



Free Trade Zone Consented

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 6 – 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) states His Majesty's consent for the creation of a free trade zone to facilitate investment activities especially in the manufacturing sector besides enhancing the performance of Government Linked Companies, GLCs.

His Majesty delivered the *titah* during the Official Opening Ceremony of the 1st meeting of the 13th Session of the Legislative Council, at the LegCo building in Jalan Dewan Majlis.

His Majesty said that the one of the government's priority is to increase the value and performance of government-linked companies (GLCs).

The companies, including companies set up by joint ventures with foreign investors, will be able to contribute to the country's economic growth, especially in the non-oil and gas sectors.

"Our goal is to make this country an attractive trading and investment destination," said His Majesty.

His Majesty added that from the increase in economic activity, it will bring more jobs and business opportunities for locals. Moreover, with that development, we should not be easily satisfied as reform efforts still need to be continued because economic transformation requires long-term planning.

"Alhamdulillah, in recent years, this effort has begun to show its impact even though the results are still in need of time," said His Majesty.

His Majesty said that several foreign



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) at the Official Opening Ceremony of the First Meeting of the 13th Session of the Legislative Council (MMN) at the LegCo building.

direct investment projects would start their operations temporarily, some already in the implementation stage, while some new investment proposals are still in the research.

The development is certainly positive, according to His Majesty, and it is not only from the strengthening of the economy but also the impression of the bounty we can get.

His Majesty firmly emphasised that we still have to keep on guard because the oil price is expected to be low at an estimated cost.

Therefore, the government should continue in intensifying the diversity of the country's economy.

His Majesty also congratulated Legislative Council members on re-appointment and newly appointed Legislative Council Members.

"I would also like to convey my

appreciation and gratitude to former Legislative Council members for their contribution in the past conference sessions," expressed His Majesty.

With the appointment of new members, it is hoped that it will have a positive impact on the conference.

"I believe Legislative Council members will be able to fulfill their obligations with a sincere and honest attitude and are open in giving their views and opinions," said His Majesty.

In this conference the Legislative Council members will have the opportunity to discuss issues considered important.

Among the important issues, was that of the economy.

"We all know that the world's economy continues to experience uncertainties even though recently prices in oil has shown positive signs," concluded His Majesty.



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MARCH 2017 - VOLUME 32 ISSUE 3

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

is published monthly by the Department of Information. It reports on government, social and business events in the country. All money values are expressed in Brunei dollars \$, unless otherwise stated. Any information in this newsletter may be reproduced; a clipping of the publication would be appreciated. For free subscription (excluding postage) please write to the Distribution Unit, Department of Information, Prime Minister's Office, Old Airport, Berakas BB 3510, Brunei Darussalam.

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His Majesty receives audiences

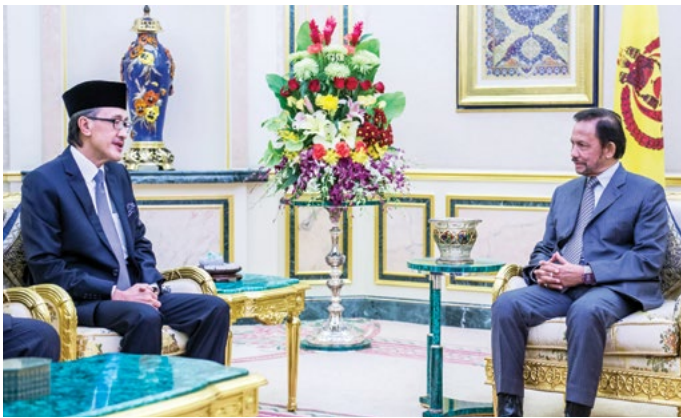
His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to receive in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:



His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on March 4.



His Excellency Saleumxay Kommasith, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Lao People's Democratic Republic on March 16.



Yang Berhormat Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Masidi bin Majun, Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment Sabah, Malaysia on March 28.



Mr. Hoong Wee Teck, Singapore Police Commissioner on March 27.



ASEAN Chief Judges and the Heads of Delegation of the ASEAN Law Association, Hon. Chief Justice Professor Dr Muhammad Hatta Ali of the Supreme Court of Indonesia; Chief Justice Tun Arifin bin Zakaria of the Federal Court of Malaysia; Associate Justice Presbitero Jose Velasco, Jr of the Supreme Court of the Philippines; Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon of the Supreme Court of Singapore; Justice Chao Hick Tin, Vice-President of the Court of Appeal Singapore; Chief Justice Veerapol Tungsuwan, President of the Supreme Court of Thailand; Atty. Avelino V. Cruz, President of the ASEAN Law Association (ALA); Retired Chief Justice Artemio V. Panganiban of the Supreme court of the Philippines; Atty. Regina Padila Geraldez, Secretary-General of the ASEAN Law Association (ALA); Justice You Ottara, Vice President of the Supreme Court of the Kingdom of Cambodia; Mrs. Dr Thi Da Oo, Director General, Union Attorney General's Office Myanmar; Le Thi Kim Thanh, Vice President of the Vietnam Lawyers's Association and Tan Sri Dato 'Sri Haji Mohamed Apandi bin Haji Ali, Malaysia Attorney General on March 25.

Her Majesty receives audiences

Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam of Brunei Darussalam consented to receive in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:



Kebawah Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku Puan Pahang Tunku Hajjah Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah binti Almarhum Almutawakkil Alallah Sultan Iskandar Al-Haj, The Royal Patron of Friends of Asia Pacific Region World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (World Pacific Girl and Girl Guides Association - FAPW) on March 15.



Alouny Kommasith, spouse of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao People's Democratic Republic, on March 16.



Nyew Puay Ngim, spouse of the Singapore Police Commissioner on March 27.

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 has consented to send congratulatory messages to:

i. President of the Federal Republic Germany, Sir Frank-Walter Steinmeier in conjunction with his appointment as President of the Federal Republic of Germany on March 22.

ii. President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, His Excellency Mamnoon Hussain and Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, His Excellency Muhammad Nawaz Sharif as well as the government and people of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in conjunction with Pakistan Day celebrations on March 23.

iii. President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, His Excellency Md. Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina as well as the government and people of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in conjunction with the Independence Day of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on March 26.

His Majesty sends message of condolences

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 a message of condolence to the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, The Right Honourable Theresa May, following the recent attack on Tuesday at Westminster resulting in some deaths and injuries.

Brunei – Saudi Arabia strengthens cooperation in various fields

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 4 - 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 Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia agreed to emphasise the importance of enhancing coordination and cooperation in the area of political security, military and Islamic affairs between the two countries.

Both Heads of State also welcomed the decision of the Joint Saudi-Bruneian Economic Committee to be held at the end of this year, a decision that will ensure the economy and improve private sector cooperation between the two countries.

This matter was discussed during the first state visit to Brunei Darussalam of His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah praised the efforts of His Majesty King Salman and the Government of the Kingdom of Saudi



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, at the Cheradi Ratna Kenchana, Istana Nurul Iman.

