

بروني دارالسلام

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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JULY 1987

The nation observes Aidilfitri joy

For close to a week beginning on May 29, 1987 the nation enjoyed the Islamic celebration marking the end of the fasting month, Hari Raya Aidilfitri or Hari Raya Puasa.

Two days of public holiday falling on the end of the work week combined to give an extended weekend to Muslims in Brunei Darussalam.

Thousands of people including diplomats and other foreigners resident in the Sultanate paraded through the Nurul Iman Palace for three days to personally convey their Aidilfitri greetings to His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam and other members of the royal family.

In a message to mark the end of Ramadan His Majesty called on the nation, especially Muslims, to carry out their duties faithfully.

The Sultan, who is the head of the Islamic faith in the Sultanate asked fellow Muslims to carry on the spirit of the fasting month that had just ended to enhance the goodwill and harmony in the society.

On the morning of the May 29, 1987, the first day of the celebrations His Majesty joined his subjects for prayers at the Omar Ali Saifuddien mosque in Bandar Seri Begawan.

Immediately after prayers fellow worshippers mobbed His Majesty to be among the early ones to wish him 'Selamat Hari Raya Aidilfitri.'



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam is greeted by fellow worshippers at the Omar Ali Saifuddien Mosque on the first day of Aidilfitri celebration.

● see pages six and seven for our Aidilfitri camera report.



JULY 1987

Let's table this one

Consolidating the achievements of ASEAN and expanding ASEAN cooperation in the informational and cultural fields have long been the ambition of the six nation regional organisation. The Declaration of ASEAN Concord in 1976 was the preamble to subsequent agreements which resulted in concerted actions by the ASEAN machinery to fulfil the dream.

But catering for the massive population of ASEAN with a multitude of culture not only amongst member countries but within the individual nations themselves was no mean task. The different social structures within ASEAN have pushed the dream even further towards being Utopian.

Gathering for five days in Brunei Darussalam this month, senior ASEAN officials were charged with the monumental responsibility of working out on paper strategies that would lead future endeavours towards the objective enunciated in the Declaration of ASEAN Concord.

ASEAN Committee on culture and Information (COCI) is arguably the most active of the ASEAN committees and churns out a formidable list of projects, workshops, seminars and other meetings. All of these have to be travelled to, hosted and reported.

The ultimate test of all this to-ing and fro-ing in the name of bringing ASEAN peoples together must surely be whether the common man is touched by or all of these ideals. It is therefore time now to stop, take stock of the effect of all this effort, vis-a-vis the real target of all this activity, in case we have missed the trees for the wood.

Claiming that this or the next project is designed to meet people's needs is not quite the same as finding it to be so. A yardstick that may well be applied to another committees last the means become the end.



Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd. Ali bin Haji Mohd. Daud, Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, speaking at the opening of the ASEAN (COCI) meeting.

Move projects quickly says ASEAN COCI chief

ASEAN Committee on Culture and Information Chairman, Datuk Dr Mohd Noordin Abdul Ghani, has stressed the need for the committee's projects in member countries to be completed quickly and handed over for the public benefit.

'We owe it to the people of our respective countries to let them enjoy the fruit of our efforts in a short a time as possible,' he said while speaking at the opening of the ASEAN COCI meeting in Brunei Darussalam on June 22, 1987.

Datuk Dr Mohd Nor, Secretary-General at the Malaysian Information Ministry, said that there was a need for the ASEAN peoples to be brought closer through better dissemination of information and sharing of cultures.

Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd Ali, Brunei Darussalam's Culture, Youth and Sports Deputy Minister who officially opened the meeting told the delegates to consider the needs of ASEAN's young people who made up 60 percent of the population.



