



COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING (CHOGM)

His Majesty attends Opening Ceremony of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2018



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with other leaders and representatives in a group photograph during the Formal Opening Ceremony of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2018.

LONDON UNITED KINGDOM, April 19 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Formal Opening Ceremony of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2018 which was held at the Buckingham Palace, London.

The arrival of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was greeted by Vice Admiral Tony Johnstone-Burt, Master of the Royal Household, and The Right Honourable Patricia Scotland, Secretary General of the Commonwealth.

His Majesty then proceeded together with other Heads of Government to the Ballroom Hall.

The Formal Opening Ceremony began with welcoming remarks from His Royal Highness Prince Charles, The Prince of Wales followed by remarks from Her Excellency the Right Honourable Theresa May, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland who is also the Chairperson for CHOGM 2018.

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32nd ASEAN Summit

His Majesty attends Opening Ceremony of 32nd ASEAN Summit

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, April 28 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Opening Ceremony of the 32nd ASEAN Summit which was held at the Island Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel, Republic of Singapore.

Upon arrival, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was welcomed by His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore and Chairman of ASEAN, and wife, Madam Ho Ching.

The official opening ceremony commenced with the ASEAN theme song, followed by an opening speech by His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong in honour of ASEAN Heads of State and Government attending to Singapore.

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3. His Majesty receives audiences



5 Initiatives needed to promote prosperity, sustainability and security towards growth and development



6. His Majesty attends Dinner hosted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.



8. Brunei strengthens bilateral cooperation with the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar



9. His Majesty officiates Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy for ASEAN Youth Football Tournament 2018



10. His Majesty graces National Level Israk Mikraj Celebration



13. His Royal Highness, the Crown Prince graces Regional Jungle Warfare Symposium



14. Their Royal Highnesses grace 26th Brunei Age Group Swimming Championships



15. Fulfillment of His Majesty's Personal Gift of Dates trustworthy



16. Forest conservation in limiting greenhouse gas emissions



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His Majesty receives audiences



His Excellency U Cho Htun Aung, outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam, who presented his Letter of Credence to His Majesty on May 21, 2015.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, consented to receive in audience separately from outgoing foreign envoys to Brunei Darussalam. The audience ceremony took place at Istana Nurul Iman on April 16.



His Excellency Cho Won-myung, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam, who presented his Letter of Credence to His Majesty on November 26, 2014.

Her Majesty receives audience



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam consented to receive in audience Ahn Seung-mee, the spouse of His Excellency Cho Won-myung, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam. The ceremony took place at the Istana Nurul Iman on April 16.

His Royal Highness the Crown Prince receives audience

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, received in audience His Excellency Cho Won-myung, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam. The ceremony took place at Qashr Al-Meezaan on April 12.



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah receives audiences

His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah received in audience separately from the outgoing ambassadors of the Republic of Korea and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. The audience ceremony took place at Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan on April 26.



His Excellency Cho Won-myung, outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam.



His Excellency U Cho Htun Aung, outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty sends Congratulatory Message

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented to send a congratulatory message

to His Excellency Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi, the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt on his re-election as the President of the Arab Republic of Egypt on April 3.

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

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This was followed by a speech from Her Excellency the Secretary General of the Commonwealth, a speech from His Excellency the Honourable Joseph Muscat, Prime Minister of Malta as Chairman of CHOGM 2015 and a speech from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, declaring the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2018 officially opened.

After the Ceremony, His Majesty then joined other leaders and representatives for a group photograph.

His Majesty then proceeded to Friary Court, St. James's Palace for the Official Welcome hosted by Her Excellency the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and

Northern Ireland and by Her Excellency the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth.

After the Official Welcome at the Friary Court, His Majesty joined other leaders for the First Executive Session of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting.

The First Executive Session was held at the CHOGM Meeting Room, Lancaster House.

The Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) 2018 is held from April 18 to April 20, 2018. This year's CHOGM, themed 'Towards a more Common Future' will focus on strengthening the Commonwealth institution that is more responsive to global challenges towards the future that is more prosperous, stable, and equitable for the people especially young generations.

Initiatives needed to promote prosperity, sustainability and security towards growth and development



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Executive Session of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, April 19 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to attend the Executive Session of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) held at the CHOGM Meeting Room, Lancaster House.

At the Executive Session, His Majesty in a *titah* (royal speech) stressed on the need for the Commonwealth to pursue initiatives that promote prosperity, sustainability and security towards a common future.

His Majesty in his *titah* believes that promoting trade and addressing trade barriers will help give the people greater opportunities and benefits. His Majesty reaffirmed Brunei's commitment to the multilateral system where trade links can be enhanced for growth and development.

His Majesty then added that Brunei welcomes The Commonwealth Connectivity Agenda, which includes enhancing business activities, with participation by women and youth, as well as giving priority to MSME-friendly measures.

His Majesty in his *titah*, expresses Brunei Darussalam's strong

support to the Commonwealth's efforts in mitigating the adverse effects of climate change, especially the Queen's Commonwealth Canopy (QCC), where best practices and new collaborations can be shared and created for forest conservation, as well as the Secretary General's Blue Charter Initiative. Brunei Darussalam, in this regard, has dedicated three of her forest reserves, which represent 22 percent of the total land area.

In regard to security, His Majesty added that Brunei Darussalam welcomes the Commonwealth's initiative to address new threats and challenges in the form of cybercrime, cyber terrorism and security of data, as well as the increase occurrences of violent extremism. Brunei Darussalam is committed to working with regional and international partners such as the Commonwealth, in order to tackle them.

His Majesty reiterates that such threats should not be attributed to any particular religion, race, nationality or ethnicity.

In tackling the matter, His Majesty strongly believes in the promotion and maintaining of values such as peace, respect, understanding, tolerance and moderation as well as to recognise and respect religious, traditional and cultural variations, and way of life.

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

His Majesty attends Dinner hosted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, April 19 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a dinner hosted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Queen's Dinner for the Heads of Government attending the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM), held at the Buckingham Palace, London.

Upon arrival at the Buckingham Palace, His Majesty was ushered to the Blue Drawing Room and greeted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and His Royal Highness Prince Charles, the Prince of Wales.

His Majesty then proceeded to join other Heads of Government at the Picture Gallery for The Queen's Dinner.

The Dinner began with a speech from Her Excellency the Right Honourable Jacinda Ardern, Prime Minister of New Zealand followed by a speech from His Excellency Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Ado, President of the Republic of Ghana.

This was followed by a Speech from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland whereby Her Majesty welcomed all leaders, special guests and representatives at the event.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland at Her Majesty the Queen's Dinner for the Heads of Government attending the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

CHOGM Retreat Session



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Retreat Session of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).



The atmosphere during the Retreat Session of CHOGM held at the Windsor Castle.

WINDSOR, UNITED KINGDOM, April 20 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended the Retreat Session of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).

The Retreat Session was held at the Windsor Castle, United Kingdom.