Arabia in the service of the Two Holy Mosques and the pilgrims and visitors including those from Brunei Darussalam.

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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 with His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and King of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia inspecting the Royal Guard of Honour mounted by the Royal Brunei Land Forces, Royal Brunei Armed Forces.



His Majesty being introduced to Saudi delegates by His Majesty King Salman. 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 Mohamed Bolkiah.

Brunei – Saudi Arabia strengthens cooperation in various fields (continued)

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Both leaders also exchanged views on regional and international issues including recent developments in the Middle East.

Their Majesties also emphasised the importance of achieving a lasting, comprehensive and just solution to the Palestinian struggle according to the contents of the Arab Security Initiative and the results of international legitimacy related.

The two leaders further highlighted the need and importance of seeking a sustainable political solution to the Syrian Crisis under the Geneva Declaration (1) and the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 2254 as well as the importance of providing humanitarian aid and assistance to Syrian refugees.

The importance of maintaining Yemen's unity and peace and stability as well as the importance of seeking a lasting political solution to the Yemeni Crisis was also emphasised.

Both leaders also welcomed the Gulf Initiative and the results of the

'Yemen National Dialogue' as well as the Resolution of the United Nations Security Council No. 2216.

In the statement, both leaders also expressed their support for the Yemen Government to facilitate the arrival of humanitarian aid to all parts of Yemen.

Their Majesties further agreed with the coordination of their position in the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and relevant bodies to safeguard the interests of both the country and the brotherhood and the interests of the Islamic state.

Both leaders touched on the importance of destroying extremism and against all forms and manifestations of terrorism in any form or circumstance.

The two leaders acknowledged that the National Tour coincided with the Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between Brunei Darussalam and the 30th Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

A constructive fraternity discussion was held, focusing on enhancing bilateral

relations between the two countries and expanding the field of cooperation in all areas, particularly in areas of trade and investment cooperation including exploring joint investment opportunities.

The two leaders also agreed to activate the General Agreement on Cooperation signed between both countries including the Economics, Investment, Technical, Education, Culture, Youth and Sports fields.

His Majesty expressed his sincere appreciation to His Majesty King Salman in making this landmark visit to Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty bestowed the Royal Family Order of the Crown of Brunei (DKMB), the Highest Order of Brunei Darussalam to His Majesty King Salman.

The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud, King of Saudi Arabia's Royal Government also expressed his appreciation to His Majesty for the warm welcome and generous reception accorded to him and the members of his delegation while in Brunei Darussalam.

Prize Presentation for Friendly Polo Exhibition Match



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 awarding a trophy to Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah during the Polo Friendship Match between Brunei Polo Team and 61 Cavalry Indian Army Polo Team.

JERUDONG, March 10 – Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, consented to participate in the Friendly Polo Exhibition Match between Brunei Polo team and 61 Cavalry Indian Army Polo team which took place at Royal Brunei Polo and Riding Club, Jerudong.

Brunei Polo team was led by Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah, while 61 Cavalry Indian Army Polo team was led by Colonel Rajesh Pattu.

The Friendly Polo Exhibition Match was organised in conjunction with His Majesty Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam 70th Birthday Celebration.

During the exhibition match, Brunei Polo team defeated 61 Cavalry Indian Army Polo team with a score of 10-4 in 4 chukkas.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to present prizes to the participating teams.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, His Royal



His Majesty receiving an extension from the 61 Cavalry Indian Army Polo Force.



Witnessing the tournament, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel and Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah.

Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel, Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna.



Brunei Polo Team headed by Her Royal Highness Princess Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah, and 61 Cavalry Indian Army Polo Team headed by Colonel Rajesh Pattu.

His Majesty attends the National Level Quran Reading Musabaqah

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 9 - 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 attend the National Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for adults 1438 Hijrah / 2017.

The arrival of His Majesty at the International Convention Centre, Berakas was greeted by the Minister of Religious Affairs, Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Othman, as Chairman of the Musabaqah Executive Committee.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

The ceremony commenced with the recitation of holy verses from the Al-Quran by Sheikh Yasser Mahmoud Abdelkhalek Ahmed, from the Arab Republic of Egypt.

Meanwhile, the Minister of Religious Affairs, Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz



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 Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office being welcomed by the Musabaqah Executive Committee.

Haji Awang Badaruddin, in his welcoming speech, extended his sincere appreciation for the presence of His Majesty at the closing of the two-day musabaqah ceremony, followed by the delivery of a *titah* (royal speech) and prize presentation by His Majesty.

Yang Berhormat said, indeed the arrival and presence of His Majesty as well as the delivery of the *titah* is always honoured and it instills the spirit and stimulates perseverance in advancing the progress of the nation, which in the context of this ceremony is also the development of religion and religious service.

Clearly said Yang Berhormat, excluding some victories in memorizing Musabaqah that our country was invited to join, our country representatives have also won a victory in the International Level Quran Recitation Ceremony in Russia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Indonesia, Thailand and the state of Melaka.

Yang Berhormat added that the success of the previous Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah and the success of the country's representatives who have also won a victory in the International Level Quran Recitation Ceremony in Russia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Indonesia, Thailand and the state of Melaka shows that our country is able to produce reliable qari and qariah to compete with qari and qariah abroad.

12 participants competed in this year's Quran Reading Musabaqah for two nights where 10 of them were participants who got the highest score of the semi-finals, while the two participants who are qari and qariah champions, were



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik being welcomed by the Musabaqah Executive Committee.

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His Majesty attends the National Level Quran Reading Musabaqah (continued)

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waiting participants, the two champions were runner-up and third place at the International Quran Recital Council in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia last year.

At the event, His Majesty consented to deliver a titah and presented prizes, souvenirs and certificates to participants of the Al-Quran Reading Musabaqah for adults 1438 Hijrah / 2017, the Musabaqah judges and the invited qari.

With a score of 91.83 per cent, Awangku Muhammad Adibul Amin bin Pengiran Haji Marjuki emerged as qari champion.

The runner-up was Awang Mohammad Zul-Hafiz bin Awang Tengah with a score of 89.75 percent, while in third place was Awang Haji Nasrul Fakhri bin Haji Yahya with a score of 89.5 percent.

Meanwhile, the qariah champion was Dayang Hajah Siti Noor Dzuhairah binti Haji Awang Damit with a score of 89.84 percent.

The runner-up was Dayang Hajah Nurfaezah binti Haji Emran with 88.42 percent, while in third place was Dayang Hajah Nurul Akmalina binti Haji Yahya with 87.08 percent.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting the trophy prize to the winner of qari, Awangku Muhammad Adibul Amin bin Pengiran Haji Marjuki.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting the trophy prize to the winner of qariah, Dayang Hajah Siti Noor Dzuhairah binti Haji Awang Damit.

Both qari and qariah champions won trophies, BND7,000 cash, gifts and certificates along with a Darussalam Holding Umrah Package totaling BND4,000 sponsored by the Brunei Islamic Trust Fund Corporation (TAIB), Islamic Insurance TAIB and Darussalam Holdings.

