



# بروني دارالسلام

## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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## *Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand enjoy warm friendship and close links*

Promote  
relations  
for Asia  
Pacific  
regional  
benefits



**B**runei Darussalam and New Zealand must promote relations that will maintain the present peace and stability which has been the basis of their economic growth, not only for their own benefit but across the Asia Pacific, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has said.

Speaking at a state luncheon in his honour at Parliament House in Wellington on 11 March, His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah,

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam spoke of warm Brunei-New Zealand friendship during a state luncheon at Parliament House in Wellington hosted in his honour by the Right Honourable James Bolger, Prime Minister of New Zealand. Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, Minister of Finance, Mrs. Bolger and members of His Majesty's entourage and New Zealand dignitaries.

Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam said Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand are fortunate to be in the Asia Pacific, a region which has enjoyed an unprecedented economic growth, with East and Southeast Asia expected to grow at an average annual rate of six to eight percent over the next few years.

"We have a vital interest in underpinning this growth by a pattern of cooperative

relations across the Asia Pacific."

The state luncheon, held at the start of His Majesty's three-day state visit to New Zealand, was also attended by His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, the Minister of Finance, New Zealand's Prime Minister, The Right-Honourable James Bolger and his wife, and members

of His Majesty's entourage and New Zealand dignitaries.

**Brunei Darussalam-New Zealand warm friendship and close affinity**

In the speech, the Brunei ruler spoke of the warm friendship and close affinity Brunei holds for New Zealand despite their

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### YOUR TURN

The next issue of the Brunei Darussalam newsletter will appear on 30 April 1995. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel: 02-225941 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. All editorial rights reserved.

*From page 1 (Brunei-New Zealand)*

being far apart geographically and their having evolved from different peoples and cultures.

These relations are continuing to develop, he said. Moreover, the long association the two countries have had with the British and their existing Commonwealth links have brought them together.

### Close cooperation

"We have made good progress. Our shared interests in political, security and economic cooperation are reflected in our close cooperation in the ASEAN dialogue process, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF)", the monarch further said.

Both Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand are strong supporters of APEC, he stressed, and they are committed to free trade and investment liberalisation and pointed that at the Bogor APEC Leaders' Meeting, the two countries supported Indonesia's efforts to spearhead trade liberalisation.

"Let us continue to work together to push the process forward", he urged.

### Bilateral relations

Bilateral relations between Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand had in the past concentrated mainly on education and training, but today the cooperation is further widened to political and diplomatic fields accompanied by exchanges of visits between leaders and offi-

cials of the two countries.

His Majesty expressed the hope that an air services agreement signed during his visit, would lead to better communication between the two countries.

The ruler also stated that defence cooperation with New Zealand is an important part of Brunei Darussalam's overall security needs, and the Sultanate has gained from military exchanges, training assistance and annual discussions between the two armed forces under the Brunei Darussalam-New Zealand Mutual Assistance Programme.

New Zealand's strong interest and commitment to integrate with the region is reflected in its Asia 2000 initiative, continued His Majesty, while adding that already 36 percent of the Pacific nation's exports go to Asia, bigger than to Europe and North America combined.

His Majesty and entourage were welcomed upon arrival at Wellington's international airport by the Governor-General, Her Excellency Dame Catherine Tizard and His Excellency Prime Minister James Bolger.

This was followed by a full ceremonial welcome at Parliament House.

Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand established formal diplomatic ties in 1984, soon after the Sultanate assumed its full international responsibility as a fully independent and sovereign nation.

Today there are some 400 New Zealanders working in Brunei Darussalam as teachers, contractors, with the armed forces, oil

industry, national airline, government hospitals and the private sector's businesses.

Bruneians also attend various courses in New Zealand, and students attend primary, secondary and tertiary education there.

### Audiences

On the day of his arrival, His Majesty granted an audience to The Right Honourable James Bolger, the Prime Minister, at which they had wide-ranging discussions on bilateral, regional and international issues.