Upon arrival at King George IV Gate, Windsor Castle, His Majesty was greeted by Mr. Duncan Dewar, Castle Superintendent.

His Majesty, together with Her Excellency the Right Honourable Theresa May, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Commonwealth Heads of Government, then proceeded to the Waterloo Chamber for the Retreat Session.

The Retreat Session began with a speech by Her Excellency the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, welcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government to the retreat.

During the Retreat Session, His Majesty and other Commonwealth Heads of Government exchanged views on regional and international strategic issues of common interests.

After the Retreat Session, the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting was then officially closed.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam left the United Kingdom after attending CHOGM which was held for three days from the April 18, 2018.

32nd ASEAN Summit

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His Majesty then joined other ASEAN Heads of State and Government for a group photograph session.

After the Opening Ceremony, His Majesty, together with other ASEAN Heads of State and Government, proceeded to the Island Ballroom foyer to view the Smart Nation Showcase.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo with ASEAN leaders during the Opening Ceremony of the 32nd ASEAN Summit held at the Island Ballroom, Shangri-La Hotel, Republic of Singapore.

ASEAN continues to build peaceful and prosperous region

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, April 27 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a *titah* (royal speech) expressed confidence that under Singapore's chairmanship, ASEAN member states will continue to build a peaceful and prosperous region as they have for over the past 50 years.

His Majesty praised the summit's theme, 'Resilience and Innovation' and voiced support for the proposed outcome documents.

His Majesty delivered the *titah* during the Plenary Session of the 32nd ASEAN Summit held at the banquet hall, Istana, in the Republic of Singapore.

His Majesty emphasised two main points during the discussion on the Plenary Session.

In the *titah*, the Monarch called on ASEAN member states to continue to strengthen their cooperation, in which the member states should identify ways that would benefit their peoples and bring more meaning to the ASEAN community.

His Majesty expressed confidence that ASEAN member states are now making intra-ASEAN travel easier for tourists and business people alike. To complement the matter, he said it is timely to explore ways to ensure seamless regional integration in communications.

His Majesty added that this could contribute towards their goal of doubling intra-ASEAN trade by 2025.

His Majesty expressed satisfaction with what the member states have achieved so far to increase the region's competitiveness.

ASEAN member states could further



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Plenary Session of the 32nd ASEAN Summit in the Republic of Singapore.

enhance this by improving their human capital, so that they become more educated, highly skilled and innovative.

The Monarch said that adding such efforts could ensure their people's readiness in adapting to advancements in technology.

His Majesty stressed the need for the ASEAN member states to be prepared for the opportunities and challenges which will affect all pillars of the ASEAN community. Opportunities include better healthcare services, improvements to law enforcement capabilities, greater access to information and the development of cities in the future.

His Majesty cited the potential use of technology to disrupt security, the misuse of personal data and fake news as among

the new challenges to be faced.

His Majesty said such developments would require a coordinated and robust regional response, and thereby called on the ASEAN Secretariat to study and provide recommendations on the implications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution to ASEAN's pillars of cooperation.

In ending the *titah*, His Majesty welcomed the positive outcomes of the Inter-Korea Summit, including their declaration to end war on the Korean Peninsula.

His Majesty also looks forward to the continued dialogue between the parties concerned that will lead to the de-nuclearisation of the peninsula.

32nd ASEAN Summit His Majesty attends working dinner

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, April 27 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Working Dinner hosted by His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore and the Chairman of ASEAN in honour of ASEAN Heads of State and Government attending the 32nd ASEAN Summit.

The Working Dinner was held at the Istana, Republic of Singapore.

Upon arrival at the Reception Room, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was greeted by His Excellency the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore and the Chairman of ASEAN.

His Majesty, together with other ASEAN Heads of State and Government then proceeded to attend the Working Dinner at the State Room.

His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong in his opening remarks at the Working Dinner welcomed all the ASEAN leaders and delegates to the Republic of Singapore.

His Majesty, together with other ASEAN leaders, then attended the Plenary Session of the 32nd ASEAN Summit at the Banquet Hall.

The Plenary session commenced with an opening statement by His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong. This was followed by a statement from His Excellency Dato Paduka Lim Jock Hoi, the Secretary-General of ASEAN.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam being greeted by His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore and Chairman of ASEAN.

Brunei strengthens bilateral cooperation with the Republic of Singapore and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, April 28 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam held separate bilateral meetings with His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore and Chairman of ASEAN, and His Excellency U Win Myint, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

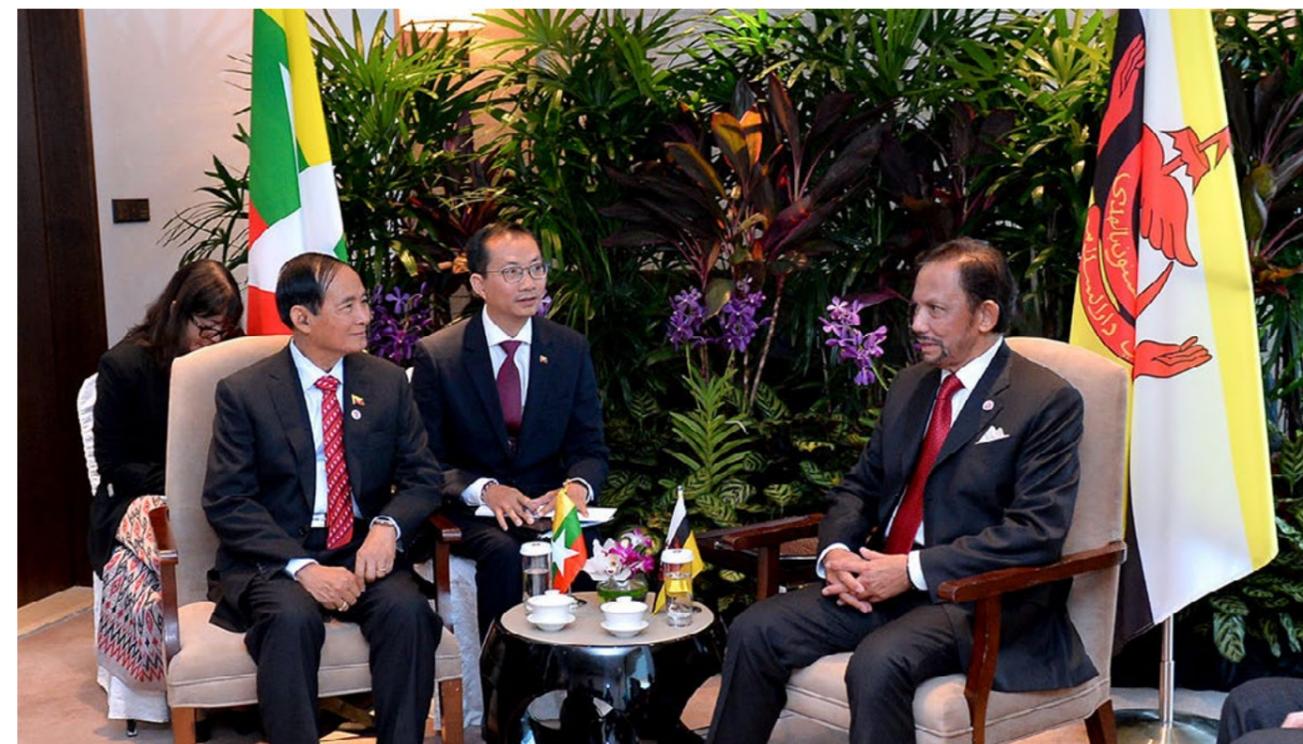
The bilateral meetings were held at Shangri-La Hotel, Republic of Singapore.