The runner-up champions each won BND5,000 cash, gifts and certificates, while third place qari and qariah won BND3,000 cash with accompanying accompaniment and certificate.

Consolation prizes were a cash prize of BND1,500, gifts and certificates.

The ceremony was also accompanied by the Quran recitation by qari and qariah, Awangku Muhammad Adibul Amin and Dayang Hajah Siti Noor Dzuhairah.

To bless the ceremony, a Doa Selamat was read by the State Mufti, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia Doctor Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned.

The 6th Intake Passing Out Parade of the National Service Programme



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) during the Passing out Parade of the 6th Intake of the National Service Programme (PKBN).

TEMBURONG, March 13 - 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 Brunei Darussalam stated in a *titah* (royal speech) that one of the basic role as trainers of the National Service Programme (PKBN) was to carry out voluntary work.

As volunteers, they should at any time be prepared to contribute, either in the



His Majesty inspecting the Guard of Honour mounted by 357 trainees from the 6th Intake of PKBN.

ordinary course of time or in the event of a disaster.

"This is the 'basis' of our youth. This policy needs to be established to ensure transparency and efficiency in service. The party should emphasise this, so that it is fully understood and held by the trainers. If the policy is not understood and appreciated, all the services will gradually fall apart.

It is of necessity, so that the basis or concept is reinforced. The concept of voluntary work is sublime and dynamic in nature, it should not be overshadowed by indolence or laziness.

His Majesty delivered the *titah* during the Passing out Parade of the 6th Intake of the National Service Programme at Kampung Batu Apoi, Temburong.

His Majesty affirmed that the PKBN trainers need to be tied up in a bond and the said bond is the 'basis' for the organisation.

His Majesty said that it can be seen by what is ensured in the constitution or regulations and can also be seen on the PKBN logo for example.

This is all intended to motivate volunteers to remain committed to their service to the community and the nation.

His Majesty was very optimistic with today's youths, those who are keen to do charity work in various fields.

Such tendency, said His Majesty, is very good in continuing because gathering and interacting with the youth can bring about great and new ideas that are very beneficial.

The ceremony saw the passing out of 357 trainees.



357 PKBN trainees, 280 male trainees and 77 female trainees marching during the parade ceremony.

His Majesty attends Farewell Ceremony for personnel of the First Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles



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, Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces receiving the Royal salute.

SERIA, March 14 - 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 Brunei Darussalam, the Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) attended the Farewell Ceremony for personnel of the First Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles.

The arrival of His Majesty Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Brunei Darussalam at the Garrison Officer's Mess was greeted by the Commander of British Forces Brunei, Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Crowe.

Upon arrival, His Majesty received the Royal Salute and inspected the Guard of Honour mounted by personnel of the Royal Gurkha Rifles under the command of Captain Ganesh Kumar Gurung.

Also present were British High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency David Campbell and the Commander



His Majesty was pleased to inspect the Guard of honour mounted by personnel of the Royal Gurkha Rifles under the command of Captain Ganesh Kumar Gurung.

of the RBAF, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Mohd. Tawih bin Abdullah.

His Majesty later witnessed a demonstration of a military operation involving personnel of the Rifle Company and the Special Weapons Platoon of the Royal Gurkha Rifles and RBAF personnel.

Before leaving the Garrison Officer's Mess, His Majesty was pleased to take part in a photo session with the RGR members and signed a tour book before leaving for the Community Centre, Tukur Lines, Seria.

At the Tukur Lines base in Seria, His Majesty watched a cultural performance and toured an exhibition by the Hornbill School students.

His Majesty then proceeded to meet and greet with the families of the Royal Gurkha Rifles Battalion.



His Majesty being briefed by the Commander of British Forces Brunei, Lieutenant Colonel Charlie Crowe.



His Majesty interacting with family members of the Royal Gurkha Rifles in conjunction with the Farewell Ceremony for First Battalion members.

Royal Brunei Police Force 96th Anniversary

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 18 – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam, Police Inspector General consented to attend the 'Majlis Santap Beradat' in conjunction with the Royal Brunei Police Force 96th Anniversary held at the Mess Banquet Hall, Police Headquarters Complex, Gadong.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Honorary Commissioner of Police, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, the Commandant of Women Police; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Nor'ain, the Deputy Commandant of Women Police.

Upon arrival, His Majesty was welcomed by the Commissioner of Police, Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Mohd. Jammy bin Haji Muhd. Shah Al-Islam.

Soon after arrival, His Majesty was greeted by the officers of Royal Brunei Police Force (PDB).



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, Inspector General of Police during the 'Majlis Santap Beradat'. Also present, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Honorary Commissioner of Police.

His Majesty then consented to officiate the Officers' Mess Complex of the PDB and the signing of Official Plaque.

The Takbir *Allahuakbar* and a *Do'a Selamat* was read by Assistant of Police Superintenden, Muhammad Aimi Safwan bin Zalidin.

His Majesty then consented to sign the *Lembaran Kenangan Keberangkatan* at the Banquet Hall then proceeded for a group photo.

His Majesty and the Royal Family members then consented to receive a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) from the Royal Brunei Police Force officers before leaving the council.

PDB organised the 'Majlis Santap Beradat' in conjunction with the Royal Brunei Police Force 96th 2017 celebration with the theme for 'Unity and Harmony Strengthen Peace'.



His Majesty Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam signing the Official Plaque for the Officers' Mess Complex of the PDB.



His Majesty receiving a junjung ziarah from officers of PDB.



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, Inspector General of Police in a group photo. Also present were, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Honorary Commissioner of Police, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, the Commandant of Women Police, and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Norain, the Deputy Commandant of Women Police.

TAIB : A catalyst for saving money

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 25

- Looking back, the origin of the Brunei Islamic Trust Fund (TAIB) was to become a catalyst for saving money that starts from school children until their marriage.

In a sense, it was not for the purpose of fulfilling the pilgrimage alone, in fact more than that, as a way of generating the economy of the family and the nation.

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 Brunei Darussalam said the matter in a *titah* (royal speech) at the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the establishment of TAIB Corporation, held at the Plenary Hall, International Convention Centre.

His Majesty further said, for the purpose of generating the economy, TAIB certainly needs to move through the common ground, such as engaging in investment and having the products offered and others.

So in this regard, His Majesty affirmed that TAIB as an Islamic financial institution should ensure and continue to run on the basis of Islamic law.

This was the trust in saving, not only to grow in monetary terms but also, more importantly for us muslims, to be blessed.

"This does not mean that TAIB operations are limited. When speaking of blessings, it is not 'restraint', but a boost for growth. A blessed income is actually the real growth," said His Majesty.

In His Majesty's opinion, TAIB and its subsidiaries have no obstacles in making it a modern and international financial institution.

What is important, is a diligent and confident attitude, in executing work according to the policy, Insya Allah, excellence is definitely in our favour.

His Majesty added that until today, Islamic financial institutions have grown to Europe. It is evident that the law-abiding financial system has been accepted by the world.

"The world is now finding, that in this system there is a distinct advantage," explained His Majesty.