In their talks, His Majesty and the Prime Minister paid special attention to existing and ongoing programmes of bilateral cooperations, particularly a new air services agreement, and cooperation in education, defence, trade and investment and health, said a Ministry of Foreign Affairs press release.

As partners in the increasingly influential Asia-Pacific region, they also discussed regional and international issues, including various ASEAN meetings and conferences to be held later this year in Brunei Darussalam, such as the ASEAN Regional Forum, and APEC in Japan.

His Majesty commented that he felt the meeting had been very successful and represented an important opportunity for the two countries to discuss future relations and ways of strengthening cooperation at a time when both countries were increasingly engaged as partners in regional af-

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# Careful consideration of the allocation of limited resources available for education

As with many other countries in the region, Brunei Darussalam is considering carefully the allocation of its limited resources available for education, said the Minister of Education.

The Sultanate will continue to give priority to developing mainstream, primary, secondary and tertiary education to world class standards, and to ensuring that Bruneian cultural and religious values are taught to all youths in the country.

However, by definition he said, the process of ranking priorities necessarily entails that some sectors will receive less attention than others. And in this world of limited resources, this means that some sectors will not command the resources that we might like to allocate them, he added.

In a speech before he declared open the 1995 Western Australian Education Exhibition at Centrepoint in Gadong on 9 April, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz said, "As a country with a small population, we in Brunei must think especially carefully about the allocation of our

resources.

The Minister pointed out that this will take into account, on the one hand, the efficient running of modern society which requires a high degree of training in a very wide range of skills; from medicine to management, engineering to education, computers to counselling, science to social services and to law and so on, while on the other hand, it is not practical for the country to set up comprehensive faculties of higher learning in all these disciplines.

He called on various non-government sectors to respond to the demands of the fast modernising society, by facilitating tertiary education overseas, as well

as by establishing more private schools in the country, in line with the country's education policy and system.

He also called on non-government sectors to open up more book shops or set a consortium of shops to enable members of the public, especially parents, to acquire books required by their children.

"What is needed is the willingness of these bookshops to have ample supply of books which should all the time be made available to those wishing to purchase them," he stressed.

The Minister earlier spoke about the country's recent achievements in education. These include the

rise in the rate of literacy from a much lower base to approach 100 per cent in the space of a relatively short period, a good deal of success in bilingual language policy and the ability of Brunei students in the English Language which compares favourably with many of our neighbours in North Asia that enables them to enter mainstream tertiary education overseas without the need for further English Language input.

The Western Australian Education Exhibition was hosted by KEMUDA, a local Bruneian company, in their initiative to develop human resources and education services from their base in the private sector.



Brunei Darussalam's High Commissioner to New Zealand, His Excellency Dato Paduka Awang Lim Jock Seng and New Zealand's Minister for Transport, the Honourable Maurice Williamson signing the air service agreement between the two countries. The signing took place on 10 April, 1995, at the Ministry of Transport in Wellington.

• From page 2 (Brunei-New Zealand)

fairs.

The monarch also granted a separate audience to New Zealand's opposition Labour Party's acting leader, the Honourable David Caygill. During the

meeting, which took place at a leading Wellington Hotel, His Majesty and Mr Caygill discussed bilateral relations and exchanged views on regional and international affairs.

His Majesty said that he appreciated the chance the meeting had given him to

gain a good understanding of the overall New Zealand perspective and once more expressed his confidence that the current excellent relations between Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand would continue to be strengthened for the benefit of the peoples of the two

countries.

His Majesty also had some discussions with the Governor-General Her Excellency Dame Catherine Tizard, when she hosted a state dinner at Government House in His Majesty's honour.

• Continued on page 6



# Audiences for chiefs of the armed forces of Malaysia and Republic of Singapore



**H**is Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has granted audiences to the visiting Commander of Defence of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Singapore, Lieutenant General Ng Jui Ping, and the Commander of the Armed Forces of Malaysia, General Dato Paduka Ismail bin Haji Omar.