Upon arrival at the Azalea 1 Room, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was greeted by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore and Chairman of ASEAN.

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Excellency Lee Hsien Loong, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore and Chairman of ASEAN.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a bilateral meeting with His Excellency U Win Myint, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

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During the bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Singapore and Chairman of ASEAN, His Majesty and His Excellency discussed current issues and exchanged views on regional and international matters of mutual concern including cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Singapore.

Diplomatic relations between

Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Singapore was established in January 1984.

The two countries cooperate extensively in various fields including defence, finance, trade and investment, tourism, health and education, and share long-standing arrangements such as the Currency Interchangeability Agreement.

During the bilateral meeting with the

President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, His Majesty and His Excellency discussed current issues and exchanged views on regional and international matters of mutual concern including cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar.

Diplomatic relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of the Union of Myanmar was established on the 21st of September 1993.

His Majesty officiates Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy for ASEAN Youth Football Tournament 2018

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 23 - Seven countries will start on a mission to grab the Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy for ASEAN Youth Football Tournament 2018 (HBT 2018) at the official Opening Ceremony of HBT 2018 held at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium full of joy with the presence of thousands of citizens and residents together to give support to their favourite teams.

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam placing the HBT ball to mark the launch of the Hassanal Bolkiah Trophy for ASEAN Youth Football Tournament 2018 (HBT 2018).

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The presence of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in officiating the tournament further enlivened the ceremony.

Also present were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah.

Upon arrival, His Majesty and Royal Family members were greeted by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of the National Football Association of Brunei Darussalam (NFABD) as the Advisor of

the Executive Committee of HBT 2018. Also present to greet His Majesty's arrival was Yang Berhormat Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports as well as members of the Executive Committee and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar, Chief of Adat Istiadat Negara.

Following the arrival of His Majesty and Royal Family members, the national anthem was played before His Majesty consented to officiate HBT 2018.

His Majesty was introduced to team managers, coaches and team captains and also presented souvenirs to team managers of the participating nations.

His Majesty then received a *pesambah* (gift) from the HBT 2018 Organising Committee, presented by the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

The event was enlivened by a human LED performance which involved 2,500 participants comprising students from 11 secondary schools as well as government officers and staff.

The Official Launching Ceremony was followed by a Group 'A' match between host, Brunei Darussalam and Timor Leste.

HBT 2018 is jointly organised by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports and NFABD. Seven countries namely Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Timor Leste and Brunei Darussalam are taking part in the championship.

Brunei Darussalam has successfully hosted this prestigious tournament since 2002, followed in 2005, 2007, 2012, and 2014 in which Brunei Darussalam has won this tournament in 2012 and in 2014 was won by Myanmar.

The tournament aims to uphold the *titah* (royal speech) of His Majesty in involving the best teams in the ASEAN Region to compete in the ASEAN or South East Asian Football league as well as to provide exposure and abilities in ASEAN sports to the world.

It also provides opportunities for young players to compete abroad, a network or networking among the participants will be able to set up and create an understanding of different cultures in the ASEAN community.

His Majesty graces National Level Israk Mikraj Celebration



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) during the National Level Israk Mikraj Celebration for 1439 Hijrah.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 14 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to attend the National Level Israk Mikraj Celebration for 1439 Hijrah.

The arrival of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Plenary Hall of the International Convention Centre (ICC) in Berakas, was greeted by Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar, the Chief of Adat Istiadat Negara; Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, the Minister of Religious Affairs (MoRA), in his capacity as Chairman of the Executive Committee for Major Islamic Event Celebrations for the 1439 Hijrah; Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Seri Maharaja Dato Paduka Seri Setia Doctor Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Juned, the State Mufti; Yang Mulia Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Haji Bahrom bin Pengiran Haji Bahar, Deputy Minister of Religious Affairs and other Executive Committee members.

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam touring the Youth Religious Programme exhibition at the National Level Israk Mikraj Celebration for 1439 Hijrah.

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Also in attendance were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

The celebration commenced with the reading of verses of the Al-Quran by Qawiiyyel Azeez bin Haji Abdul Rajid, champion of the National Al-Quran Reading Competition for Mosque Youths 2015, while the translations were recited by Mahdini bin Khamis, Mosque Officer at the Kampong Selangar Mosque, Temburong District.

The Minister of Religious Affairs in his welcoming remarks explained that the National Level Israk Mikraj Celebration theme this year's '*Sembahyang Berjemaah Meraih Berkat*', or 'The Virtues of Praying in Congregation', which means to convey the message and to raise awareness among the public, especially the youth, where MoRA through its departments and divisions organises a number of programmes related to *dakwah* and mosques, such as the Youth Religious Programme Exhibition.

The ceremony continued with the delivery of a *titah* (royal speech) by His Majesty stating that in this country, many mosques have been built and will continue to be built according to the needs and for the convenience of Muslims performing congregational prayers.

"We have also set up the Mosque Construction Fund to give opportunity to the public to jointly contribute towards the development and maintenance of mosques and reinforce the relationship between congregants and mosques," said His Majesty in his *titah* at an event to commemorate the National Level Israk Mikraj Celebration for 1439 Hijrah. The Monarch said the construction and maintenance of mosques is very important, so that they will always be magnificent, safe and comfortable for the worshippers.

"Lessons or practical on congregational prayers have been taught in religious schools in the country. This is considered necessary, not just to make the students understand what a prayer in congregation is but also to make them passionate and Istiqamah to do it," His Majesty said.

His Majesty said in his *titah* that in Arabic and religious schools, congregational prayer is held, either at the surau or the nearby mosque. This is very good to be continued, not only for students but also for parents and guardians who would like to join the prayer.

His Majesty also highlighted in his *titah*, it is desirable for us to enhance our determination to be diligent about mosques and surau to win rewards for performing prayers in congregation.

If we cannot afford to do it all the time at the mosque, at least we need to be committed to pray in congregation with the family at home.

His Majesty said, with the

enhancement of worshipping in congregation, InsyaaAllah our schools, families, children and our country Brunei Darussalam will be blessed.

A special lecture titled '*Sembahyang Berjemaah Meraih Berkat*' was delivered by Doctor Haji Adanan bin Haji Basar, Acting Ra'ees of the Religious Teachers University College of Seri Begawan (KUPU SB).