His Majesty further suggested that as Muslims, we should understand this and be more supportive towards TAIB, and work together to defend and support its



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) on the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Brunei Islamic Trust Fund Corporation (TAIB) held at the Plenary Hall, International Conference Centre.



His Majesty launching the As-Salam Card of Darussalam Holdings Sdn. Bhd.

growth.

The management should be transparent and wise, because His Majesty believes that all TAIB staff members are mature, able to serve diligently and persistently in the interests of TAIB and the nation.

His Majesty said that during the 25 years TAIB has operated, it is the response from both the Muslim and non-Muslim communities that was satisfying.

"As TAIB continues to grow in age, we are increasingly keen to see its achievements and if its achievements are outstanding then it is proof that Brunei

is also capable of handling the Islamic financial system, and thus prove that this system is exceptional and accurate to implement".

Learning from the economic crisis that hits the world today, His Majesty said that the habit of saving is the right step to take. It is best to start from early childhood to adulthood. Parents and guardians may train or encourage their children to practice the culture of saving.

Saving from childhood to adulthood will help one to strengthen their finances and family finances, and at the same time will also increase the country's economy.

His Majesty Confers State Award to Commissioner of Police

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 27 – 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 Negara Brunei Darussalam who is also the Police Inspector General conferred the "Darjah Paduka Keberanian Laila Terbilang Yang Amat Gemilang Darjah Pertama (D.P.K.T)" to the Commissioner of Police of the Republic of Singapore, His Excellency Hoong Wee Teck.

Accompanying the Commissioner of Police of the Republic of Singapore were the High Commissioner of the Republic of Singapore to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Lim Hong Huai and Commandant Training Command (TRACOM), Republic of Singapore, Mr. SAC Loy Chye Meng.

Also present were Acting Minister of Energy and Industry at the Prime Minister's Office, Yang Mulia Dato Paduka Awang Haji Hamdan bin Haji Abu Bakar and Commissioner of Royal Brunei Police, Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Mohd. Jammy bin Haji Muhd. Shah Al-Islam.



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 who is also the Inspector General of Police conferring a State Decoration "Darjah Paduka Keberanian Laila Terbilang Yang Amat Gemilang Darjah Pertama (D.P.K.T)" to the Commissioner of Police of the Republic of Singapore, Mr. Hoong Wee Teck.

Gala Night celebrates FAPW members



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha as the Royal Patron of PPPBD and Kebawah Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku Puan Pahang Tunku Hajjah Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah binti Almarhum Almutawakkil Alallah Sultan Iskandar Al-Haj as Royal Patron of Friends of Asia Pacific World Association of Girl Guides and Scouts (FAPW) in a group photo for Gala Night of the 5th General Assembly 2017 FAPW.

GADONG, March 14 – Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam as the Royal Patron of the Girls Guides Association of Brunei Darussalam (PPPBD) and Kebawah Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Tengku Puan Pahang Tunku Hajjah Azizah Aminah Maimunah Iskandariah binti Almarhum Almutawakkil Alallah Sultan Iskandar Al-Haj as the Royal Patron of Friends of Asia Pacific Region World Association of Girl Guides and Scouts (FAPW) attended the Gala Night of the 5th General Assembly 2017 FAPW.

Her Majesty was welcomed by PPPBD Chief of Commissioner, Dayang Hajjah Siti Hafsa binti Haji Abdul Halim upon arrival at the event at Rizqun International Hotel.

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 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.

Brunei Darussalam was chosen to host for the 5th General Assembly 2017 FAPW.

The Gala Night was organised by the PPPBD to celebrate FAPW's participation in the assembly.

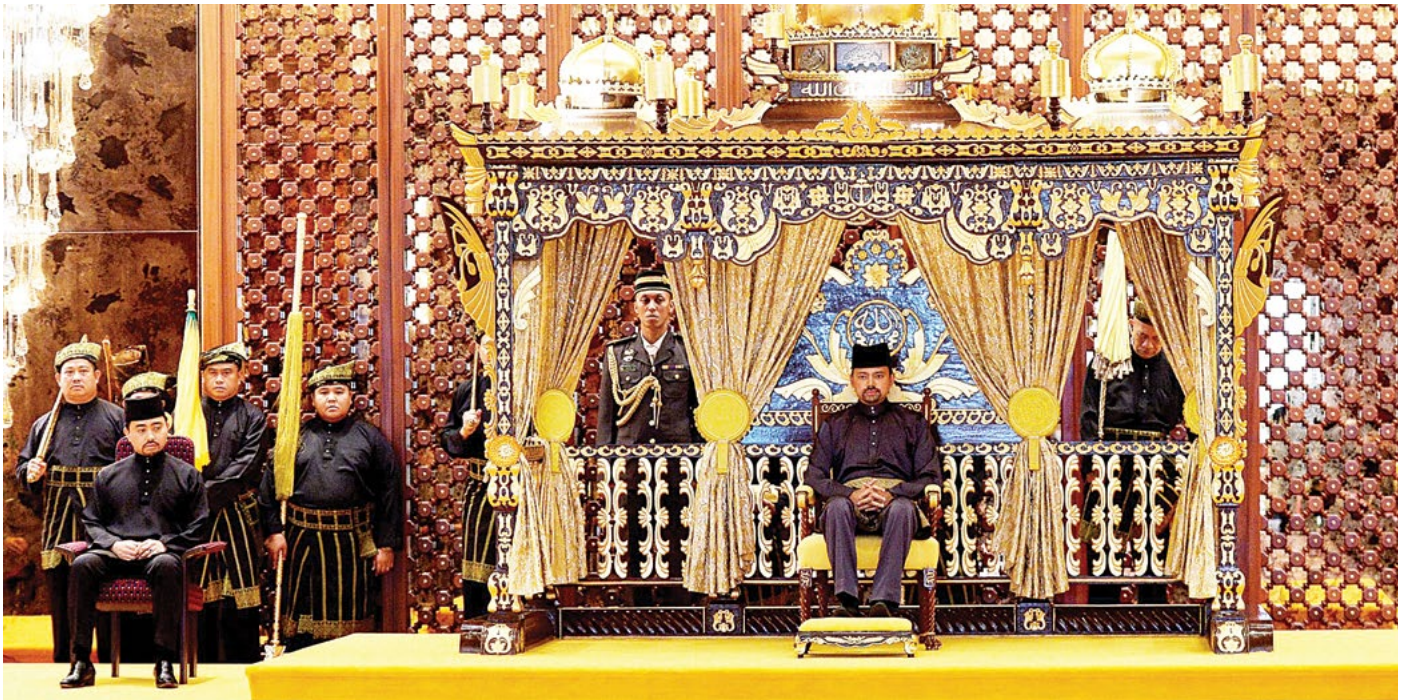
The assembly was handled and coordinated by members of FAPW and was held on 12 to 15 March at Rizqun International Hotel.

FAPW is a membership scheme that contributes towards the growth and development of World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) and its members.

FAPW was established in 1999 to support and assist WAGGGS in fund raising activities to empower and aiding the development of girls and young women.

