



# بروني دارالسلام

## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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## *Brunei Darussalam And Iran Strengthen Existing Relations*

*Left: His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani taking the salute from the dais in front of Istana Nurul Iman during the official welcoming ceremony for the visiting Iranian leader.*

**B**runei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Iran have further strengthened their existing close and friendly relations in the wake of a state visit by the Iranian President, His Excellency Mr. Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to the Sultanate, on 15-17 October. This was in response to the state visit by His Majesty Paduka Seri

Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam to Iran early this year.

This was stated in a joint statement issued in Bandar Seri Begawan at the end of the three-day state visit by the Iranian leader, who was leading a more than one hundred member-delegation.

The president was accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Efat Hashemi Rafsanjani.

The joint statement said that the two leaders met at Istana Nurul Iman on 15 October 1994, and reaffirmed the principles and sentiments expressed in their joint statement during His Majesty's visit in February this year. They also exchanged views on a

number of matters of common concern in an atmosphere of cordiality and common understanding which reflected the friendship and goodwill shared by the governments and peoples of both countries.

His Majesty and the visiting Iranian President expressed their satisfaction with the relations deve-

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### YOUR TURN

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• From page 1 (Brunei-Iran)

loping between Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Iran. In order to enhance this relationship through the promotion of trade and investment, and the establishment of cultural, religious, educational and scientific cooperation, the two leaders approved the signing of a memorandum of understanding for co-operation in these areas and agreed on the establishment of a joint commission, the statement added.

The statement pointed out that the heads of state reiterated their support for the establishment of contact and cooperation between the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) and ASEAN; and expressed their willingness to assist in its realisation.

Both leaders also reviewed issues of concern to the Islamic ummah, including the current situations in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Afghanistan, the Middle East and Central Asia.

### Aggression in Bosnia condemned

The statement said that they further condemned the violations of human rights and the continued aggression in Bosnia-Herzegovina, particularly the policy of ethnic cleansing, and expressed profound concern about the injustices suffered by the people of that country.

Both leaders re-expressed their support for the resolution adopted by the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) at its extraordinary session in Islamabad, calling for the lifting of the arms embargo against the Bosnian Muslims.

### Further solidarity needed

The two Heads of State stressed on the need for further solidarity and closer cooperation among member states of OIC so that it may undertake initiatives to make greater and more effective use of its available resources in order to increase cooperation among the members.

They also emphasised the many common views and perceptions held by Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Iran, and recognised the need for closer cooperation so that both countries can assist in promoting global peace and stability, building respect for international law, and upholding the principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter.

The visit of the Iranian President also strengthened and further promoted the spirit of Islamic solidarity and bilateral cooperation, the joint statement concluded.

### Arrival

President Rafsanjani, his wife and delegation arrived at the Brunei International Airport on October 15, and were welcomed by His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister and his wife, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Zariah.

The President accompanied by His Royal Highness, was later driven in a motorcade to Istana Nurul Iman, as thousands of school children lined the route, waving both countries' national flags to greet the

visiting Iranian leader.

### Ceremonies at Istana Nurul Iman

At Istana Nurul Iman, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam welcomed the Iranian President while Mrs. Efaf Hashemi Rafsanjani's arrival at a special entrance of Istana Nurul Iman was welcomed by Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam.

His Majesty and the Iranian President proceeded to the royal dais to receive the salute as both countries' national anthems were played accompanied by a 17-gun salute.

The president later inspected a guard of honour mounted by the Royal Brunei Armed Forces personnel.

His Majesty, the visiting President and members of their families proceeded to Balai Penghadapan for an audience ceremony.

This was followed by a four-eye (one-to-one) meeting in another room of Istana Nurul Iman between the two leaders.

### State banquet in honour of Iranian President

In the evening, His Majesty hosted a state banquet at Istana Nurul Iman in honour of President Rafsanjani and the male members of his delegation.

### Brunei-Iran similar

In his 'titah' (royal address) at the banquet, the

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Brunei ruler stated that Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Iran are similar although differ in respective geo-political positions, policies and pre-occupations.

The monarch said: "Iran is a large country with a glorious and ancient history. It is sited in one of the world's most strategic regions, the Middle-East which at the present moment is still in a state of turbulence and experiencing great changes."

His Majesty said that comparatively Brunei Darussalam is a small country in Southeast Asia and although it is small in size, it is able to survive with a pleasant history, even after dismemberment of its territories by former colonial powers.