The celebration also saw a storytelling performance on '*Kisah dan Tauladan dalam Islam*' by youths from Al-Quran and Muqaddam classes of the STKRJ Kampong Lambak Kiri Mosque.

Before leaving the ceremony, His Majesty and Their Royal Highnesses then toured an exhibition on the Youth Religious Programme organised by MoRA which was established to unite youth associations and groups under one entity coordinated by the MoRA to guide the youths in conducting religious activities and monitor their movements and activities as well as to produce creative Muslim individuals.

The exhibition was participated by youth associations and groups registered under the MoRA for 2017-2018, aged 15 to 40 years old.

The exhibition was held to highlight youth groups and to introduce activities conducted by youths throughout the country, especially in religion and to encourage youth to be more active in religious activities as well as to educate the youth to truly adhere to the Islamic teachings.

457 receive Brunei Darussalam Honorary Medals

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 28 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam bestowed State Honorary Medals of Brunei Darussalam to 457 recipients comprising government officials and staff in conjunction with His Majesty's 71st Birthday.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO); presented the honorary medals as the representative of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

Also in attendance was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

The ceremony commenced with the bestowal of the 'Meritorious Service Medals' (*Pingat Jasa Kebaktian* - PJK) to 25 recipients comprising 20 men and five women led by Awang Muhammad Faisal bin Pehin Datu Juragan Laila Royal Colonel (B) Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Kefli from the Prime Minister's Office.

Recipients represented officers and staff of the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism, Ministry of Communications and Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

Meanwhile 338 were bestowed the 'Excellent Service Medal' (*Pingat Indah Kerja Baik* - PIKB) comprising 224 men and 114 women consisting of government officials and staff led by Awang Haji Ibrahim bin Roshimey from the Prime Minister's Office.

The recipients of the PIKB consist of 52 officers and staff of the PMO; 131 of the Ministry of Defence; three of the Ministry of Finance; four of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; 79 of the Ministry of Home Affairs; 34 of the Ministry of Development; seven of the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism and 28 people from the Ministry of Communication.

Two new medals namely the 'Star of Supreme Gallantry Medal' (*Pingat Pahlawan Periwara* - PP) and the 'Distinguished Warrior Star Medal' (*Pingat Asgar Pahlawan* - AP) were also presented at the award ceremony.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; presenting the 'Meritorious Service Medal' (*Pingat Jasa Kebaktian* - PJK) to male recipients.

The recipients were Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) officers from the Ministry of Defence whom have contributed their services and honoured the country's name in the world arena.

The PP recipients comprised of 88 RBAF personnel; 83 men and five women, while the AP Medal were received by six recipients.

To bless the ceremony, a Doa Selamat was recited by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Imam Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Abdul Hamid bin Bakal.

Also present during the ceremony were Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran-Pengiran Cheterias, Cabinet Ministers, members of the Legislative Council, Deputy Ministers, members of Diplomatic Corps, Permanent Secretaries and senior government officials.

Brunei DPMM FC defeats Home United FC



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah witnessing the football match between Brunei DPMM FC and Home United FC.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 7 - Brunei DPMM FC defeating Home United FC by scoring 4-2 in the Singapore Premier League 2018 is hoped to be a good sign in winning as champions just as they did in 2015.

Consented to witness the match and to give support was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim ibni His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah.

Brunei DPMM FC began to rise when Volodymyr Pryiomov, an imported player, scored the first goal in the 13th minute. The first goal was a boost for the Brunei DPMM FC players where two minutes later, another goal was scored by Abdul Aziz Tamit.

The second half of the match started well when a free kick by Volodymyr managed to score in the 54th minute and Mojtaba Mollasaraei managed to score the 4th goal in the 71st minute.

Home United FC finally scored their first goal after three minutes later.

At the end of the game, Shahril Ishak scored the second goal for Home United FC.

His Royal Highness, the Crown Prince graces Regional Jungle Warfare Symposium



His Royal Highness Crown Prince receiving a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) from the delegates taking part in the Regional Jungle Warfare Symposium (RJWS) and participants involved in the Mobile Demonstration, along with the High Commissioner and the Defence Advisor for the countries involved.

TUTONG, April 19 - His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Deputy Sultan and General of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) has consented to witness the Mobile Demonstration: Offensive Action on Jungle Fringe Regional Jungle Warfare Symposium 2018 at the Field Firing Area, Binturan Range, Penanjong Garrison.

Upon arrival at Binturan Firing Range, His Royal Highness was welcomed by Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major

General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, the Second Minister of Defence and Major General Pengiran Dato Seri Pahlawan Aminan bin Pengiran Haji Mahmud, the Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces.

His Royal Highness first visited the Battalion Command Post and listened to a briefing presented by Major Edd Oldfield, the Chief of Staff of the British Forces Brunei (BFB) before proceeding for a photo session.

His Royal Highness then listened to another briefing delivered by Lieutenant

Colonel Pengiran Noor Rumaizi bin Pengiran Othman, the Chief Instructor of Training Institute, RBAF (TI RBAF).

After the briefing, His Royal Highness witnessed a Mobile Demonstration.

His Royal Highness then proceeded to receive a *pesambah* (gift) from the event's co-chairs, the Training Institute of the RBAF and the British Forces Brunei and attended an afternoon tea reception.

Prior to departure, His Royal Highness signed a Royal Parchment and received a *junjung ziarah* (meet and greet) from the delegates taking part in the Regional Jungle Warfare Symposium (RJWS) and participants involved in the Mobile Demonstration, along with the High Commissioner and the Defence Advisor for the countries involved.

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His Royal Highness the Crown Prince graced to witness the 'Mobile Demonstration' which focused on the implementation of offensive operations.



His Royal Highness the Crown Prince listening to the briefing presented by Major Edd Oldfield, the Chief of Staff of the British Forces Brunei.

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This time, one of the highlights of the symposium is to showcase 'Mobile Demonstration' which focused on the implementation of the 'offensive' operations on Jungle Fringe.

Apart from the syndicate discussions and presentations during the Symposium, the mobile live firing demonstration aims to further enhance practical knowledge in countering threats within the jungle as well as its fringes at a tactical level which is in line with this year's theme, 'Countering Current and Future Threats'.

The demonstration is part of the collaborative effort between the Royal Brunei Land Force, Royal Brunei Airforce as well as the Second Battalion of the Royal Gurkha Rifles (2RGR).

Their Royal Highnesses grace 26th Brunei Age Group Swimming Championships

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 22 - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman attended the final day of the 26th Brunei Age Group Swimming Championships held at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Sports Complex Swimming Pool.

Also in attendance were the sons and daughter of His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim; Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda Muhammad Aiman.

Also present was Yang Berhormat Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

On the last day of the championship, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim, representing ISB Hammerheads, competed in the 50 metres butterfly stroke and won third place with a new personal record of 48.55 seconds.