Dato Dr Mohd Nor, ASEAN-COCI chairman

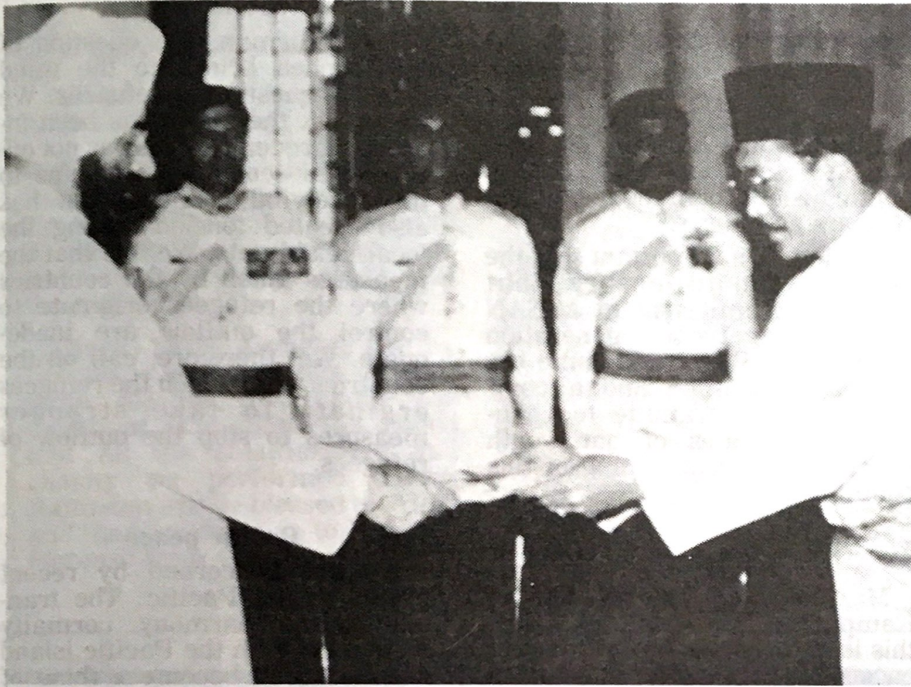
Some 34 delegates took part in the meeting which discussed a total of 37 projects taking up an annual budget of US \$1.5 million.

Eleven of the projects are completed while 24 are ongoing with three new project proposals.

Events in Brunei Darussalam include the ASEAN Song Festival, Performing Arts Festival and a Journalists' Workshop which is scheduled to be held this month.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM 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 a free subscription write to Broadcasting and Information Department, Brunei Darussalam.

Bruneian envoy to New Delhi



Brunei Darussalam's High Commissioner to Malaysia, His Excellency Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Jeluddin bin Pengiran Mohamed Limbang was recently appointed the Sultanate's non-resident High Commissioner to India. Pengiran Dato Paduka Jeluddin was in New Delhi on June 2, 1987 to present his credentials to His Excellency President Giani Zail Singh (left) of India at his official residence.

Japanese gas buyers come to see source

A delegation representing Japanese LNG buyers visited Brunei Darussalam last month for three days beginning June 16, 1987.

The invitation from Brunei LNG Sdn. Bhd was to mark the 2000th LNG cargo shipped from the Sultanate to Japan, which took place last March.

The Japanese delegation comprised the general managers and their assistants of four companies, the Tokyo Electric Power Limited, Tokyo Gas Limited, Osaka Gas Limited and the Mitsubishi Corporation was led by Mr Shiraishi, General Manager of Tokyo Electric Power Limited.

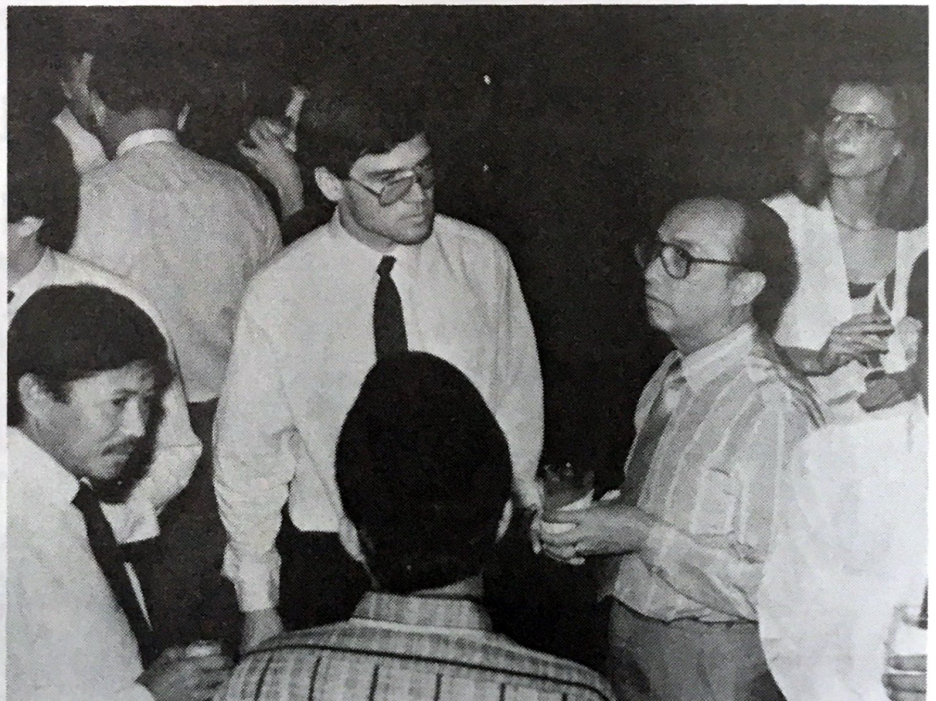
During their stay they paid a courtesy call on Awang Haji Kani bin Haji Mohammad Salleh, the petroleum Unit Director.