Lieutenant General Ng Jui Ping, who was granted audience on 28 March at Istana Nurul Iman, was on a two-day visit aimed at further enhancing the already close relations and cooperation between the two countries, especially in the military field.

The armed forces of the two countries have held nu-

merous joint-military exercises to date, and members of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, RBAF, also frequently undergo courses and training in the republic in various military aspects.

## Farewell visit and audience

Lt. General Ng Jui Ping, who was accompanied by his wife, was also making a farewell visit prior to his retirement.

His wife, Mrs. Ying Ngin Siew, meanwhile, was granted separate audiences the same day by Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha, at Istana Nurul Iman, and by Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam, at Istana Nurul Izzah.

The Brunei monarch

granted an audience to the Commander of the Malaysian Armed Forces, General Dato Paduka Ismail bin Haji Omar, also at Istana Nurul Iman, two days later.

His visit was also aimed at further strengthening the already close relations and cooperation between the two countries, especially in various areas of the military. As it does with the armed forces of the Republic of Singapore, the Royal Brunei Armed Forces has also held joint military exercises with its Malaysian counterpart - the most recent being one in Sarawak.

The Malaysian Armed Forces Commander's wife, Datin Paduka Azizah binti Aziz, too, was granted audiences on 30 March by Her Majesty The Raja Isteri, at Istana Nurul Iman, and by

Her Royal Highness The Pengiran Isteri, at Istana Nurul Izzah.

The Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Harimau Padang Major General Dato Seri Pahlawan Awang Haji Husin bin Ahmad was present at the audiences with His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam for the two high-ranking officials, who were accompanied by the High Commissioner of their respective country.

Also present during the audiences with the monarch were a Permanent Secretary at the Prime Minister's Office, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd. Alimin, and a Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Abdul Rahman.



Top picture opposite page: His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan dan Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam granting an audience to the Commander of the Malaysian Armed Forces, General Dato Paduka Ismail bin Haji Omar, while his wife, Datin Paduka Azizah binti Aziz had audiences separately with Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha, and with Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam, pictures at bottom left and bottom right respectively on opposite page. Right: The Brunei monarch granting an audience to the Chief of Defence of the Singapore Armed Forces, Lieutenant General Ng Jui Ping, and pictures left below and right below respectively of his wife in audiences with Her Majesty The Raja Isteri and Her Royal Highness the Pengiran Isteri.



## Mutual benefits from steady development in relations

**B**runei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan have made much progress in developing their relations for mutual benefit, the Minister of Communications, Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Zakaria has said.

He expressed confidence that these relations would be enhanced further.

The Minister was speaking as a representative of the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the 55th National Day celebration of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan at the Brunei International Convention Centre on 23 March.

He said Brunei Darussalam values the contribu-

tion of Pakistani nationals working in the Sultanate, and hoped exchange between the peoples of the two countries would be encouraged further as it would contribute towards the further strengthening and enhancement of relations.

Earlier, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan's High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Major General (R) Haji Saeed Uz Zaman Janjua, who hosted the reception, said his country supported the ASEAN phenomena which did not only reflect the success of its members in strengthening solidarity, but also showing itself to the world as an organisation that is developing in many aspects and

helping to enhance peace and stability in the region.

Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan established diplomatic relations on 14 September, 1984, and they have since enjoyed various de-

velopments which are of mutual benefit.

Presently a large number of Pakistani nationals work in Brunei Darussalam, in such areas as teaching, medical and skilled and semi-skilled labour.



The Communications Minister, Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Zakaria, flanked by Pakistan's High Commissioner in Bandar Seri Begawan, speaking during the republic's National Day celebration.





Above: His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and entourage being welcomed by the Governor-General of New Zealand, Her Excellency Dame Catherine Tizard and the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister James Bolger upon arrival at Wellington's international airport, which was followed by a ceremonial welcome at Parliament House, at which the ruler took the salute and inspected a guard of honour, right. Below: His Majesty and Dame Catherine Tizard holding discussion preceding a state dinner hosted in His Majesty's honour by the New Zealand Governor-General.