The 5th General Assembly involved 93 members of the Friends of Asia Pacific Region WAGGGS from 13 Asia Pacific region countries, namely Australia, Cook Island, Philippines, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Maldives, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand and Brunei Darussalam.

383 receive State Honorary Medals



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, as the Personal Representative of His Majesty Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Abdul Malik.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 2 - 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 Negara Brunei Darussalam has conferred State Honorary Medals to 383 recipients comprising government officials and staff. The conferment ceremony was in conjunction with His Majesty's 70th Birthday celebrations, held at Balai Singgahsana Indera Kenchana, Istana Nurul Iman.

Present to bestow the State Honorary Medal, as His Majesty's Personal Representative was 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 Prime Minister's Office.

Also present during the ceremony was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

The ceremony commenced with the presentation of the Pingat Jasa Kebaktian (P.J.K) (Mentorship Service Medal) to 29 recipients, 24 men and 5 women led by Awang Mohammad Ariffin bin Haji Matusin from Ministry of Education. The recipients comprised officers and staff from the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Development, the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports as well as employees from the private sector and athletes.

The Pingat Indah Kerja Baik (P.I.K.B) was conferred to 354 recipients, 144 men and 210 women comprising government officials and staff as well as private sector and athletes led by Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Abdul Hakeem ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

P.I.K.B recipients comprised of 125 officer and staff from the Ministry of Education; 68 from the Ministry of Religious Affairs; 44 from the Ministry of Development; 11 from the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports; 75 from the Ministry of Health and 31 from private sector and athletes.

To bless the Conferment Ceremony a *Doa Selamat* was read by the State Mufti, ang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia Doctor Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned.

Also present at the ceremony were Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran-Pengiran Cheteria, Cabinet Ministers, Members of Councils, Deputy Ministers, Pengiran-Pengiran Peranakan, Pehin-Pehin Manteri, Manteri Pedalaman, High Commissioners, Foreign Ambassadors, Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Departments and Senior Government Officers, Mukim Penghulus and Village Chiefs.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah awarding the Pingat Indah Kerja Baik (P.I.K.B) to Amal Mulia Pengiran Muda Abdul Hakeem ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

His Royal Highness attends Singapore League



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 witnessing the Singapore League match between Brunei DPMM FC against the Home United FC team. Also present was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 3 – Brunei DPMM FC team opened the Singapore League (Liga S) campaign against Home United FC team at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium last night with a result favouring to the visiting team after winning with 3-1.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda 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 consented to watch the match.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda Abdul Muntaqim ibni Duli Yang



Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman with Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah accompanying His Royal Highness during the Singapore League.

Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda Mahkota Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah binti Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda Mahkota Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah.

At the beginning of the game, the two-time champion of the S League started to lead the match as early as the 9th minute through a penalty kick by their import player, Stipe Plazibat.

Plazibat who played as striker for Home United FC once again scored a goal in the 37th minute, leading with 2-0 until the first half of the game.

In the second half, Brunei DPMM FC tried to bounce back to give confrontation and eventually managed to score a goal by Rafael Ramazotti in the 54th minute, before another goal was made in by Faris Ramli of United FC in the 76th minute.

BRUNEI DPMM FC MatchDay Magazine Carnival 2017



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 together with Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda Muhammad Aiman during the DPMM FC MatchDay Magazine Carnival 2017.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 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 Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab. Rahaman consented to attend the Brunei DPMM FC MatchDay Magazine Carnival 2017 which was held at Parking Area, Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium.

Also present were Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda Muhammad Aiman.

Upon arrival, Their Royal Highnesses were welcomed by the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof and the Minister of Health, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Doctor Awang Haji Zulkarnain bin Haji Hanafi.

Also welcoming the arrival of Their Royal Highnesses was Minister of Youth and Sports Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Brigadier General Khairy Jamaluddin.

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BRUNEI DPMM FC MatchDay Magazine Carnival 2017 (continued)

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Their Royal Highnesses watched a silat performance by the 'Awang Budiman' mascot and Cadet Police Band performance, followed by a photo session with DPMM FC team before touring the booths at the carnival.

Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim also participated in some of the activities available at the Brunei DPMM FC Matchday Magazine Carnival 2017.

The entertaining and educational event included various programmes and activities for participants and visitors including Sports and Fitness Demonstration, Sports and Motivation Talk Forum, Football Clinic (Junior), colouring contest, face painting, sports quiz, human foosball, foot pool, street soccer, foot darts, foot golf, and photo sessions with the 'Awang Budiman' mascot.



Their Royal Highnesses watching a silat performance by the 'Awang Budiman' mascot at the Brunei DPMM FC MatchDay Magazine Carnival 2017. Also present at the event was the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof and the Minister of Youth and Sports Malaysia, Yang Berhormat General Khairy Jamaluddin.

Their Royal Highnesses then watched a Street Soccer Challenge match between Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) and Universiti Technology Brunei (UTB). In the

game, UTB won over UBD by 4-2.

After the match, His Royal Highness consented to present prizes to both teams.

The younger generation as future saviours

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 11

- Climate change has inevitably affected public health, the environment, food and water safety, migration, peace and security.

If this persists, all the development that the world has achieved over the last few decades will be pointless, and for this reason it is necessary to take action to address this issue immediately.

This was stated in a *sabda* (royal speech) by Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman at the 13th Borneo Global Issues Conferences (BGIC) International School of Brunei (ISB) which took place at the International Convention Centre, Berakas.

While poverty is still a major global challenge said Her Royal Highness, the steps to end it need to be in tandem with addressing the needs of millions of people in the world who still have access to education, health, social protection and employment.

Her Royal Highness said this year's conference theme, 'Ensuring Consumption and Sustainable Production Pattern', reminds the community that, although we should continue to promote development to end global poverty and inequality, the failure to implement it will cause harm to future generations.

In this respect, Her Royal Highness was proud of the participating students in carrying out this conference,



Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman, as The Royal Patron of the Borneo Global Issues Conference (BGIC) International School of Brunei (ISB) presenting a certificate to the 13th BGIC ISB participant at the International Conference Centre, Berakas.

demonstrating how they are taking great responsibility to ensure a prosperous and resilient future for future generations.

Her Royal Highness added that the younger generation are the future saviours in saving the Earth.

With that said, in order to realise their full potential, we need to raise students' awareness of the issues that the world faces, and equip them with the expertise to solve them.

"We need to constantly build their capacity to become agents of change. Education is much more than what is being learned in the classroom and activities, such as BGIC which can enhance the essential life skills that include communication, confidence, negotiation,

networking and personality development," said Her Royal Highness, who is also the Royal Patron of BGIC ISB.

Her Royal Highness further expressed hope that through the active participation of students in the format of the United Nations Conference, it will enable them to use the perspectives of world leaders and gradually sow in their deep understanding of debates, negotiations, protocols, and courtesies.

Her Royal Highness calls upon students who join BGIC to be more confident in expressing their opinions, to be considerate and to always be aware of the reality that some people still face in their daily lives and how we can help them, no matter where they are.