They also paid a courtesy on Awang Haji Ahmad bin Dato Matnor, Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office at Nurul Iman Palace.

Promulgation of Basic Law remembered

The embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany last month celebrated the 38th anniversary of the Promulgation of the Basic Law (Constitution) on June 3, 1987.

His Excellency Dr Eckart Cuntz, the Ambassador hosted a reception at his official residence at which the chief guest was Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Mohamed Taib, the Education Minister who represented the government.



His Excellency Dr Eckart Cuntz, (second from left) with Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Abdul Rahman the chief guest, on his left at the reception.

Ensure Summit success

Mr Chairman, as the forthcoming summit draws nearer, I feel that we should remember the 'Declaration of ASEAN Concord' and the 'Treaty of Amity and Cooperation' which were agreed on eleven years ago in Bali. Now is a very appropriate time for the leaders to meet again to give the association the necessary encouragement and guidelines for the years to come. We must work to ensure that the Third Summit, like the previous two, is also a success. We should examine the ideals and programmes of the past two summits and see if they are still relevant today.

Economic Cooperation

Many people have suggested that intra-ASEAN economic cooperation should be the main subject for the forthcoming summit. I am in agreement. We should also consider economic cooperation in relation to our dialogue partners and other countries. We should coordinate and emphasize more our efforts on the question of access to markets, the liberalization of trade and investments.

Fighting Protectionism

The protectionist attitude of the industrialized countries and the

trade confrontation between Japan and the United States are worrying. We should concentrate our energies on lobbying for our goods to enter the markets of the industrialized countries.

ASEAN's future

A further question for the summit is; How can we ensure political stability in the next twenty years and more?

I believe it is important that the summit should ensure that political commitment to ASEAN is passed on to the next generation and beyond. We should come out with a declaration and a comprehensive programme to channel the energies of our youth towards the strengthening of this commitment to ASEAN.

Kampuchea

Mr Chairman, the problem of Kampuchea is still with us. I feel this is an opportune movement to encourage Vietnamese leaders to realize that there is no military solution to the problem. We should assure the Vietnamese that once the problem is resolved, ASEAN will offer its hand of friendship. We should persuade the Soviet Union to use its influence on Vietnam, so that Vietnam can come to the negotiating

table to resolve the Kampuchean conflict.

Refugees

Mr Chairman, the question of Kampuchea brings to the mind also the question of refugees. We know that the influx has been increasing recently. This has not only caused economic problems to the receiving countries but has also created tension among the local inhabitants. We feel that the measures taken by the countries where the refugees originate to control the outflow are inadequate. We, therefore, call on the countries from which the refugees originate to take stronger measures to stop the outflow of refugees.

Pacific peace

We are concerned by recent events in the Pacific. The tranquility and harmony normally associated with the Pacific island countries will become a thing of the past if this region becomes a theatre of rivalry among the various powers. This will not only affect the individual island countries but will also have serious implications on the security, peace and stability of ASEAN. We must develop a common approach to the problem in this region.



HRH Duli Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, Foreign Minister Affairs (left) in Singapore. ASEAN Secretary-General Bruneian Mr Roderick Yong (far right) also attended the meeting.

Message of His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam on Hari Raya Aidilfitri. It was translated from the original Malay.

Assalamu'alikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Allahu Akbar, Walil-la l'ilham.