"Our resilience and proud history, owe much to the attitude and efforts of the just and religion abiding Kings of the country," His Majesty pointed out.

"This is our only wealth and uniqueness in facing various challenges and problems of time," the ruler stressed.

His Majesty expressed confidence that although some of the circumstances and experiences which shapen our world views are different, we may in fact through open and honest personal contact more readily understand and accept each other's different standpoints."

This undoubtedly would also lead to mutual respect and at the same time would become a stimulus to an enduring friendship, the monarch said.

### Countries need to be pragmatic

His Majesty went on to

say that the upheavals that have followed the end of the Cold War have made it necessary for most countries to be pragmatic in their international relations.

"Ideology no longer forces us to divide the world between either 'friends' or 'adversaries', even though countries are diverse in their needs. All countries need to be practical in seeking peace, stability and economic growth for their peoples."

"In these matters, there is no one with different attitude. So it is with us, and in fact on a number of issues, we also share similar views, for example on Bosnia and other issues which degrade the Islamic Ummah and the Islamic religion," His Majesty stressed.

### Differences no obstacles to cooperation

The monarch said that if there are differences, that should not hinder them from working together especially when they share common goals, which could be seen in the context of both countries' membership of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

Citing his visit to Iran, His Majesty said that he was able to learn at first hand of the progress the Iranian President had made, his current plans and future aims.

"I believe that it is in this respect that we have many similarities, that is to see both our respective peoples achieve high standards of living and prosperity, not only physically but also spiritually."

### Iran-Brunei Darussalam relationship move into a new phase

In his reply, the Iranian President highlighted that the relationship between Iran and Brunei Darussalam has moved into a new phase.

President Rafsanjani said that despite the young relations of the two countries, history reveals an acquaintance and frequentation of Iranians to South East Asian countries. Even before the arrival of Islam to this region, the Iranian merchants have been travelling between the Persian Gulf and the South China Sea (the Silk Sea Route) in order to have trade relations with that country and the ASEAN regional countries.

After the arrival of Islam, he added, the message of deliverance of this peaceful religion was conveyed to the South East Asia through Iranian merchants.

One of the obvious points regarding the depth of relations between the two countries is the existence of Persian vocabulary in the 'Melayu' or Malay language. Therefore, with the support of our old and deep relations, we hope to be able to witness the ever-expansion of the relations of the two countries.

The President also suggested cooperation between the two countries in investments, exchange of experiences, scientific, technical and cultural cooperation; and he expressed the hope "to witness the ever consolidation and expansion of this relationship and fruition of mutual cooperation."

Iran's expanding relations

### based on its foreign policy

The Iranian President also cited his country's expanding relations with South East Asian countries, which are based on emphasis of the principles of the republic's foreign policy towards multilateral expansion of relations with developing Muslim nations.

"Common views and stance of our countries on the international affairs is another basis of our mutual understanding and action in the international fora, particularly on crucial international issues including Bosnia-Herzegovina, wherein the racial cleansing of Muslims by Serbs still continued with the support of powerful elements."

The president added that the prevailing conditions of today's world would call for inevitable cooperation between the Muslim and developing countries. The president also highlighted that cooperation between ASEAN and the Economic Cooperation Organisation (ECO) is the determining factor in this era of new economic, political and cultural polarization.

Also present at the banquet were His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Duli Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkihah and His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkihah.

Meanwhile, a similar banquet was hosted separately for Mrs. Efat Hashemi Rafsanjani and the women

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## *Oman, Mali, European Union Envoys Present Credentials*



*His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam receiving the credentials of the Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman, His Excellency Mr. Ahmed bin Mohamed bin Masoud Al-Riyami (left); the Ambassador of Mali, His Excellency Mr. Mahmood Abdu Zubair (below) and the High Commissioner of the European Union, His Excellency Mr. Klauspeter Schmallenbach (bottom) during separate ceremonies at Istana Nurul Iman on 22 October.*

**H**is Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented to receive the credentials of foreign envoys to Brunei Darussalam. The new diplomats are from the Sultanate of Oman, the Republic of Mali and the European Union. The ceremonies took place at Istana Nurul Iman on October.

The first diplomat to present his credential to His Majesty was the Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman, His Excellency Mr. Ahmed bin Mohammad bin Masoud Al-Riyami. The 46 year-old envoy is a B.A. graduate in geography from Beirut Arab University. The Omani Ambassador has previously worked for his country's diplomatic missions in Islamabad and Moscow.