Her Royal Highness attends Brunei 7-9 Years Swimming Championship

SUNGAI HANCING, March 12 - Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman consented to attend the Brunei 7-9 Years Swimming Championship held at the International School Brunei (ISB) Swimming Pool.

Also present accompanying Her Royal Highness was Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda Mahkota Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah.

Competing in the championship is daughter of 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 Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah.

Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah competed in four swimming categories for Females Aged 7 and under 25 Metres Butterfly, 25 Metres Backstroke; 25 Metres Breaststroke and 25 Metres Freestyle.

In the 25 Metres Backstroke category, yang Teramat Mulia, representing ISB Hammerheads claimed second place with a time of 31.94.

While in the 25 Metres Breaststroke category, Yang Teramat Mulia claimed fourth place with a time of 39.06 as well as in the Freestyle category with a time of 28.69.

The tournament was participated by 7 to 9 years old swimmers from several local swimming clubs including ISB



Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah during the Brunei 7 to 9 Years Swimming Championship.

Hammerheads, Royal Brunei Recreation Club, Dolphin Swimming Club, Jerudong Swimming Club, Panaga Stingrays, Petroleum Recreation Club, Tutong Swimming Training Scheme and from neighbouring country, Gymkhana Club Miri.

The tournament was organised by Brunei Amateur Swimming Association (BASA) with support from the Department of Youth and Sports, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

Baton Run for the 29th SEA Games

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 5 – The 29th SEA Games is getting closer and closer as the baton torch made its first parade in 'The Rising Together – Baton Run' that started from Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium.

Brunei Darussalam is the first country chosen as the starting destination of the run in conjunction with the Kuala Lumpur Sea Games 2017 followed by other participating countries, which became a new record in the history of sports of the biennial.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) took off as the first baton runner, passed by the Minister of Youth and Sports, Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Brigadier General Khairy Jamaluddin.

The arrival of His Royal Highness was welcomed by the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof and the Minister of Youth and Sports Malaysia.

Also present were Permanent Secretaries and Deputy Permanent Secretary, the Ambassadors and representative of ASEAN countries in Brunei Darussalam.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ran through Jalan Budiman before the baton was passed to Wushu athlete

who had won the Bronze Medal at the 28th SEA Games 2015 in the Republic of Singapore, Mohd. Sufi Shayiran bin Roslan for the first checkpoint at 19th SEA Games 1999 Monument.

The run that was over seven kilometers in total also witnessed the baton handover at Jalan Perdana Menteri to the cyclist who won silver in the Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Cycle Speedway Club Championship 2016 in Singapore, Awang Azmi bin Hadzid.

Subsequently, the baton was handed over to the 28th SEA Games bronze medalist in *Pencak Silat*, Awang Kifli bin Hamzah in front of the sports village, SEA Games 1999.

From the sports village, the baton was then passed to Dayang Nurul Ain binti Md. Jaafar, the silver medalist in Taekwondo in the 28th SEA Games 2015, followed by *Sepak Takraw* athlete who won bronze in the same year.

The baton was then brought by silver medalist in 11th Asian Lawn Bowls and 9th Asia Under 25 Single Championship Brunei 2016, Dk. Nurul Nabilah binti Pg. Md. Salleh.

With the Mercu Dirgahayu 60 monument in the capital as the background, the Baton Run reached the final line at the Cendera Lembaga Kenangan as a sign of completion of the run in this country before proceeding to the Republic of the Philippines on March 12.

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Baton Run for the 29th SEA Games (continued)

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The baton will venture Manila; Vientiane; Yangon; Bangkok; Hanoi; Dili; Phonm Penh; Jakarta and finally reach the Republic of Singapore before taken to Malaysia across Tambak Johor in early May.

The 'Rising Together – Baton Run' will cross all Southeast Asian countries and Timor-Leste, starting from Brunei Darussalam and it is an initiative of the Malaysian Government, which among others is to spark the enthusiasm, excitement and celebration of the SEA Games 2017 in addition to promoting a lifestyle and culture towards sports fitness as well as to reflect the spirit of belonging and solidarity among Southeast Asian countries through sports.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) receiving the baton torch from the Minister of Youth and Sports, Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Brigadier General Khairy Jamaluddin.



Motivation Talk and Sports Forum 2017

Bandar Seri Begawan, March 4 - Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda Mahkota Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah attended the Motivation Talk and Sports Forum 2017 in conjunction with Brunei DPMM FC MatchDay Magazine Carnival with support from A.K.K Design which took place at the Theater Hall, Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium, Berakas.



Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim ibni Duli Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Muda Haji Mahkota Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah signing the guest book.

Also present was Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak 'Abdul Haseeb bin Pengiran Maharaja Setia Laila Diraja Sahibul Irsyad Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Rahim, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak 'Abdul Hafeez bin Pengiran Anak Khairul Khalil and students from Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Primary School.

The carnival was filled with various programmes and activities, including Motivational and Talk 2017, Sports and Fitness Demonstration, Football Clinic, Colouring Contest, Face Painting, Sports Quiz, Human Foosball, Foot Pool, Street Soccer, Foot Darts and Foot Golf.

Three national athletes, Awang Mohd. Fakhri bin Ismail; Jasper Yu Woon Chai and Dayang Maizurah binti Abdul Rahim also gave motivational talks about their success in their respective sports field.

In his talk, Awang Mohd. Fakhri talked about himself being chosen based on his previous sports accomplishments, where he managed to get a place and broke the national record.

Meanwhile Jasper Yu Woon Chai, talked about his accomplishment in badminton field as well as about his interest in the badminton field even before he succeeded to a higher level.

Another sports athlete, Dayang Maizurah said that her achievement in running in the Brunei Open Championship was known since her school days.

The main objective for the Motivational Talk and Forum was to educate the youth to explore and continue their interest in sports and to give motivation and inspiration to excel in both sports and education in guiding their careers to become 'Belia Berwawasan'.

At the end of the event, Yang Teramat Mulia and Yang Amat Mulia participated in the activities held such as soccer.

