consultative Council will be able to help the head village in planning and encouraging the village towards the beneficial activity for the people and the village.

The stall provided eight vegetables booths, six food booths and two grocery stores with the cost of more than \$200 thousand where construction works were completed in February 2011. The operation hours started from 6.00 am until 11.00 pm daily.

## The 5<sup>th</sup> Borneo International Islamic Conference (KAIB V)

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 4** - Kolej Universiti Perguruan Ugama Seri Begawan (KUPU SB) and Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), Sarawak agreed to host the KAIB V and have signed an agreement of cooperation (MoU) in variety of fields especially in education and research.

Dato Professor Dr. Jamil bin Haji Ismail, UiTM Sarawak Rector and delegation were welcomed by the Ra'ees, Dr. Hajah Masnon binti Haji Ibrahim and the officers of KUPU SB.

KAIB was first hosted in 2008 by the UiTM, Sarawak. The theme for the upcoming KAIB V in Brunei Darussalam is 'Membongkar Rahsia Pendidikan Islam, Ilmu dan Keagungan Tamadun Islam di Borneo' or 'Unravel the Mysteries of Islamic Education, Knowledge and Greatness of Islamic Civilisation in Borneo'.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Volume of Bru-Xpo

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 4** - A total of 60 booths participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Volume of Bru-Xpo held in the Indoor Stadium, Hassanal Bolkiah National Sports Complex, Berakas.

The event was launched by the Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Datin Paduka Dayang Hajah Adina.

Bru-Xpo is an international exhibition for corporates, non-government organisations (NGO) and government institutions to display their products and services in this modern generation. Among the countries that participating in the Bru-Xpo were Brunei Darussalam, Malaysia and the Republic of Indonesia.



The Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Datin Paduka Dayang Hajah Adina officiates the 2<sup>nd</sup> Volume of Bru-Xpo.

PHOTO: HERNIE SULIANA HAJI OTHMAN

## Francophonie Week 2012

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 12** - Alliance Francaise De Brunei (AF Brunei) will be hosting a one-week 'Francophonie Week 2012' in Brunei Darussalam. It aims to promote the French language and culture and kept the awareness in different region about Francophonie existing.

The 'Francophonie Week 2012' is hoped to give platform and support for local artists to show their talent and explore artistic works and culture between Bruneians and French pupils.

It will be hosted from January 16 until 22, said Aurelie Dotrey, Director of AF Brunei in media conference at AF Brunei Office, Kampung Kiarong.

## A talk on climate changes

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, January 9** - Ministry of Development hosted a two-day climate changes lecture at Indera Pahlawan Theatre, Ministry of Development Training Centre.

It aimed to increase the awareness about climate changes among the government officers. Among the attendees were the Permanent and Deputy Permanent Secretaries at the Ministry of Development.

Professor Madya Stefan Arndt and Professor Rodney Keenan, Climate Changes Specialists from the University of Melbourne, Australia were among the speakers who are invited at the lecture.



One of the speakers at the Climate Changes Lecture from University of Melbourne, Australia.

PHOTO: AZMAH HAJI AHAD

## Minister attends reception

Present on behalf of the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Minister of Development, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Suyoi attended a reception to celebrate the 63<sup>rd</sup> Republic Day of the Republic of India.

Also present was the Indian High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency L.D. Ratte.

The reception was held at the Indian High Commission in Jalan Sungai Akar on January 28.



## DID YOU KNOW THAT...

- The Immigration Department was officially established with the enforcement of Immigration Act and Regulations on July 1, 1958.
- The water filtration and purification plant was established for the capital of Brunei in 1954.
- The National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC) of Brunei Darussalam was established in August 2006 under the auspices of the Disaster Management Order, 2006.
- There are four universities in Brunei Darussalam namely; Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD), Universiti Islam Sultan Sharif Ali (UNISSA), Institut Teknologi Brunei (ITB) and Kolej Universiti Perguruan Ugama Seri Begawan (KUPU SB).
- Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) was established on October 28, 1985 with 176 students and its first graduation ceremony was held in 1989.

## BRUNEI IN BRIEF

- Official name is Negara Brunei Darussalam.
- Capital is Bandar Seri Begawan.
- It is located on the north-west of Borneo Island in Southeast Asia.
- Land size is 5765 sq. km
- Population is estimated at 422,700 people (2011)
- It is divided into four districts – Brunei Muara, Tutong, Kuala Belait and Temburong.
- Malay is the official language but English is widely spoken.
- Islam is the official religion and it allows other religions to be practiced.
- National carrier is Royal Brunei Airlines.
- It has an equatorial climate, a uniform temperature, high humidity and heavy rainfall.

**Public Warning:** The trafficking of controlled drugs carries the death penalty in Brunei Darussalam

## HOW TO GET TO BRUNEI DARUSSALAM?

### **There are a number of ways to reach Brunei.**

- By air - Brunei's national carrier, Royal Brunei Airlines travels to more than 20 destinations around the world. The airline also has worldwide office for you to book a return flight to Brunei (to know the nearest RBA's office at your place, please log to: [www.brunelair.com](http://www.brunelair.com))
- International airlines such as Singapore Airlines, Malaysia Airlines and Thai Airways also fly frequently to Brunei. Beginning July 2006, Air Asia, one of Malaysia's lowest airfare carrier has direct flight from Kuala Lumpur to Brunei.
- Arrival by plane would land you to Brunei International Airport (BWN), the sole airport in the nation.
- For those who enjoy journey by sea, you can reach Brunei by boat or ferry. The main ferry terminal in Brunei is the Serasa Ferry Terminal at Muara. You can catch a ferry from Labuan, Sabah or Lawas and Sundar, both in Sarawak, a state of the neighbouring country, Malaysia. Another option is via a boat from Limbang, Sarawak which will arrive at the jetty around Jalan Residency area in the Capital.
- You would have two options of entry point to Brunei by land transport. You can enter through the Sungai Tujoh Immigration Control Post in Belait District or the Kuala Lurah Immigration Control Post in Brunei Muara District. The Sungai Tujoh Immigration Control Post in Belait is the entry point for those from Miri, Sarawak and Kalimantan. While the Kuala Lurah Immigration Control Post is the entrance for those coming from Limbang, Sarawak and Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.