• From page 2 (Brunei - New Zealand)

#### Visits to army training camp and forest research institute in itinerary

While in New Zealand, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam visited the army training camp in Waiouru. Upon arrival at Waiouru airfield, the ruler was welcomed with the Maori Challenge (Wero), the traditional welcoming of the Maoris, and then inspected a guard



of honour and watched a display of the artillery and weapons system.

His Majesty was briefed on the work of the Cadet Officer School and met

Bruneian officer cadets currently training at the school.

His Majesty said he was extremely happy with the current programme of defence cooperation between

Brunei Darussalam and New Zealand and was impressed by the world class standards, both practical and

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His Majesty granted an audience to New Zealand's Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. James Bolger at which they had wide-ranging discussions. His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah was also present, as were senior officials from both sides.





*From page 6 (Brunei - New Zealand)*



*His Majesty in discussion with New Zealand's Opposition Labour Party's acting leader, Mr David Caygill above left. Above right: The ruler taking a close look at a wood specie while the Rotorua Forest Research Institute's production manager, Dr. Russel Burton provided the briefing.*

academic, being offered to Bruneian officer cadets at Waiouru. The ruler was later conducted on a tour of the Waiouru Army Museum.

The Brunei monarch also visited New Zealand's Forest Research Institute in Rotorua where he was briefed on the research and development being conducted at the institute, which was established in 1947.

His Majesty expressed a special interest in the work of the institute in view of the importance of forestry research in Brunei Darussalam, in particular forestry conservation methods and the impact of industrialisation.

On his departure at the end of the visit on 13 March, His Majesty expressed great satisfaction at the outcome of the visit, his first to New Zealand.

His Majesty said that he hoped his visit had served to indicate to New Zealanders the extent to which Brunei Darussalam appreciated the friendship and cooperation which had been built up between the two countries over many years as neighbours and regional partners.



*Above: The Director of the Military Museum at Waiouru, Major Richard Taylor briefs the ruler as he takes a close look at an old artillery. Shortly earlier, the Brunei monarch visited the shooting training ground nearby, during which he climbed aboard one of the armoured cars and tried his hand at the tank's gun, picture right below. Picture left below shows the ruler pausing to chat to a Bruneian trainee during his visit to the Army Officer Cadets' School in Waiouru.*





# Airlift of Bruneian Haj pilgrims commences

The annual Haj pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca has begun. More than 2,000 Bruneians are among the millions of Muslims from throughout the world converging on the holy city this year to perform Islam's fifth tenet - obligatory for all capable and healthy Muslims at least once in their life time.

His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam granted an audience at Istana Nurul Iman on 8 April to prospective male pilgrims, while in another part of the palace the same day, Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Mariam granted similar audience to

prospective female pilgrims, prior to their departure to the holy land.

The pilgrims are making the journey in 13 flights comprising seven operated by Royal Brunei Airlines through the Brunei Darussalam Holding Sendirian Berhad, and six flights also being operated by the national flag carrier organised by haj package agencies.

The first group of the Bruneian pilgrims is already in the holy land, having left Brunei Darussalam two days ago on the first Haj package, while the first flight organised by the Brunei Darussalam Holding was due to leave today, 15 April.

Large numbers of Bruneians perform the Haj in Mecca each year, and this year they will be in the holy land for about one month.



His Majesty (top picture) and Her Majesty The Raja Isteri and Her Royal Highness The Pengiran Isteri (above) granting an audience at Istana Nurul Iman to the more than 2,000 prospective Haj pilgrims shortly before the pilgrims departed for the holy city of Mecca.

## Import taxes on many goods brought down, or abolished

The Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has moved to bring down, and in some cases abolish, import duties on a wide range of products and goods, with effect from the first of this month.

With the move, announced by the Ministry of Finance on 30 March, 1995, import duties on some 650 items ranging from cosmetic products to electronic and electrical goods have gone down by as much as 25 percent - from 30 percent to five percent, while the duties on certain goods have been done away with altogether - from 20 percent to zero percent.