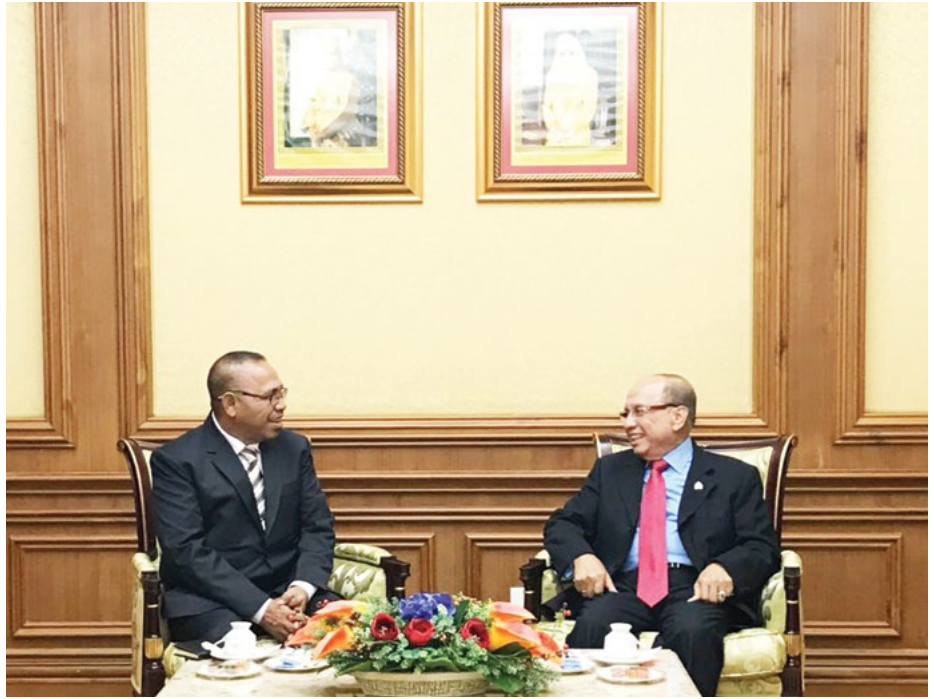
Legislative Council (LegCo) Speaker receives goodwill visit

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 27 – The Speaker of the Legislative Council, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib received a goodwill visit from the Ambassador and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Marcal Avelino Ximenes.

The goodwill visit was held at Dewan Majlis Building.

Also present were the Secretary to the Cabinet Minister's Council and Clerk to the Legislative Council of Brunei, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Jaya Dato Paduka Awang Haji Judin bin Haji Asar and the Deputy Clerk to the Legislative Council of Brunei, Dayang Rose Aminah binti Haji Ismail and officers of Legislative Council of Brunei.

During the goodwill visit, both leaders exchanged views on mutual concern and discussed about ongoing economic developments that is being experienced in their respective countries.



Yang Di-Pertua Majlis Mesyuarat Negara, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Lela Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib (right) receiving a goodwill visit from the Ambassador and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Marcal Avelino Ximenes.

Brunei – Pakistan relations remain strong



The Minister of Health, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Doctor Awang Haji Zulkarnain bin Haji Hanafi (fifth, left) with the High Commissioner of The Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Retired Major General Tariq Rashid Khan (sixth, left) during the cake-cutting ceremony at the reception in conjunction with the Pakistan Day Celebration.

JERUDONG, March 23 – The High Commissioner of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan in Brunei Darussalam hosted a dinner reception in conjunction with Pakistan Day Celebration.

Present as a representative of the Government of His Majesty Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the event was the Minister of Health, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Doctor Awang Haji Zulkarnain bin Haji Hanafi.

His Excellency Retired Major General Tariq Rashid Khan, the High Commissioner of The Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam in his speech said that Pakistan has signed various Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and agreements

with Brunei Darussalam as well as a number of bilateral forums including joint economic commission, Joint Defence Working Committee, Brunei-Pakistan Investment Agency and other bilateral exchange programmes.

His Excellency also said that the leaders of Pakistan including the Prime Minister of Islamic Republic of Pakistan, His Excellency Muhammad Nawaz Sharif have also visited Brunei Darussalam.

The highlight of the ceremony was the cake-cutting ceremony concluded by the guest of honour, the Minister of Health and the High Commissioner of The Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam.

Increase in Brunei - Bangladesh defence cooperation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 27 – The relations Brunei Darussalam and Bangladesh is considered as a good example by observing how the two countries support each other in making this world safe and peaceful to reside in.

This was stated by the High Commissioner of the People's of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Air Vice Marshal Mahmud Hussain at the 47th Independent and National Day of Bangladesh Celebration.

According to His Excellency Air Vice Marshal Mahmud Hussain, relations in defence is increased, in which each year Brunei Darussalam and Bangladesh exchange their officers and staff for national defence courses.

His Excellency said that Brunei Darussalam, is actively supporting Bangladesh's involvement in various regional and world organisations.

In addition, he said, Brunei Darussalam also employs laborers from Bangladesh, which is estimated at 15 thousand in the year 2015, while last year was estimated at over 10 thousand working in the construction field.



The Minister of Communication, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Mustappa bin Haji Sirat (second, right) receiving a souvenir from the High Commissioner of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Air Vice Marshal Mahmud Hussain during the 47th Independent and National Day of Bangladesh celebration.

Representing the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the occasion held at The Rizqun International Hotel, Gadong, which was the Minister of Communication, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Mustappa bin Haji Sirat.

from other countries to this state, seniors government officials, other invitees and officers and staff of the High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam.

His Excellency then presented a souvenir to the Minister of Communication.

Also present were representatives

Brunei – Malaysia discuss the development of youth and sports

JERUDONG, March 4 – Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia exchanged views and information on youth development and efforts commenced in improving sports in both countries.

That matter was among those discussed by the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof while receiving a courtesy call from the Minister of Youth and Sports of Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Brigadier General Khairy Jamaluddin at Grandstand 3, Royal Brunei Polo and Riding Club, Jerudong.

Minister of Youth and Sports Malaysia was in the country for two days from the 4th to the 5th of March to attend the 'Rising Together – Baton Run' in conjunction with the 29th Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games) and the 9th ASEAN Games.

The 'Rising Together – Baton Run' was an initiative of the Malaysian Government for the first time organising a baton run in all Southeast Asian countries and Timor Leste to promote the 29th SEA Games and the 9th ASEAN Games that will be held in August this year in Kuala Lumpur,



The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof (right) presenting a souvenir to the Minister of Youth and Sports Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Brigadier General Khairy Jamaluddin.

Malaysia.

Also present during the visit was the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Datuk Ghulam Jelani bin Khanizaman, the Permanent Secretary at Ministry of

Culture, Youth and Sports, Dato Paduka Doctor Awang Haji Affendy bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin and senior officials of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports and Ministry of Youth and Sports Malaysia.

Contribution of culture to the tourism industry

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 27 – The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Mejar General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof received a courtesy call from the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment of Sabah, Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Masidi Manjun.

The courtesy call took place at Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Jalan Kebangsaan Lama.

During the visit, both ministers exchanged views and information on cultural affairs that could contribute to the tourism industry as well as matters of mutual interest.

Both sides expressed their aspiration to see more cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and the State of Sabah to strengthen the relationships that has been built since long ago.

Also present was the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei



Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Mejar General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof (right) with the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Environment Sabah, Malaysia, Yang Berhormat Datuk Seri Panglima Haji Masidi Manjun at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

Darussalam, His Excellency Datuk Ghulam Jelani bin Khanizaman.

Also present were the Permanent Secretaries of the Ministry of Culture,

Youth & Sports, Datin Paduka Doctor Hajah Norlila binti Dato Paduka Haji Abdul Jalil and Awang Haji Mohd. Noor Jusmin Haji Abdul Samad and senior officials of the Ministry of Culture, Youth & Sports.

CACJ builds ASEAN Chief Justices partnership

JERUDONG, March 24 - The establishment of the Council of ASEAN Chief Justices (CACJ) Working Group is to review the need of training and building capacity, establishing ASEAN Judicial Portal, case management techniques, court technology, cross-border disputes involving children and civil processes.