Praise be to Allah, The Most Exalted, greetings to the Holy Prophet Muhammad Sallallahu Alaihi Wasallam, His companions and followers who are loyal until the end of time.

Thanks to the Almighty that by His grace we were able to complete fasting throughout the month of Ramadan. It's hoped that all the steadfastness and charity we performed during Ramadan will be blessed by Allah and that our devotion to Him will increase from year to year.

I hope that fasting which we practice annually will instill in us awareness and discipline which is needed to fulfil responsibilities with full dedication and honesty for the sake of Allah, I hope what was derived from the fasting will bring about the realisation to all citizens and residents especially Muslims, on the importance of abiding by the rules and regulations set by the authorities as well as to practise the norm. This will ensure on orderly life as a highly civilized and respectable community.

On the eve of the auspicious month of Syawal, I call on the citizens and residents of Negara Brunei Darussalam to learn

lessons from it in enhancing the existing goodwill and the bonds between us because, the will of Allah in turn can guarantee the security of Brunei Darussalam.

On this auspicious day my family and I wish to convey Hari Raya Aidilfitri greetings to all Muslim citizens and residents of Brunei Darussalam. Let us pray to Allah the All-pure and the Almighty that Brunei Darussalam and all within it will always be under his protection and enjoy prosperity.

I once again wish to convey Selamat Hari Raya Greetings.

May Allah give us guidance, peace and may His blessings be with you.

HM: RBAF no place for crooks

The Royal Brunei Armed Forces were given a stern word by His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam in a message to mark its 26th birthday which fell on May 31, 1987.

His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam, who is also the country's Defence Minister, said that there was no place in the RBAF for the likes of criminals or drug addicts.

'The RBAF has matured,' His Majesty said, 'as seen in the reduced dependence on foreign expertise.'

'It is the government's aim to develop and expand the armed forces to become an effective, efficient and credible defence to safeguard the country's security.

To achieve this objective, the RBAF was being equipped with sophisticated and modern equipment coupled with intensive and skills training locally and abroad,' His Majesty added.



Visitors mill around an RBAF helicopter on static display at the exhibition.

The Sultan's message was read by Major General Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Dewa Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Mohammad, the RBAF Chief-of-Staff.

His Majesty who turns 41 this

month called on the men to be disciplined and dedicated.

To mark the anniversary, the RBAF held public exhibitions throughout the country.

Hari Raya Aidilfitri camera reports



Well over 30,000 visitors passed through the Nurul Iman palace gates during the Aidilfitri celebrations. His Majesty Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam, accompanied by his son HRH Prince Al-Muhtadee Billah and His Majesty's brothers, HRH Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wai-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, HRH Paduka Seri Pengiran Bendahara Seri Maharaja Permaisura Pengiran Muda Haji Sufri Bolkiah and HRH Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Jefri Bolkiah received the visitors.



Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha led the ladies of the royal household in receiving Hari Raya greetings from the thousands who called at the Nurul Iman Palace in Bandar Seri Begawan. Her Majesty was accompanied among others, by sisters of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam in receiving guests during the three days that an 'open house' was held at Nurul Iman.



His Majesty also visited the royal mausoleum where he said prayers and sprinkled scented water on the graves of his parents.



These worshippers at the Omar Ali Saifuddin Mosque in Bandar Seri Begawan could not find a place inside, on the first day of the Hari Raya. So they had to be content with offering their morning prayers from the courtyard round the mosque.



His Majesty visited the homes of members of his cabinet. The party that visited the home of Pehin Orang Kaya Ratna Diraja Dato Seri Utama Dr Haji Mohd Zain, the Religious Affairs minister included his brothers and eldest son.

Special palace treat for handicapped children



Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam played host to a party of handicapped children on June 8, 1987. In addition to the usual confectionery and refreshments the children were treated to dances and other stage entertainment. During the Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebrations some 30,000 visitors turned up at the Nurul Izzah Palace bring greetings to Her Royal Highness. The disabled over the country were brought together for the party by the RIPAS hospital playground for the handicapped children and KACA (the National association for handicapped children) of which Her Royal Highness is the patron.



Universiti Sains Malaysia students staged "Melayang ke angkasa" in Bandar Seri Begawan.