Meanwhile, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah, also representing ISB Hammerheads, once again achieved the fastest in the 50 Meter Backstroke Girls Category, with a time of 59.63 seconds, emerging as the best for the 7 year old age group.

Also at the championship, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee, the Crown Prince consented to presents a medal to Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah.

The 3-day championship was organised by the Brunei Amateur Swimming Association (BASA) with the support of the Youth and Sports Department, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda 'Abdul Muntaqim, Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Anak Muneerah Madhul Bolkiah and Yang Teramat Mulia Pengiran Muda Muhammad Aiman at the 26th Brunei Age Group Swimming Championships.

Fulfill distribution of His Majesty's Personal Gift of Dates trustworthily

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Chairman of the Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Board of Governance, presenting the Personal Gift of Dates from His Majesty to a recipient.



TUNGKU LINK, April 23 - Various measures were taken to ensure that any complaint pertaining to the distribution is handled effectively.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Chairman of the Yayasan Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Board of Governance, in his *sabda* (royal speech) stated that this matter should not be occurring as the total number of dates brought in is based on statistics given by Mukim Penghulus and Village Chiefs through the District Offices.

During the launch of the distribution of the Personal Gift of Dates from His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, His Royal Highness urged all

those who are entrusted to distribute His Majesty's Personal Gift of Dates, whether at a departmental level or by grassroots leaders, especially as the 'front line agent', will always be able to play their role and their duties more effectively and with dedication.

The ceremony was held at Chancellor Hall, University Brunei

Darussalam.

His Royal Highness said, besides performing the obligatory fasting, glorifying the mosque at night by performing the Sunat Tarawikh prayers, multiplying the reading of Al-Quran and enlivening the nights of Ramadhan with Qiyamullail, we are also encouraged to fill the month of Ramadhan with good deeds.

His Royal Highness graces Sultan of Brunei Prize Award Ceremony and Celebratory Dinner



His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen presenting the Sultan of Brunei Prize to His Excellency Doctor Ahmad Mohamed Ali, Founding President of the Islamic Development Bank.

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, April 5 - The son of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen, as the personal representative of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, consented to attend the Sultan of Brunei Prize Award Ceremony and Celebratory Dinner at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, Oxford, United Kingdom on Thursday, the 5th of April, 2018.

Upon arrival at the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, His Royal Highness was greeted by Doctor Farhan Nizami, the Director of Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies and Mr. John Harwood DL, The Vice Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire.

At the Lower Hall His Royal Highness signed for signing the guest book and visited the 'The Exhibition of The Sultan of Brunei Programme' centre.

His Royal Highness then proceeded to the Auditorium for the Sultan of Brunei Prize Award Ceremony.

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The ceremony commenced with the recitation of Al-Quran verses by Doctor Talal Al Azem, Senior Fellow at The Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, followed by a speech by Doctor Farhan Nizami, and the announcement of the recipients of the prize.

His Royal Highness then presented the Sultan of Brunei Prize, firstly to His Excellency Doctor Ahmad Mohamed Ali, Founding President of the Islamic Development Bank as the individual recipient and then to Doctor Zamir Iqbal, Vice President of the Islamic Development Bank as the recipient in the institutional category for the achievement of promoting Islamic Finance respectively.

At the ceremony, His Excellency Doctor Ahmad Mohamed Ali was given the honour of giving a speech followed by Doctor Zamir Iqbal, on behalf of the Islamic Development Bank. The closing remarks were made by Mr. John Harwood DL, The Vice Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen also attended a dinner at the Hall of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies which was also attended by diplomats, city dignitaries, representatives of the City of London and senior members of Oxford University as well as officers from the High Commission of Brunei Darussalam in London.



His Royal Highness graces presenting the Sultan of Brunei Prize to Doctor Zamir Iqbal, Vice President of the Islamic Development Bank.

Forest conservation in limiting greenhouse gas emissions

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, April 12 - His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah attended the event on 'A Celebration of Brunei's Rainforests', held at the Royal Geographical Society in London, United Kingdom.

His Royal Highness was greeted on arrival by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd. Yusof, the Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Awang Haji Mohammad Rosli bin Haji Ibrahim, Permanent Secretary at the Prime Minister's Office; Mr. Alasdair Macleod, Head of Enterprise and Resources at the Royal Geographical Society and Datin Doctor Dayang Hajah Anita Binurul Zahrina binti Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz, Vice Chancellor of Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD).

His Royal Highness was then invited to sign the visitor's book and was presented with a *pesambah* (gift) by Mr. Alasdair Macleod.

His Royal Highness then proceeded to a meet-and-greet and group photograph session with members of the panel presenting on the sustainability and biodiversity of Brunei Darussalam's rainforests before proceeding to the Education Centre at the Royal Geographical Society.

The event commenced with welcoming remarks by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Haji Erywan bin Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Haji Mohd. Yusof, the



His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen delivering a keynote address at the Royal Geographical Society in London, United Kingdom.

Second Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

At the event, His Royal Highness delivered a keynote address on the efforts and contributions of the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in addressing climate change.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen highlighted the importance of forest conservation as an important strategy in limiting greenhouse gas emissions and

the importance of protecting the flora and fauna in the rainforests.

Prior to departure, His Royal Highness watched a video presentation entitled 'Brunei Darussalam: A Biodiversity Hotspot'.

The event on 'A Celebration of Brunei's Rainforests' was hosted by the High Commission of Brunei Darussalam

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in London in association with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Brunei Darussalam and Universiti Brunei Darussalam. The occasion was held to promote Brunei Darussalam's rainforests as an internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot and to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Brunei Rainforest Project.

The Brunei Rainforest Project which is a 14 month project that was conducted in 1991-1992. This project was jointly organised by Universiti Brunei Darussalam and the Royal Geographical Society to survey the undisturbed lowland primary rainforests in the Temburong District, which led to the formation of the Kuala Belalong Field Studies Centre.



His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen during the 'A Celebration of Brunei's Rainforests' event.

Conservation of Sungai Brunei and Kampong Ayer in conjunction with Earth Day



The Minister of Home Affairs, the Minister of Health and the Minister of Development during Earth Day 2018 Celebration and Cleaning Campaign of Sungai Brunei and Kampong Ayer at Taman Mahkota Jubli Emas.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 22 - A Cleaning Campaign of Sungai Brunei and Kampong Ayer organised by Ministry of Development through the Department of Environment, Parks and Recreation (JASTRe), was held at the Taman Mahkota Jubli Emas in conjunction with the Earth Day Celebration 2018.

The campaign was participated by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia Doctor Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong, the Minister of Home Affairs; Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Doctor Awang Haji Md. Isham bin Haji Jaafar, the Minister of Health and Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Awang Haji Suhaimi bin Haji Gafar, the Minister of Development.

Doctor Nor Imtihan binti Haji Abdul Razak, Acting Permanent Secretary (Administration and Finance) at the

Ministry of Development, said in her welcoming speech, Earth Day is celebrated on every 22nd of April throughout the world as a show of appreciation towards the planet, to instill a sense of responsibility and to raise awareness among the public to protect the earth and the environment.