The Brunei ruler later consented to receive the credential of the non-resident Ambassador of the Republic of Mali, His Excellency Mr. Mahmood Abdu Zubair. The 53-year old diplomat holds a Master in the Arabian and Islamic Studies, and Ph.D in Islamic Studies (History).

The other non-resident envoy presenting his credential to His Majesty was the High Commissioner of the European Union, His Excellency Mr. Klauspeter Schmallenbach. The 54 year-old envoy joined the services of the Commission of the European Communities in Brussels in 1969 and has held various positions including in the Directorate-General of External Relations from 1981 to 1993.

After the credential presentations, His Majesty granted separate audiences to the diplomats.





# Prophet's Educational System Secures The Faith Of Muslims: State Mufti

**B**runei Darussalam's State Mufti has urged Muslims throughout the world to refer or get back to the educational system of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him), which emphasises on the importance of preserving faith so as to secure the faith of Muslims from being eroded.

Speaking at the official naming ceremony of a new secondary school at the National Housing Scheme in Mentiri on October 20, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Tuan Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti, also stressed that today's education no longer emphasises on the question of faith and piety, even in countries where Islam has long been practised.

The State Mufti said that the institution of learning and education of Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) has clearly guided us towards these ends as it is the source for security and endurance of the Islamic ummah.

## Attempts to undermine Islam

The State Mufti further stressed that effort to undermine the Islamic religion and its followers began with the destruction of their faith, while citing on the existence of a syndicate to destroy Islam by using drugs. Historically, drugs were used as weapons by the English people to weaken China's army, known as the 'Opium War' while one of the superpower countries

had to retreat in Vietnam because of drugs, he added.

The invasion of the Muslim faith has been organised neatly and secretly through various guises, among others, it takes the form of a modern and distinctive educational system which seemingly guarantees a prosperous economy and extreme pride. The faith of the Islamic ummah, meanwhile, diminishes day by day without their being aware, the State Mufti stressed.

This has terrified us most, he said, while adding that time has come of what Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) said in his 'hadis', which means that "time will come to mankind that no one of the one thousand men or more worshippers in a mosque has faith."

Another hadis says: "It will happen to mankind in an era when no one of those who perform the 'haj', perform the prayer and who fast, has faith."

The State Mufti also emphasised that Muslims are therefore obliged to learn the teachings of "tauhid" (belief in God the Almighty), the Al-Quran, history of Islam including Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and his followers as well as knowing about the "halal-haram" (permissible and forbidden according to Islamic teachings) related matters.

## Integration of Islamic and modern education

Under the leadership of His Majesty's Government, Brunei Darussalam through

the implementation of its educational system has been able to secure the faith of Muslims in its own way by integrating the educational system of Prophet Muhammad with modern system, said the State Mufti.

Earlier in his speech, he noted that the naming of the new school by taking the name of the country's late State Mufti, Pehin Dato Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama Dr. Awang Haji Ismail, is appropriate due to his service, apart from hoping that education in the country will continue to produce not only educated people but pious ones too.

At the ceremony, the State Mufti was presented a momento, and he planted a tree to mark the occasion and also led other guests to view an exhibition.



*The State Mufti, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Tuan Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned plants a tree to commemorate the naming of the Pehin Dato Seri Maharaja Secondary School.*



• From page 3 (Brunei-Iran)

members of the Iranian delegation by Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha and Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam. It was held at 'Baitul Rahmah' banquet hall in Istana Nurul Iman. Also present were other female members of the Brunei royal household.

#### Signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Iran signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The ceremony was at Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan. Signing for Brunei Darussalam was His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister while His Excellency Dr. Ali Akbar



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam granted His Excellency President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani an audience at Istana Nurul Iman at the start of the Iranian leader's state visit to Brunei Darussalam (above).



The Brunei monarch hosted a banquet in President Rafsanjani's honour, attended by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah (picture above) as well as by other members of the royal family and members of the visiting delegation, state dignitaries and senior Government officials.

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The Iranian leader inspecting a guard of honour mounted by men of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces as part of his official welcoming ceremony in front of Istana Nurul Iman (above). The following day he visited the Jame' 'Asr Hassanil Bolkiah Mosque (right) besides several other places and institutions. Far right: Brunei Darussalam's Foreign Affairs Minister, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and his Iranian counterpart, His Excellency Dr. Ali Akbar Velayati exchange documents following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Iran on enhancing cooperation between the two countries.