Those with the highest import duty reductions are cosmetics and perfumes, on which the import duties have been reduced by 25 percent, from 30 percent to five percent.

Such items as carpets, shoes, clothings, jewellerys, watches, curtains, toys, video games, still-photography films and soaps have had their import duties cut from 10 percent to five percent, while the import duties on such items as air-conditioners, compressors, refrigerators, washing machines, office equipment, vending machines, vacuum cleaners, water heaters, telephones sets, radio, television sets, household equipment, chandeliers, lamps and cameras have been reduced by 15 percent, from 20 percent to five percent.

Meanwhile, import duties on such items as typewriters, word processors, calculators and computers have been abolished altogether, from 20 percent to zero percent.

The Ministry of Finance, in a statement, said that with the reductions of import duties on various goods, it is hoped that the public would be able to purchase goods more cheaply and that domestic trade would increase.



# Tutong district has own centre for handicapped children

With both the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the society giving as much attention to the welfare of the handicapped as with their more fortunate colleagues in society, the Tutong district now has its own centre for the Association for Handicapped Children, KACA.

The two-storey building which was built on a 0.3 hectare piece of land was handed over to KACA in December 1992, and begun to be used fully as from January the following year. The land itself was donated by two people.

On 30 March, Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam toured the centre, during which she presented certificates to 15 people who had made donations in various forms towards the centre's facilities.

Her Royal Highness,

who is the patron of KACA, was accompanied by Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri 'Azemah Ni' matul Bulkiah, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Fadzilah Lubabul Bulqiah, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, Yang Teramat Mulia Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Nor'ain and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajjah Mazuin.

During the tour, Her Royal Highness and the other members of the royal family as well as other guests watched a wide variety of activities carried out by the handicapped people at the centre and also took a close look at its facilities, including the physical exercise, games, computer and handicrafts rooms as well as the classrooms.

The association for the disabled and handicapped

children was formed in the 1980s and its headquarters at Kampong Kiulap near the capital was officially opened in August 1992.

To date, the association has well more than 1,000 members, many of whom are kept preoccupied by the

numerous activities organised by its committee. Some are even taught professional skills, while others are active in participating in sports meets for the handicapped, both at regional and international levels.



*Above right: Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam presents certificate to a representative of a businessman who had earlier made a donation to the centre. Right: Her Royal Highness and other members of the royal family watching a demonstration of the braille, and below, Her Royal Highness watches a handicapped child working on the computer.*





# Parents urged to continue to cooperate with ministry's efforts to protect children against disabling and fatal diseases

**T**he Minister of Health, Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Dr. Awang Haji Johar has called on parents to continue to cooperate with the Health Ministry in its efforts to protect children against disabling and often, fatal diseases.

In a message in conjunction with this year's World Health Day on 7 April, the Minister highlighted its theme, "Target 2000 - A World Without Polio", which is aimed not merely to eliminate the disease but to eradicate the virus from the earth by the year 2000.

## Brunei among polio-free countries

World Health Organisation's Western Pacific Region is poised to become polio-free region by 1995, he said. All except for five countries in the region have reported zero incidence of polio in 1993, he added.

"The last reported case

of polio in Brunei Darussalam was in 1987. However, importation of wild polio in endemic countries in Asia, remain a real threat to us," he pointed.

The World Health Organisation has recom-

mended basic strategies to eradicate poliomyelities. These included maintaining high coverage of polio immunization, and improving surveillance system to detect and investigate all possible poliomyelities cases including virological surveillance.

The Minister pointed out that the country's success in eliminating poliomyelities in the country since 1988 is mainly due to the high immunisation coverage maintained in recent years. Parents have been very cooperative in supporting the Health Ministry's immunisation programme which needs to be continued without fail until the WHO's goal for a world without polio is achieved,

he added.

**Use all medical opportunities against all diseases.**

Dato Paduka Dr. Awang Haji Johar further reminded all concerned to use every opportunity of their contacts with the children in the clinics, hospitals or at homes to check for missed out vaccinations of not only poliomyelities but also for all other childhood target diseases, and to ensure that they are kept to date.