She added that Brunei Darussalam also joined the global community in celebrating Earth Day themed 'End Plastic Pollution', by implementing a number of environmental awareness programmes to raise environmental awareness among the people.

Doctor Nor Imtihan also emphasised the important aspect of cleanliness at Sungai Brunei which is a medium for water transportation and recreation. The locations also have its own history and significant role in improving the country's socio-economy.

She added, one of the pro-active measures and as a convenience for residents of Kampong Ayer, JASTRe has implemented cleaning up work for rubbish collected under houses, schools and other institutions in Kampong Ayer and surrounding areas, including those stranded at the river bank.

She also called on everyone, including private sectors, villagers and local communities, to combine efforts in tackling this problem so that the beloved Brunei Darussalam and the Sungai Brunei would always be kept clean and well-maintained.

The event continued with a demonstration where people used plastic bottles for vertical farming as introduced by the Department of Agriculture and Agrifood, as well as an exhibition on the Sungai Brunei and Kampong Ayer clean-up project that is being actively carried out. This was followed by a cleaning campaign at a number of zones starting at Sungai Kedayan and along the Royal Wharf until the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha Bridge.

Minister of Religious Affairs receives courtesy call

Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, the Minister of Religious Affairs received a courtesy call from Yang Berbahagia Dato Hajah Hanifah Hajar binti Tun Pehin Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud and 34 of Perkim Bahagian Sarawak delegations on April 16.

Also present during the courtesy call was Yang Mulia Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Haji Bahrom bin Pengiran Haji Bahar, Deputy Minister of Religious Affairs; Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Aziz bin Orang Kaya Maharaja Lela Haji Yussof, Permanent Secretary of MoRA and Awang Roslan bin Haji Taja'ah, Deputy Permanent Secretary of MoRA.

The courtesy call was held to strengthen the relations between the two countries and to exchange views and share experiences.

The briefing on management and administration of the Islamic Dakwah Centre was presented by Awang Haji Rajid bin Haji Mohd. Salleh, Acting Director of Islamic Dakwah Centre.

On April 21, Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato

Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, the Minister of Religious Affairs received a courtesy call from Her Excellency Caterina Ventura, the High Commissioner of Canada to Brunei Darussalam.

During the courtesy call, the Minister of Religious Affairs and Her Excellency exchanged views on enhancing bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries, especially in areas of common interest.

Also present during the courtesy call was Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Aziz bin Orang Kaya Maharaja Lela Haji Yussof, the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA); Awang Roslan bin Haji Taja'ah, the Deputy Permanent Secretary of MoRA (Administration and Finance) and Awang Haji Mohd. Seruddin bin Haji Timbang, the Deputy Permanent Secretary of MoRA (Policy and Religious).

Both courtesy calls were held at the Dhifayah Room, Extension Building of Ministry of Religious Affairs (MoRA), Jalan Dewan Majlis.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, Minister of Religious Affairs with Yang Berbahagia Dato Hajah Hanifah Hajar binti Tun Pehin Sri Abdul Taib Mahmud.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, Minister of Religious Affairs with Her Excellency Caterina Ventura, the High Commissioner of Canada to Brunei Darussalam.

Minister of Religious Affairs receives farewell visit

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 19 - Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, Minister of Religious Affairs received a farewell visit by His Excellency Cho Won-myung, outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam.

Also present during the farewell visit were Yang Mulia Pengiran Dato Seri Paduka Haji Bahrom bin Pengiran Haji Bahar, Deputy Minister of Religious Affairs; Awang Roslan bin Haji Taja'ah, Deputy Permanent Secretary of MoRA; Awang Hassan Baha bin Haji Umar, Head of Public Relations Division and Dayang Normassahrol Hafyza binti Ahmad Sah, Acting Head of International Division and MABIMS, Ministry of Religious Affairs (MORA).

During the farewell visit, the Minister and His Excellency lauded the close relations enjoyed by both countries and exchanged views on current issues and matters of common interest.

The Farewell visit held at the Dhifayah Room, Level 5 of the new annex building at MoRA.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, Minister of Religious Affairs with His Excellency Cho Won-myung, outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam.

MINDEF and RBAF attend 16th Edition of Defence Services Asia (DSA) 2018

KUALA LUMPUR, April 17 - The 16th Edition of Defence Services Asia (DSA) 2018 is a prestigious international defence exhibition with participation from over 1,500 companies and 60 countries, held at the newly opened Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC), in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The exhibition showcases the latest updates on defence industry development, technology, products and services in various defence and security fields.

Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, the second Minister of Defence, at the invitation of the Government of Malaysia, attended the exhibition.

The Minister also attended the Putrajaya Forum 2018 which was held in conjunction with DSA 2018. The theme of this year's forum is 'Recalibrating Regional Security Architecture'. The forum was officiated by Yang Amat Berhormat Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib bin Tun Abdul Razak, the Prime Minister of Malaysia.

The forum draws participations comprising policy makers, defence and security agencies, think tanks as well as academicians, to discuss and share knowledge to promote understanding on regional and international defence and security issues.

The Minister called on Yang Berhormat Dato' Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, the Minister of Defence of Malaysia, where both sides discussed strategic regional and global security issues.

Both sides also expressed satisfaction on the close defence relations shared between both countries and discussed future bilateral defence cooperation.

Also in attendance during the visit were Major General Pengiran Dato Seri Pahlawan Aminan bin Pengiran Haji Mahmud, the Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF), His Excellency Dato Paduka Haji Alaihuddin bin Pehin Orang Kaya Digadong Seri Lela Dato Seri Utama Haji Awang Mohd. Taha, the High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam to Malaysia, as well as senior officers from the Ministry of Defence and the Royal Brunei Armed Forces.



Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, the second Minister of Defence with Yang Berhormat Dato' Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, the Minister of Defence of Malaysia.



The Minister of Defence touring the Defence Services Asia (DSA) 2018 exhibition.

Minister of Defence II receives farewell visit by outgoing ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam

BOLKIAH GARRISON, April 18 - Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Retired Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, the Second Minister of Defence received a farewell visit from His Excellency Cho Won-myung, outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam.

During the visit, the Second Minister of Defence highlighted the friendly defence relations between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Korea, where both sides interact regularly through professional exchanges, visits, as well as goodwill ship

visits. Both defence establishments also interact in multilateral forum such as ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus and the Seoul Defence Dialogue.

At the end of the visit, the Second Minister of Defence hoped that the defence relations and cooperation that exist between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Korea will continue to be further strengthened in the years ahead. He also wished His Excellency all the best and great success in his future undertakings.

World Tuberculosis Day 2018



Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Doctor Awang Haji Md. Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health (right), as the Guest of Honour at the World Tuberculosis Day 2018 event held at the Al'Afiah Hall, Ministry of Health.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 3 - The World Health Organization (WHO) has stated that nine million new active TB cases have been diagnosed and about 1.3 million global deaths were caused by TB, including 0.4 million deaths from TB-HIV recorded in 2017.