'Dont lose it' says M'sian dancing don

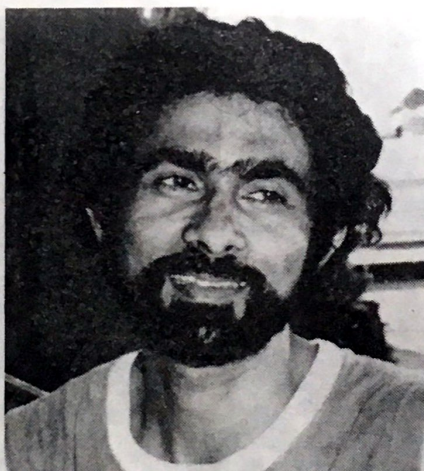
The visiting Director of the Arts Centre at University Sains Malaysia Dr Mohd Ghouse Nasaruddin has urged local exponents of the performing arts to continue to infuse their productions with elements that make them distinctly Bruneian.

Dr Ghouse who was in Bandar Seri Begawan from June 19, 1987 to conduct a workshop on dance and theatre for about 140 actors and dancers said that the Bruneian style with its rich repertoire of idiom and tradition song could be explored more fully.

Accompanying the USM don were some 26 students of the performing arts from Universiti Sains Malaysia. The group had earlier gone on a study tour of Sabah, Malaysia and their trip to the Sultanate was sponsored by the Ministry of Culture Youth and Sports.

While here the visiting performing arts students staged 'Melayang ka angkasa' a production, choreographed by Dr Ghouse and first performed at the Association of Commonwealth Universities Conference held in Malaysia last year.

Dr Ghouse, who himself took part in the dance drama, said that



Dr Mohd Ghouse Nasaruddin

his students had learned much during their tour.

'Training in theatre had a strong element of discipline and the theatre man must be able to adapt and perform under less than ideal conditions. This is one of the things that his students had learned,' he said.

'In addition they had also gained much through discussions with the Bruneian theatre enthusiasts outside the workshop and had found their experience in Brunei Darussalam creatively stimulating,' he added.

M'sian Foreign Minister drops in



His Excellency Datuk Abu Hassan bin Omar.

Malaysia's newly appointed Foreign Minister His Excellency Datuk Abu Hassan bin Omar paid a brief visit to Brunei Darussalam on June 4, 1987.

During his three-hour visit to Bandar Seri Begawan the Malaysian Minister, who took up his cabinet portfolio in May this year, held a 45-minute meeting with His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Mohamed Bolkiah, the Foreign Affairs Minister.

The two foreign ministers discussed bilateral issues including areas of closer cooperation between their two governments.

Among the topics covered were the training of Brunei Darussalam civil service officers in Malaysia and the opportunities for students from the Sultanate to study at Malaysia's institutions of higher learning.