Eradicating poliomyelities will end much of human suffering throughout the world. Once children no longer need to be protected against the disease through routine immunisation, there will be considerable and lasting financial benefit in both developing and highly industrialised countries, the Minister said.

"A world without polio is an attainable goal in not too far distant future and it would be the WHO's second major achievement in disease eradication after successfully wiping out smallpox from the earth," he concluded.



*The Health Minister, Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Dr. Awang Haji Johar said elimination of polio will mean an end to much of human suffering.*

mended basic strategies to eradicate poliomyelities. These included maintaining high coverage of polio

## Deviant Islamic religious teachings banned

**T**he Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in its continuing vigilance against deviant Islamic religious teachings has recently banned the propagation of a foreigner named Abdul Razak bin Haji Muhammad.

According to the Ministry of Religious Affairs, a number of people have been influenced by his teachings and become his followers.

It said thorough investigation have found that the teachings, which in some cases involve 'summoning souls of the dead' and other beliefs, are contradictory to the Islamic faith and against the 'syarak' (Islamic laws).

"At the same time", said the ministry, "the activities of the teacher and his followers are against public interest and can jeopardise the security of the country".

"Thus, the teachings of Abdul Razak bin Haji Muhammad are therefore banned and his followers as well as any publication and the likes pertaining to the teachings are illegal by law", the ministry continued.

It advised members of the public, especially Muslims to disregard such teachings and those who have become followers to denounce it immediately.



The Development Minister, Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Dr. Haji Ismail highlighting the point that a company's success depended on the quality of services and goods it provided.

## Give special attention to quality to ensure success - Minister tells firms

The Minister of Development, Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Dr. Haji Ismail has highlighted the need to give special attention to the quality of goods and service provided, as it plays an important role in ensuring the success of each company or corporate body, particularly in a more open and competitive trade.

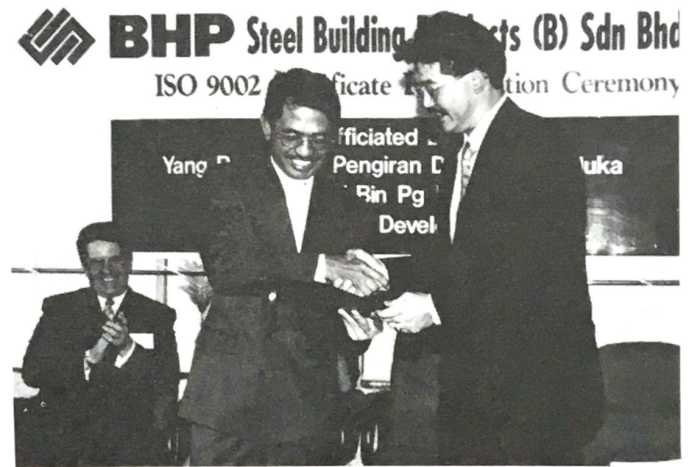
To achieve the required level of quality, he stressed, we therefore, need to involve workers and staff at all ranks, both from the lower and upper levels to make effort in such system of quality. These comprise planning of a strategy, the organisation of a source and operation, including the survey and evaluation of quality from the stage of

marketing study to the supply of goods or service.

The increase of quality is a continuing process or measure that should be improved and integrated together with other functions, such as research and development (R&D), marketing and manufacturing process, the Minister added.

In a speech before presenting the ISO 9002 Quality Management System Certificate to BHP Steel Building Products (B) Company Pte Ltd on April 8, The Minister pointed out that success is the main objective of any company, and to achieve success, a company needs to have a clear mission, target and policy supported by a smooth and effective system of operation.

"To enable the operation



goes smoothly and effectively, a company or corporated body should provide a management and control for every specific level of technical field, administration and manpower sources," he stressed.

The Minister noted that, to date, about 70,000 corporated bodies all over the world have obtained recognition for ISO 9000, 1,000 of which are from member countries of ASEAN. This also shows the rapid development of trade in the region.