The matter, among others, was explained by Doctor Hajah Norhayati binti Haji Md. Kassim, Acting Director of the Environmental Health Service, in her welcoming speech at the World Tuberculosis Day 2018, held at the Al'Afiah Hall, Ministry of Health.

She explained that the overall rate of mortality of Tuberculosis

has declined up to three percent annually, while new cases have also dropped up to two percent annually, in which 22 million patients have recovered after undergoing a systematic treatment, which is the Directly-Observed Therapy Short Course, as well as the implementation of the STOP TB strategy, as suggested by the World Health Organization.

Doctor Hajah Norhayati explains that Tuberculosis disease, known as Tibi, is a type of infectious disease caused by bacterial germs called Mycobacterium Tuberculosis which affects the respiratory tract and lungs. According to her, among the factors that can contribute to the increased risk of Tuberculosis disease are malnutrition, congestion and imperfect air circulation. She said, in this country, the number of new cases of Tuberculosis disease in 2017 has dropped to 238 cases with a rate of 56.3 per 100,000 residents in the country compared to the year 2000 where the rate of incidence of this disease was 91.9 per 100,000 residents in the country.

"This amount includes 25 percent of cases of Tuberculosis disease identified among foreign workers residing in the country. Alhamdulillah there were no deaths caused by TB in 2016," she said.

Present as the Guest of Honour at the event was Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Doctor Awang Haji Md. Isham bin Haji Jaafar, the Minister of Health. The event was organised by the Environmental Health Service, Ministry of Health. The main purpose of the event was to raise public awareness of the signs of Tuberculosis disease and health screening for high-risk individuals and to observe regular treatments.

Also present were the members of Legislative Councils, Permanent Secretaries, Deputy Permanent Secretaries and directors.

Handle Non-Communicable Diseases more effectively and integratively

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 7 - Medical and health services provided by the Government of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam can be obtained through four hospitals in each district; 14 Health Centres, three Health Clinics, 17 Mother and Child Clinics, three Mobile Services Clinics and two Flying Medical Service Clinics, which clearly shows the government's efforts to bring health services to the citizens and residents of the country.

The overall statistics shows that the total of patients visiting the Basic Health Care Service in the last three years has decreased to 350,000 - 40,000 patients a year.

The statistics show that there has been a slight decrease in patient attendance, due to the introduction of the Self-Certified Sick Leave in 2016 and the Appointment System at Health Centres.

Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Doctor Awang Haji Md. Isham bin Haji Jaafar, the Minister of Health, emphasised the matter in a speech delivered at the World Health Day Celebration 2018 held at

Al'Afiah Hall, Ministry of Health.

However, he said, the number of patient visiting the Chronic Diseases Clinic, those who had cases of Non-Communicable Diseases such as Diabetes, hypertension or high blood pressure and high cholesterol have increased from more than 69 thousand in 2015 to almost 77 thousand in 2017.

"This clearly shows that the growing burden on non-communicable diseases in the country needs to be addressed in a more effective and an integrated manner," he said.

Aside from the growing burden of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), new infectious diseases, even the re-emergence of old infectious diseases, also threaten the stability of a country's healthcare services.

In addition, he said, the rapid development of medical and health technologies along with increasingly knowledgeable and informative population also pose additional challenges.

The Minister of Health emphasises that this diversity of challenges requires us to make new approaches that are more efficient, proactive, innovative and

rewarding to overcome it, as well as setup and preparation in the face of any situation.

"The Government of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam as we are well aware, makes it of high importance that the healthcare of the citizens and residents in this country which is seen as a priceless investment in generating the well-being of the people and the nation's development towards becoming more productive and resilient," he added.

The Minister of Health also emphasised the importance of implementing a Whole of Nation Approach in health care by calling on stakeholders, including government and non-government agencies, grassroots leaders and all individuals from all walks of life in the country to cooperate and provide solid support, to engage actively and to equally promote health, especially in the practice of healthy living, and appreciate the services available, and to use them properly.

Brunei inks MoU with Japan on healthcare services

TOKYO, Japan, April 14 - Brunei Darussalam signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in healthcare in Tokyo, Japan.

Signing on behalf of the Government of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Doctor Haji Mohd. Isham bin Jaafar, the Minister of Health and signing on behalf of His Excellency Katsunobu Kato, the Minister of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan.

The MoU covered the development of human resource by providing training in healthcare services; exchange and sharing of information and experience on the basis and healthcare system; introduction to the latest treatment in the medical and pharmaceutical fields; and medical tools and exchange of information on its regulations and other matters of mutual agreement.

Also present Kamilah binti Haji Mohd. Hanifah, the Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to Japan and Doctor Haji Zulaidi bin Haji Abdul Latif, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Professional) at the Ministry of Health.



Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Doctor Haji Mohd. Isham bin Jaafar, the Minister of Health, signing on behalf of the Government of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

382 receive Retirement Certificates

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, April 4 - A total of 382 officers and staff who retired in October 2015 to December 2017, including the officers and employees of the Department of Energy and Industry were celebrated at the Retirement Certificate Presentation Ceremony held at the Banquet Hall of the Prime Minister's Office.

Present as guest of honour to present the certificates and token of appreciation was Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Abdul Mokti bin Haji Mohd Daud, the Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.

Also present was Dato Paduka Seri Haji Mohd. Jammy bin Haji Muhd Shah Al-Islam, The Commissioner of Police.

Awang Mohd Riza bin Dato Paduka Haji Mohd Yunos, Permanent Secretary at the Prime Minister's Office who is also the Chairman of the event said, the ceremony was a show of appreciation to the retired officers and staff for their service and contribution towards efficient government services including upholding the initiative towards Wawasan Brunei 2035.

He added that in order to strengthen the country's socio-economic stability, the government requires solid support from its citizens and residents.

He said, this is in line with His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei



Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Abdul Mokti bin Haji Mohd Daud, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office presenting a certificate to one of the officers and staff who retired in October 2015 to December 2017, including the officers and employees of the Department of Energy and Industry.