• From page 6 (Brunei-Iran)

Velayati, the Iranian Foreign Affairs Minister signed on behalf of his country.

In his brief 'sabda' (speech) shortly after the signing, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, among others said, "This Memorandum of Understanding will take us another

step forward. Above all, it should lead to some practical ideas on how we can start working together."

"It covers a very wide range of cooperation and there are lots of possibilities for our officials to look into," His Royal Highness pointed out.

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Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajjah Saleha, Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam and Mrs. Efat Hashemi Rafsanjani stand to the national anthems of Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Iran at the start of a banquet in another part of Istana Nurul Iman in honour of the visit of a high level Iranian delegation led by the country's President. The dinner was attended by other women members of the Brunei royal family and women members of the Iranian delegation. Right: Mrs Efat Rafsanjani during her audience with Her Majesty the Raja Isteri and Her Royal Highness the Pengiran Isteri soon after arriving in Bandar Seri Begawan with her husband. The Iranian First Lady visiting the Brunei Museum (pictures bottom left and bottom right).

#### • From page 7 (Brunei-Iran)

#### Visits

The following day, President Rafsanjani and his wife had separate itineraries. These included visits to Jame 'Asr Hassanil Bolkliah mosque, a tour of Kampung Ayer (water village), the Brunei Museum, the tomb of Sultan Sharif Ali, who was the Sultanate's third ruler, and a tour of the Government's largest National Housing Scheme at Lambak Kanan, 10 kilometres from the capital.





# Make Available Human Resources That Could Be Developed

The Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Ustaz Awang Haji Badaruddin recently highlighted the importance of making available human resources that could be developed to handle duties in the field of broadcasting.

The field of broadcasting is not only challenging the creativity and expertise of human resources but it is also expanding rapidly, he stressed.

In a speech before he declared open the Human Resources Development Course in Broadcasting at the Lecture Hall of the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium on October 3, the Permanent Secretary said that the experience of the country in the field of broadcasting is still rather limited to the radio and television services run by the Government.

"There are signs that these may be enhanced with television services run by a privately-owned tv transmission", he added.

"However, regardless of the limited experience and no matter what the level of experience in human resources might be, the conceivable issue is the social impact and the widespread influence that broadcasting may have on the country with regard to the programme contents," he said.

"We do not deny that the process of globalisation through the filed broadcasting will not make it possible

for a small country like Brunei Darussalam to disengage itself. Even without any intention, spillover broadcasts and transmission from foreign television stations will continue to expose the people of Brunei to foreign values and norms," he added.

The Permanent Secretary pointed out that our general concern now is the contents of those foreign programmes that could jeopardise moral and social values which we have disseminated through formal and informal education.

"It is clear that the existing policy that regulates the installation of the parabola (satellite dish) will not be very effective. And we are not certain whether such control or regulation will be required in the future in the face of rapid development in communication technology which also involves broadcasting," he stressed.

He said appropriate steps should be considered by taking pro-active approaches to deal with such developments in broadcasting.

He believes that Radio Television Brunei (RTB) is already prepared to take appropriate steps in the near future, and appreciates the organisation's ability to compete with foreign stations.

"This is where it is essential for RTB to have quality manpower in order to enable it to extend and increase its present and future service," the Permanent Secretary stressed.



*Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Ustaz Awang Haji Badaruddin, The Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office*

Touching on the importance of human resources development in broadcasting, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin said that this has always been given due attention by managers in such field.

They realise that their weaknesses and failure to achieve their objectives and tasks in broadcasting are mainly due to manpower or human resources whose talent could not be developed either because they are not given proper guidance and training or after having been trained, they feel more comfortable to remain at the same, old level and position, he said.

"Such manpower or human resources cannot be hoped to develop and therefore it is essential for broadcasting managers to think of other means or alternatives for them not to become a burden to the organisation and management," the Permanent Secretary stressed.

He further spoke on the tendency of line managers

in broadcasting organisations to increase the number of manpower following an increase in their duties and responsibilities. This has always been under scrutiny by managers at the higher level, he added.

"The outcome is now always in favour of the broadcasting management. Instead, not only are they being asked but in certain cases they are also being urged to be more realistic by taking into account matters such as: the optimal use of available resources; reorganising duties and work that may overlap, or reorganising working priorities; and not least important is that the broadcasting managers will be required to organise additional works and duties as suggested," added the Permanent Secretary.