The active engagement of Brunei Darussalam in organisations such as EAGA, AFTA and APEC also meant that trade among member countries will be more open in the future, he said.

Yang Berhormat called on companies and corporated bodies to act accordingly to the needs of quality management system, if they want to grab these opportunities.

The recognised certificate on ISO 9000, he added, will help ease the acceptance of goods and service both in the country and the region. Local companies, therefore, should grab this opportunity by supplying themselves with up-to-date management methods and making quality as a basis in business.

The BHP Steel Building Products (B) Company Pte Ltd was established in 1993, and obtained a recognition for ISO 9000 in December 1994. To date, 50 per cent of its workers are locals.

## Formal relations with Czech Republic

Brunei Darussalam has continued to forge formal diplomatic ties with foreign countries, the latest being with the Czech Republic.

The Governments of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Czech Republic have agreed to the establishment of diplomatic relations with effect from 3

April, 1995.

The two countries agreed to enhance friendly and cooperative relations on the basis of the principles contained in the United Nations Charter, said a Foreign Affairs Ministry press release.

The exchange of statement on the establishment of diplomatic relations took place on 3 April, 1995.



Brunei's Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd. Ali exchanging statement with First Deputy Foreign Minister of Czech Republic, His Excellency Alexandra Vondra on Brunei-Czech Republic diplomatic relations establishment.





Above: Cattle at a farm in Brunei Darussalam. Some had been imported from the Sultanate's own ranch at Willeroo near Darwin in Australia's Northern Territory. The Sultanate is also promoting buffalo and goat farming, with a view to establishing a meat export industry in the future.

## *Cattle, buffalo and goat farming an important part of economic diversification efforts*

**S**elf-sufficiency in food production remains one of Brunei Darussalam's most cherished goals, hence, the promotion of the agricultural and food manufacturing sectors is an important part of current on-going efforts to diversify the economy. Livestock farming is one branch of agriculture that is making a headway.

Live cattle is still imported from Australia, especially from the Government-owned

ranch at Willeroo in the Northern Territories. While some of the cattle are slaughtered for the home markets, some are also being used for breeding purposes. The farming of buffaloes and goats is also being encouraged, and the current Sixth Five-Year National Development Plan (1991-1995) is targeting a domestic production of 300 heads per year for buffaloes, and 2,000 heads per year for

goats.

Last year alone, Brunei Darussalam imported from Australia 6,000 live cattle, 1,000 buffaloes and 1,000 sheep.

At the same time, the country is also now importing 'halal' (permissible for consumption by Muslims) beef from Australia under an agreement signed recently between the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang

Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and four other parties which facilitates the slaughter (under Muslim laws), and shipment of frozen and chilled beef into the Sultanate in collaboration with the national carrier - Royal Brunei Airlines, RBA.

It is hoped that this cooperation will lead eventually to the export of air-flown frozen 'Brunei halal beef' to other international markets served by the RBA.

### *Brunei in Brief*

Capital : Bandar Seri Begawan  
Land size : 5765 sq. km  
Population : 267,800 (Mid-1992)  
Official Language : Malay  
Official Religion : Islam  
March rainfall : mm  
(annual 2,818mm)

#### **PRIME LENDING RATE**

March 5.75%  
(quoted by Bankers' Association)

### *Brunei Malay in a minute*

**E**ach fortnight, our readers are introduced to a new Brunei Malay word carried in each edition of this newsletter. As the name suggests, the word is used in Brunei Darussalam only.

The Word **lastip** has been chosen for this issue. **Lastip** is

fluent or eloquent, and its equivalent in standard Malay is **petah** or **fasih**.

Let's use the word in a sentence: **Budak lelaki itu lastip berbahasa Inggeris.**

The boy speaks English fluently.

**THE TRAFFICKING IN AND THE ILLEGAL IMPORTATION OF CONTROLLED DRUGS ARE VERY SERIOUS OFFENCES IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM AND THE PENALTY FOR SUCH OFFENCES IS DEATH.**