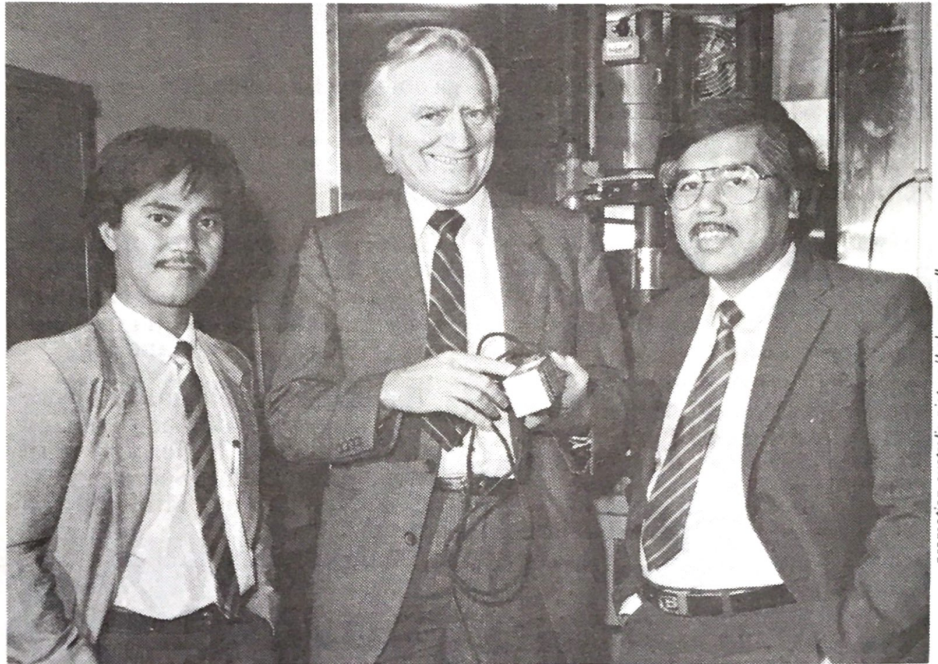
Metrication men checkout Aussie style

Government officials involved in Brunei Darussalam's metrication programme have spent three weeks last May gaining firsthand knowledge of Australia's measurement system at the National Standards Commission in Sydney.

Awang Aliakbar bin Abu Bakar (right) and Awang Mohamad bin Haji Abdul Rahman (left) also discussed plans for the establishment of a standards system in the Sultanate.

Discussions were held with Mr John Birch (centre), Executive Director of the Commission and other specialist advisers to Australia's Metric Conversion Board.

The two Bruneian officers also visited the Weights and Measures Branch of the Queensland State Consumer Affairs Bureau.



promotion australia picture/bob marcoll



promotion australia picture/bob peisley

Bruneian journalists on Australian tour Awang Timbang bin Abu Bakar (right) was among 12 senior ASEAN journalists who took part in an 18-day tour of Australia in April/May this year visiting Darwin, Brisbane, Lismore, Canberra and Sydney. The Australian government-sponsored visit focussed on lifestyle, business and government in Australia. A highlight of the trip was a visit to World Expo '88 headquarters in Brisbane where the visitors were briefed and taken on a tour of the 40-hectare site. Expo '88 will run for six months from April 30. World Expo '88 journalist Ms Maria Menso (second from left) explains some of the features of Expo '88's riverite to a few of the visitors.

ASEAN Sub-Committee on Food Handling meets in BSB

Brunei Darussalam's Development Ministry hosted the 21st meeting of ASEAN Sub-Committee on Food Handling beginning on June 15, 1987.

The four-day meeting was officially opened by Dato Danial bin Haji Hanafiah, Director of the State Agriculture Department.

In his opening speech, Dato Danial said that efforts to fulfill food production in the country, padi planting project areas, livestock, fruit, fisheries and poultry have been planned.

To solve the harvest-related

problems the director suggested that ASEAN member countries could share and exchange information and provide technology training.

During the meeting, the Singapore delegation highly appreciated Australia and EEC for their financial and technical support of projects food handling.

The ASEAN delegations were also guests at a dinner given by Dato Haji Mohd Salleh bin Haji Hidup, Permanent Secretary at the Development Ministry on June 18, 1987.

Brunei Malay in a minute

Each month in the Brunei Darussalam newsletter we introduce readers to common Malay words as used in this country. This month the word selected is **jalama**.

Jalama means people or human beings and the standard Malay equivalent would be *orang* or *manusia*.

Let us use the word **jalama** in a sentence:

Ramai **jalama** menyaksikan perlawanan bola sepak itu.

Many people watched the soccer match.



Royal Brunei moves house in Singapore



His Excellency Dato Paduka Haji Abdullah (second from left) presenting a lucky draw RBA prize ticket during the reception to mark the opening of RBA's new Singapore office.

Royal Brunei Airlines has moved into new offices in the Republic of Singapore.

Brunei Darussalam's High Commissioner to the Republic His Excellency Dato Paduka Haji Abdullah bin Haji Mohd Jaafar officially opened the new premises at the Royal Holiday Inn Shopping Centre on June 5, 1987.

The opening was followed by a

reception that was attended by travel and cargo agents, tourist and related business interests.

RBA's Singapore Manager said 'We started operations here 12 years ago with eight staff including on moving salesman.'

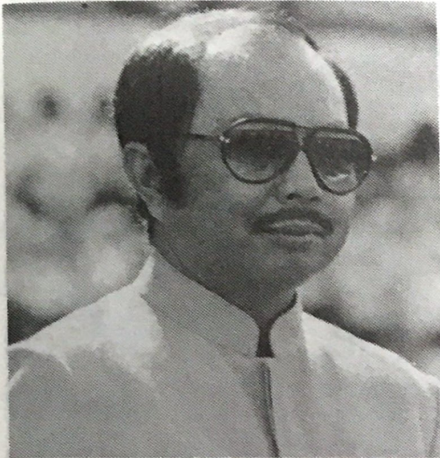
'Now with a new office and 21 on the payroll in Singapore we are set to provide a service to match the best of our competitors in the

market.'