Darussalam's *titah* (royal speech) during the opening of the first meeting of the 14th Session of the Legislative Council for this year which highlighted that the nation must consolidate its resources towards the growth of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

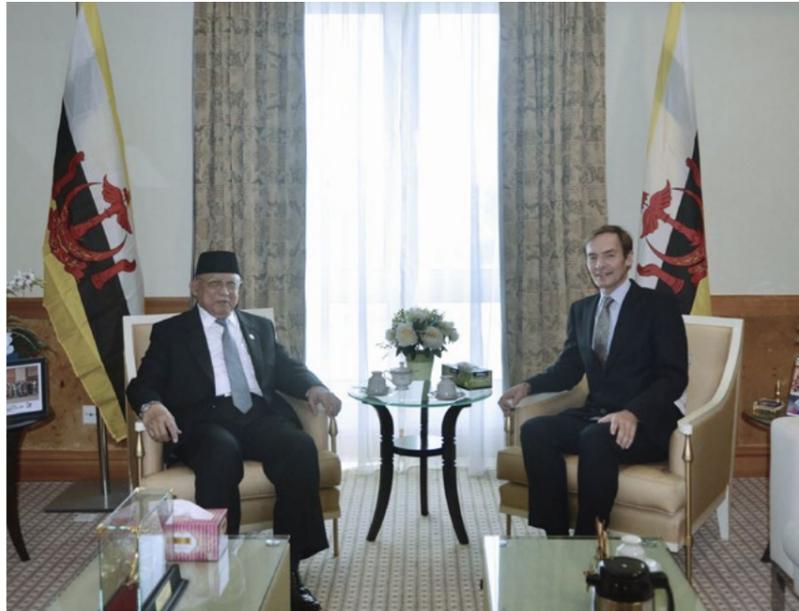
In line with the theme 'Majlis Bakti Biskita Dikenang', the ceremony was held in honour of the officers and personnel

who had devoted their time and energy throughout their tenure in the public service, especially towards the Prime Minister's Office and its departments.

Attending the event were Permanent Secretaries, Deputy Permanent Secretaries, Heads of Department as well as officers and personnel of the Prime Minister's Office and its departments.

Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) receives courtesy calls

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Abdul Mokti bin Haji Mohd. Daud, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) received a courtesy call from:



His Excellency Mehmet Suat Akgun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey to Brunei Darussalam on April 18.



His Excellency Datuk Ghulam Jelani bin Khanizaman, the High Commissioner of Malaysia to Brunei Darussalam on April 10.



Her Excellency Caterina Ventura, the High Commissioner of Canada to Brunei Darussalam on April 10.



His Excellency Motohiko Kato, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to Brunei Darussalam on April 11.



His Excellency Lim Hong Huai, High Commissioner of the Republic of Singapore to Brunei Darussalam on April 11.

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His Excellency Mehmet Suat Akgun, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkey to Brunei Darussalam on April 18.



Her Excellency Yang Jian, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam on April 18.

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The courtesy calls were held at the Office of the Minister at the PMO, PMO Building.



His Excellency Cho Won-myung, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam on April 18.

UTB responsible for producing STEM graduates

TUNGKU LINK, April 12 – In an era where economies are increasingly shifting from resource-based to knowledge-based, quality of education is of prime importance.

Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Awang Haji Hamzah bin Haji Sulaiman, the Minister of Education, said that Universiti Teknologi Brunei (UTB) as one of the leading engineering, science and technology universities in the country, has a major role to play in producing highly skilled graduates in the domains of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, or STEM.

"STEM graduates can drive the economic growth of a nation," stated the Minister as Guest of Honour at the official launching of the Crown Prince CIPTA Award 2019 competition at The Empire Hotel & Country Club.

The Minister said, at the moment, we need more students with 'STEAM' background to enter higher education institutions.

The alphabet 'A' in STEAM stands for Art. Incorporating art into STEM can strengthen learning and problem-solving capabilities and encourage students to think outside the box.

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Yang Berhormat Dato Paduka Awang Haji Hamzah bin Haji Sulaiman, the Minister of Education as guest of honour during touring the exhibition.

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He added that, in the context of CIPTA, a system of support can be created so that any idea that has commercialisation potential can be IP-protected and developed further to the point that it can be marketed.

While Professor Doctor Hajah Zohrah binti Haji Sulaiman, the Vice-Chancellor of UTB and Chairperson of the CIPTA 2019 Executive Committee in her welcoming

speech said, the competition is a platform for talented individuals to make the creation and innovation of the latest high-quality products that can contribute towards the betterment of society and economic growth.

She said, the theme for this year's CIPTA Award 'Industry 4.0: Convergence of Innovation', is based on mega trends, which is the fourth industrial revolution.

CIPTA was organised by UTB in

partnership with Brunei LNG Sdn Bhd as the sponsor, where it is held every two years since it was founded in 2005.

The CIPTA Award 2019 competition has three main categories, namely Local Categories, Smart Junior Competition and Asean Categories.

The competition is open to all schools, technical and tertiary academic institutions, government and private organisations and the general public.

Launching Ceremony of 'INTEGRATED NATIONAL EDUCATION INFORMATION SYSTEM' (iNEIS™) and iNEIS™ Mobile Attendance Application



Acting Permanent Secretary Dr. Haji Azman bin Ahmad during the launching.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, May 29 - A ceremony to launch the 'INTEGRATED NATIONAL EDUCATION INFORMATION SYSTEM (iNEIS™) AND iNEIS™ MOBILE ATTENDANCE APPLICATION' was held this afternoon at Dewan Utama Jabatan Perkembangan Kurikulum, Ministry of Education.

The launching ceremony was organised by the Department of Information and Communication and Technology, Ministry of Education.

Present as the Guest of Honour was Yang Mulia Dr Haji Azman bin Ahmad, Acting Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education.

The ceremony began with the recitation of Surah Al-Fatihah and a welcoming speech by the Chairperson of the Launching Ceremony, Yang Mulia Dr. Habibah Binti Haji Sion, Acting Director of Information and Communication and Technology.

The purpose of iNEIS™ is to streamline and transform the Ministry of Education business processes to support its current needs to implement, monitor and measure SPN 21 as well as improving its operational functions. With the implementation of iNEIS™, the Ministry aims to significantly improve operational visibility, efficiency and productivity, and provide better services to schools and Ministry stakeholders.

In the course of the project implementation, Project Steering Committee was updated of the overall status of the project on a monthly basis. With experienced project management, change management, subject matter experts, technical specialists, the Project Management Committee worked collaboratively, intuitively and strategically to manage and drive this project forward with strong momentum and determination.

As of 5th January 2015, iNEIS™ achieved "Go-Live" status for 161 Primary schools and Secondary schools under the Ministry of Education across all districts.

To date, there are around five thousand school teachers being selected and attended various types of training and workshop sessions. Selected best

practices and processes have been adopted and being made to become an on-going schedule running simultaneously with systems in real-time. iNEIS™ Helpdesk service and Online Portal have been set up at Ministry of Education as a central support and resolution frontline for iNEIS™ users from Ministry and Schools.

A team consists of Ministry personnel and technical resources have been tasked to manage and maintain the system with scheduled activities and regular service reports. Over the years, the system has been fine-tuned and now extended to include mobile access channel with specific processes being pioneered and deployed as mobile application for iNEIS™.

During the launch, a video clip showed invited guests and school leaders the benefits of using iNEIS™ and its new initiative of the launching of its mobile attendance application.

Also in attendance were the Head of Departments, School Leaders from all government primary schools, Head of Clusters, officers from the Department of Information and Communication and Technology.



Yang Mulia Dr. Habibah Binti Haji Sion, Acting Director of Information and Communication and Technology, giving her welcoming speech.