Such additional duties do not merely mean an increase in the number of the same programme and an increase in transmission hours, but to increase the variety of programmes with the transmission hours being extended, he said.

The course on Human Resources Development in Broadcasting was organised by the Asia Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD). It was proposed by Brunei Darussalam in the 19th AIBD Governing Council Meeting in Tehran, Iran in 1993.

The hosting of the course by RTB shows its maturity in its interactions with re-

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# Brunei Darussalam Needs Standards In Other Fields Other Than In The Construction Industry

**B**runei Darussalam needs to set itself to having standards in other fields, besides the construction industry, in order to protect consumers.

"Developing countries already have standards in foods and drinks, clothings, transportation, telecommunication, security and those which involve all aspects of life. I believe Brunei Darussalam too, should aim towards this in the future" said the Minister of Development.

Officiating at the World Standards Day 1994, the Conference on the Standards and Consumers and the launching of the Standards of Quality Management System - ISO 9000 on 15 October, the Development Minister, Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Dr. Haji Ismail said, the major users of construction materials in the country is the government itself.

We as consumers certainly need assurance in the aspect of safety, stability, resistance and maintainance of walls and roofs, he said. The environment and long-term factor should also be taken into account when considering the development of standards, added the Minister.

The Minister hoped that the sharing of knowledge in the construction field and the dialogue with repre-



*Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Dr. Haji Ismail, the Development Minister*

sentatives from the Singapore Institute Standards and Research body (SISIR) and Malaysian Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs would be beneficial towards more protection for consumers in the country.

International Standardisation Organisation (ISO), he said, has recently streamlined the Standard Series ISO 9000 Quality Management System, and is now known as 'Piawai Brunei Darussalam ISO 9000 (PBD ISO 9000)' or 'Brunei Darussalam Standardisation ISO 9000'.

The Standard is similar to the ISO standard without any ammendment of text and is designed not only for the construction industry but also for industries which use the Quality Management System.

The Development Ministry through the Con-

struction, Planning and Research Unit (CPRU), said the Ministers, is responsible in publishing the standards through the Technical Committee (TECO) in fields related to iron, concrete, wood and Quality Management System.

Brunei Darussalam does not have facilities and sufficient skilled manpower to produce a series of complete and comprehensive standardisation, such as in Britain and the neighbouring countries, he noted. He appreciated effort by members of TECO both from the government and private sector for their contribution in providing such standards.

"Nevertheless, in issuing the Brunei Darussalam Standard, the technical committees had observed the best standards used by the world and studies its relevance in the local working methodology and marketing of the country. In this way, we have been able to issue the standard most relevant to our needs," said the Minister.

Having ISO 9000 certificate is a first step in preparing a quality service, and to achieve the stage of better quality, and those engaged in an industry should have knowledge and skill, the Minister stressed.

He further urged employers and workers alike to make good use of the

knowledge. It was also important, he said, for companies to provide well-planned training programme so that everyone from the rank of Managing Director to labourers continue making effort towards improving and upgrading their skills and productivity.

The Minister also called on consultants, contractors and suppliers to take appropriate measures to conduct the management of ISO 9000 Quality Management System in their respective organisation.

The World Standard Day is observed on 14 October every year, with its theme this year 'Piawai dan Pengguna: Rakan Ke Arah Dunia Yang Lebih Sempurna' or 'Standards and Consumer: A Companion Towards A World of Excellence.'

It is aimed at reviewing the development of standardisation that has been achieved, while giving emphasis on the planning for the following year. The observation of the World Standards Day was also aimed at seeking a means for a consumer to get more engaged in the development and introduction of standardisation.

The Minister also spoke about one of the main functions of the standards, which is to protect the customers' interests and safety.

• From page 9 (Broadcasting)

gional and international broadcasting organisations, he said, adding that the will-

ingness of His Majesty's Government to give its consent for RTB to host the course is due to our good intention towards coopera-

tion within the multinational members of AIBD.

Fifteen participants took part in the course, of whom six were from Brunei

Darussalam, while the rest were from China, Korea, Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Papua New Guinea.



# Public Service Ensures Successes Of Development And Administrative Policies

**T**he Public Service has come a long way since its establishment some eighty years ago. Today it has become more complex in structure and organisation, and obviously larger in terms of staffing, says Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja Pengiran Haji Bahrin, the Minister of Law and Attorney General.