Royal Brunei, founded 12 years ago, has fleet of three Boeing 737's and three 757's. The latter were acquired last year.

The airline's Bandar Seri Begawan-Singapore sector is its most popular while the company also serves Darwin, Hong Kong, Taipei, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Kuching and Kota Kinabalu.

First national sports meet for the handicapped



Dato Paduka Dr Haji Johar, the Minister of Health.

Brunei Darussalam has always given special attention to the handicapped in the country.

Speaking at the opening of the national disable sports meet on June 14, 1987 Dato Paduka Dr Haji Johar the Health and Medical Minister said that the government has long formed projects to assist the handicapped.

Everyone who was identified as disabled, the Minister added, will be put on special education and rehabilitation recovery programmes.

At present there are some 2,800 registered handicapped person in the country, a ratio of one to every 80 normal members the population.



Wheel chair-bound sportsmen 'march past' at the opening of the meeting.

Some 200 disabled included paraplegics, deaf, blind and mentally retarded children took part in the sports meet competing in wheel-chair races, shot-putt, javelin, discus and other field and tracks events.

Early last month two paraplegics arrived in the country sponsored by Australian government. Mr Ian Trehwella and Miss Margo Hodge held a two-day seminar for government Welfare Youth and Sports Department of-

ficials on how to help the disabled.

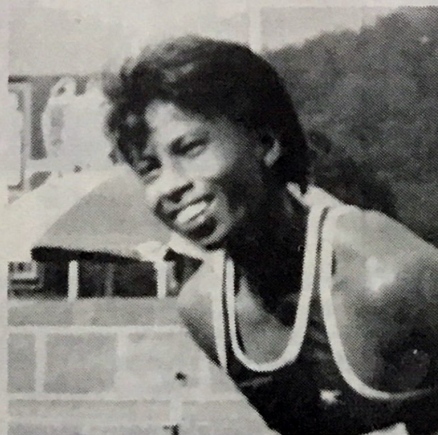
Meanwhile His Excellency Mr John Macartney Starey, the Australian High Commissioner in Brunei Darussalam last month presented two wheel chairs to the Welfare Youth and Sports Department costing \$3000.

Last year the Brunei Darussalam's handicapped athletes bagged two silver medals at the FESPIC Games held in Surakarta, Indonesia.

Your turn

The next issue of the *Brunei Darussalam newsletter* will appear during the first week of August 1987. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel : 02-40527 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. Contributions for our next issue should arrive by July 15, 1987. All editorial rights reserved.

Sultanate's golden boy



Roslan Baha

Schoolboy Roslan Baha bagged two gold medals at the Borneo Games that ended in Kota Kinabalu on June 21, 1987.

Stayer Roslan took the gold for the 5000-metre event and broke both national as well as the Games record for the 3000 metre gold.

At last year's Games the 16-year-old also won two gold medals for the 1500 metres and 5000 metres.

Brunei Darussalam also collected nine bronze medals in the annual sports meet.



Chef's choice and materia medica

This delicate soft-stemmed herb known locally as *penggaga* is a genus of widely distributed creeper belonging to the Umbelliferae family. Its scientific name is *Hydrocotyle Asiatica*.

It has crenate peltate leaves and grows in moist, low-lying, shaded places.

A decoction made from its leaves is said to have therapeutic value for digestive disorders,

diabetes, hypertension and tuberculosis.

Penggaga leaves are also eaten as a salad with a sauce of shrimp paste relish.

It is also can be served as a cooked dish stewed in coconut milk.

Penggaga is not usually planted, nevertheless, its lush growth in the wild provides sufficient supplies for medicinal and culinary purposes.

BRUNEI IN BRIEF

Capital City :	Bandar Seri Begawan
Land size :	5765 sq.km
Population :	222,000 (1985)
Official Language :	Malay
Official Religion :	Islam
May 1987 rainfall :	273.4 mm.
(annual 2,818mm)	

PRIME LENDING RATE

June 6.5%. (quoted by Bankers' Association).