The Chief Justice, Yang Amat Arif Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Kifrawi bin Dato Paduka Haji Kifli said, the CACJ Working Group will also discuss progress for CACJ as an entity, in which last year, they have decided to take the step to institutionalised CACJ under the ASEAN Charter.

The Chief Justice added, "As we were informed, a great progress has been made towards that goal and in relation to the progress, Singapore will bring a proposal for the Chairman of CACJ official election".

"The proposal along with the successes gained in the institutionalised council showed that this council is developing better," said the Chief Justice during the officiation of the 5th CACJ Meeting which was held at The Empire Hotel & Country Club.

"In our fifth years since its establishment", the Chief Justice said, "it is very important for them to remind themselves why this council exists and the Boracay Accord



The Chief Justice, Yang Amat Arif Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Kifrawi in a group photo with ASEAN Chief Justices and representative during the 5th CACJ Meeting.

realised that this council coincides in addressing high-level policy matters involving the legal system, sharing of best practices following the law, which are part of a larger task in order to strengthen the judiciary of ASEAN member states individually and collectively.

The main objective of the CACJ is to promote close relationship and understanding among ASEAN Judges in addition to providing the regular forum for

ASEAN Chief Judges in discussing and exchanging views on the common issues encountered by the ASEAN judges.

It also aims to facilitate judicial cooperation within ASEAN judges with the aim of accelerating economic growth and development in ASEAN region.

The 5th CACJ Meeting this year was hosted by the Supreme Court of Brunei Darussalam.

UNISSA as a landmark of Islamic glory



The Attorney General, Yang Berhormat Datin Seri Paduka Hajah Hayati binti Pehin Kaya Shahbandar Dato Seri Paduka Haji Mohd. Salleh during the courtesy call from the High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam, Her Excellency Nicola Rosenblum.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 14 – The Attorney General, Yang Berhormat Datin Seri Paduka Hajah Hayati binti Pehin Orang Kaya Shahbandar Dato Seri Paduka Haji Mohd. Salleh received a courtesy call from the High Commissioner of Australia to Brunei Darussalam, Her Excellency Nicola Rosenblum at the Law and Courts Building.

According to a press release by the Attorney General's Chambers, during the courtesy call, The Attorney General and Her Excellency exchanged views on various legal matter as well as training opportunities.

Kuwait intends to increase cooperation in education

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 21 – Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University (UNISSA) received goodwill visit from the Ambassador of Kuwait to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Doctor Fahad Mashary Al-Thafiri.

During the visit, His Excellency held a meeting with the Rector of UNISSA, Doctor Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal.

His Excellency Doctor Fahad Mashary Al-Thafiri discussed Kuwait's aspiration to expand bilateral relations and cooperation between Kuwait and Brunei Darussalam, particularly in the field of research and education between Kuwait University with UNISSA through the exchange of students, seminars, conferences, joint research and publication of scientific resources.

The discussion also focused on sending UNISSA students to study at Kuwait University, either under the study abroad programme or the study of intensive Arabic Language.



The Ambassador of Kuwait to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Doctor Fahad Mashary Al-Thafiri with the Rector of UNISSA Doctor Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal and UNISSA officers.

scheme and hoped that UNISSA students will benefit from this valuable opportunity by acquiring life and culture experience in Kuwait.

Deputy Rector, Doctor Haji Mohammed Hussain bin Pehin Penyurat Haji Ahmad; Acting Assistant Rector, Doctor Siti Sara bin Haji Ahmad and UNISSA officers.

The Rector of UNISSA welcomed the

Also present at the meeting were the

Embassy of Oman appreciates UNISSA's close cooperation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 23 – The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Sheikh Ahmed bin Hashil bin Rashid Al-Maskari recently celebrated 15 students from the Faculty of Arabic Language, Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University (UNISSA), held at the premises of the Embassy of Oman.

The ceremony was as an appreciation to the students on their volunteer work and assistance in managing the booth for the Embassy of Oman during the Brunei Book Fair held from February 27 to March 7, 2017.

At the ceremony, His Excellency presented certificate of appreciation to the students. In his welcoming speech, His Excellency expressed his gratitude towards the students for their good support and cooperation.

His Excellency also praised the cooperation between the Embassy of Oman and UNISSA, which resulted in satisfactory results; by providing annual scholarships for four Brunei students from Sultan Qaboos College for Teaching Arabic Language to Non-Native Speakers and the launch of Oman's corner publication, on February 29, 2016 at the UNISSA Library.



The Ambassador and Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Sultanate of Oman to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Sheikh Ahmed bin Hashil bin Rashid Al-Maskari celebrates 15 students from the Faculty of Arabic Language, Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University (UNISSA). Also present at the event was the Rector of UNISSA, Doctor Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal.

As a token of appreciation, His Excellency also donated 108 books to UNISSA Library, as a continuous effort by the Embassy of Oman towards enriching the Oman's corner publication with the latest release of leading undergraduate students of Oman.

According to His Excellency, the Oman's corner has more than 500 Oman publications including the recent publication of the Oman history, geography, literature and culture to academic disciplines of Arabic linguistics, Islamic law and religious

understanding.

Meanwhile, the Rector of UNISSA, Doctor Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal, expressed his appreciation to the Embassy of Oman for giving UNISSA students the opportunity to carry out volunteering work and relayed his thanks for the contribution of the books.

Also present at the event were the Deputy Rector of UNISSA, Doctor Haji Mohammed Hussain bin Pehin Penyurat Haji Ahmad and the Dean of the Faculty of Arabic Language, Doctor Siti Sara binti Haji Ahmad.

UNISSA - China review strategic partnership opportunities

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, March 16 – The Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam, Her Excellency Yang Jian made a courtesy call to the Rector of Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University (UNISSA), Doctor Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal.

The courtesy call was to explore opportunities for collaboration and strategic cooperation between UNISSA and Higher Education Institutions in China.

According to His Excellency, the People's Republic of China offers scholarships to citizens of Brunei Darussalam to further their studies in there, which is a platform for cooperation between the two countries.

In the discussion, Doctor Haji Norarfan expressed his desire to welcome Muslim students from China to further their studies in Brunei Darussalam.

In addition, UNISSA offers those who are interested in Economics to take course in the Faculty of Islamic Economics and Finance.



The Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam, Her Excellency Yang Jian (middle) receiving a souvenir from the Rector of Sultan Sharif Ali Islamic University (UNISSA), Doctor Haji Norarfan bin Haji Zainal (third, right).

UNISSA has established a new faculty, the Faculty of Islamic Development Management and is planning to set up another halal research centre in an effort to assist the government in realising its vision to make the country a global halal hub.

He further hopes that through Her Excellency's visit, it can aid UNISSA in

crossing the border between continents and develop its reputation as a leading Islamic university in Southeast Asia.

Also present at the meeting were the UNISSA Deputy Rector, Doctor Haji Mohammed Hussain bin Pehin Penyurat Haji Ahmad and UNISSA officers.