But its role as the provider, facilitator and regulator has not differed much, although today it also has to act as an agent of change and pace-setter in line with the tide of development that is taking place rapidly and in meeting the administrative demands.

It remains the most important institution in ensuring the success of the national development and administrative policies. Government officers and staff have the role to shoulder their entrusted responsibilities by placing the Public Service at the level expected of it by the Government.

He was speaking as guest of honour at the annual Public Service Day Award Presentation for Excellence, held at the International Convention Centre on 29 September.

Said the Law Minister, "The Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam is sensitive to today's ever-changing challenges and hence, the Public Service does not only need to increase the effectiveness of its management,



*The Minister of Law and Attorney General, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja Pengiran Haji Bahrin, left, presenting award for excellence to one of this year's winning teams in conjunction with the Public Service Day celebration.*

but also to ensure the conveyance of quality services to its customers on the basis of the principles of accountability".

In order to fulfill these requirements, he further said, the Public Service must give due attention and paradigm shift so as to make itself more dynamic and goal-oriented. Among the aspects that need to be given emphasis are quality, productivity, innovation, integrity, discipline, accountability and professionalism, all of which can bring the standard of service of officials and staff in the government to a higher level.

The Minister was happy to note that the Public Service has embarked on various initiatives to achieve this both through daily management operation as well as through projects management.

"These," he said, "can contribute to the improve-

ment of productivity and quality towards meeting the aspiration and expectation of the public."

The Minister said that the Public Service's Award for Excellence Programme which had become an annual activity to celebrate the Public Service Day is a strategy towards involving officers and staff in the efforts to improve the administration and management.

The involvement of ministries and departments in the programme does not only demonstrate a continuous effort towards improvement, but also the stepping up of involvement of all officers and staff at all levels in a productive way.

The Minister also reminded that work ethics are among the elements that must be taken seriously and observed by everyone in the public service so as to maintain their credibility and integrity. Islamic values, too,

need to be absorbed into the management, he added.

Accountability calls for all in the public service to be disciplined and responsible in carrying out the duties which have been entrusted upon them, the Minister further pointed out.

He concluded by urging all Government officers and employees to carry out their duties wisely within the limit of their authority and in accordance with the rule of law and regulations.

The Minister of Law and Attorney General presented awards for excellence to several groups representing various Government Departments which had been engaged in continuous, long-term projects showing all elements of innovation, productivity, creativity, quality and accountability as well as other qualities aimed at further improving the performance and quality of service of the departments concerned.





## *School Takes Name Of Former State Mufti*

**T**his magnificent building built under the Sixth National Development Plan is a secondary school, named after Brunei Darussalam's former State Mufti, the late Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama Dr. Awang Haji Ismail bin Omar Abdul Aziz, in honour of his great contributions and services as well as his noble charac-

teristics as a theologian and intellect who was fond of reading, making research and writing. The new school which is now known as Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Secondary School has a vision and a philosophy based on 'belief', 'dedication' and 'self reliance' concepts.

It was completed in November last year after twelve months of construction at a

cost of some B\$20 million. Built on a 16 hectare site, the school caters for residents of the National Housing Scheme in Kampong Mentiri and the nearby villages.

Equipped with modern and up-to-date facilities, the school consists of administration, classroom, science and technical blocks as well as other amenities such as

multi-purpose hall, canteen and a prayer hall to list a few.

It offers optional subjects such as commerce, home science, agricultural science, computer, woodwork and art.

It is Brunei-Muara district's 16th secondary school, and the 24th in the country.

### *Brunei in Brief*

Capital : Bandar Seri Begawan  
Land size : 5765 sq. km  
Population : 267,800 (Mid-1992)  
Official Language : Malay  
Official Religion : Islam  
October rainfall : 279.0mm  
(annual 2,818mm)

#### **PRIME LENDING RATE**

September 5.75%  
(quoted by Bankers' Association)

### *Brunei Malay in a minute*

**E**ach fortnight, we introduce our readers to a new Brunei Malay word. As the name suggests, the word is only exclusively used in Brunei Darussalam. We now introduce the word **kajar-kajar**.

**Kajar-kajar** is to shake or tremble because of cold, fear,

etc. In standard Malay **kajar-kajar** is menggeletar or menggigil.

In a sentence: Pencuri itu **kajar-kajar** apabila polis mendekatinya.

The thief trembled when the policeman approached him.

**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.**