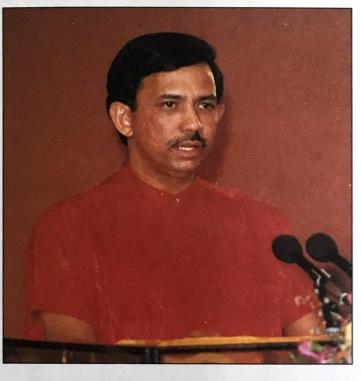


PRUNE! DARUSSALAM

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JANUARY 1989



His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah addressing the nation from the Istana Nurul Iman.

Brunei recognises independent Palestine State

• see story on page 2

Cabinet reshuffled to enhance development

H is Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, announced a reshuffle of the Cabinet on November 30, with the new appointments taking effect from 1st January, 1989.

The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, who made the announcement on television, said the reshuffle was necessary to boost the country's development, especially in the field of industrialisation as well as to increase the production of primary resources.

Towards this end, His Majesty created the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources and appointed Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman, who was Development Minister from 1984 to 1986 and Education Minister from 1986 to 1988, to the new Portfolio.

Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Rahman's ministry is responsible for the departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and the Industrial Unit, which were previously under the Development Ministry.

His Majesty appointed Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Aziz as Education Minister. Pehin Dato Haji Abdul Aziz was the Communication Minister prior to this, and Education and Health Minister from 1984 to 1986.

Taking over as Communcation Minister is Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Zakaria, who was previously the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

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Cabinet

reshuffled

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Dato Haji Zakaria has been replaced at the Foreign Affairs Ministry by Dato Paduka Awang Haji Ali, the Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, while Dato Paduka Awang Haji Selamat has been moved from the Development Ministry, where he was Deputy Development Minister, to the Culture, Youth and Sports Ministry to take over from Dato Haji Ali.

In his announcement, HM Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah also said that he hoped the reshuffle would further enhance the quality of service and make smooth the administrative machinery with the aim of creating an efficient, clean, honest and trustworthy government.



Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Zakaria, the new Communication Minister.

Embassy marks King's birthday



HRH Prince Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah (right) and His Excellency Mr Somchit Insingha, (third from left).

The Royal Thai Embassy celebrated the 61st birthday of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej with a reception at the Stadium Negara Hassanal Bolkiah on December 5.

His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, the Minister of Finance, represented the Government. The reception, which was hosted by the Thai Ambassador to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Mr Somchit Insingha, was also attended by members of the diplomatic community and senior government officials.

There are more than 5,000 Thai residing in Brunei Darussalam, and most of them are in the construction industry.

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Brunei Darussalam welcomes and extends her recognition to the new independent State of Palestine.

This was conveyed to the world by Dato Seri Laila Jasa Awang Haji Zakaria bin Dato Mahawangsa Awang Haji Sulaiman, the Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister, in a speech at the special session of the 43rd United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in Geneva on December 14.

The Deputy Minister said the

recent Palestine National Council (PNC) decision in Algiers must be taken seriously as it has been overwhelmingly endorsed by the international community and constitutes a realistic approach for a peaceful solution to the problem.

He continues: "The declaration of an independent Palestinian State is perhaps the most important step in the direction of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. The world has a moral obligation and a duty to give the PLO a chance. We welcome and extend our recognition to the new independent State of Palestine".

Dato Haji Zakaria said the Palestinians must be given a permanent home of their own as promised by UNGA in 1947.

"Israel and its allies must realize that the problem of Palestine can be resolved only by peaceful means; 40 years of fighting has more than proved that and as Chairman Arafat and the PNC have shown," he added.

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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.

Below is the English translation of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah's announcement on the Cabinet reshuffle, which was telecast on November 30.

In my speech announcing the cabinet reshuffle more than two years ago, in October 1986, I said that the state administrative structure would be improved and refined from time to time in accordance with the situation and the country's needs.

In line with my earnest wish to smoothen the Government administration and also to intensify the development efforts, including the field of industry, and to increase the production of primary resources, particularly in the fields of agriculture, forestry, fisheries and the like, proper and wellorganised measures and planning in the fields I have mentioned need activation and the responsibility for them is further put in order. Efforts towards this are not only required in the short term but also vital to have specific planning in the long term. In view of this, it is timely that a minor change is made in the existing government administrative structure.

In this connection, I wish to establish a new ministry that will oversee some of the government departments under the Ministry of Development.

The new ministry I mean is: the MINISTRY OF IN-DUSTRY AND PRIMARY RESOURCES, which will handle the departments of:

Agriculture; Fisheries; Forestry; and Industrial Unit.

In order to fill the new post, I am pleased to appoint Yang

Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman bin Dato Setia Haji Awang Mohamed Taib, who currently holds the Education portfolio, the MINISTER OF IN-DUSTRY AND PRIMARY RESOURCES.

With this change, the Development Ministry will continue to oversee the following departments:

Public Works; Electrical Services; Housing Development; Town and Country Planning; Land; Survey; and Construction Planning and Research Unit.

The present Minister of Development, Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Laila Jasa Dr. Haji Ismail bin Pengiran Haji Damit, continues to hold the post of MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT.

As for the post of MINISTER OF EDUCATION, I am pleased that the post is to be filled by Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Wijaya Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Aziz bin Begawan Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Umar, who is currently the Communications Minister.

Following the transfer of the two ministers, I wish to appoint a new Minister of Communications.

I am pleased to appoint Dato Seri Laila Jasa Haji Awang Zakaria bin Datu Mahawangsa Haji Awang Sulaiman, who now holds the post of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, MINISTER OF COMMUNICA-TIONS.

To fill the post of Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, I am pleased to transfer Dato Paduka Haji Awang Ali bin Haji Mohd. Daud, currently Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, to the Foreign Affairs Ministry to take over as DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. And Dato Paduka Haji Awang Selamat bin Haji Munap, currently the Deputy Minister of Development, to the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, to become DEPUTY MINISTER OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS.

These changes will take effect as from early next year, on 1st January, 1989 and from the said date, the structure of the Ministeries in my Government will be as follows:

Prime Minister's Department; Ministry of Defence; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Ministry of Finance; Ministry of Home Affairs; Ministry of Education; Ministry of Law; Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources; Ministry of Religious Affairs; Ministry of Development; Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports; Ministry of Health; and Ministry of Communications.

It is my hope that these changes will further enhance the quality of service and smoothen the administrative machinery in my Government, the objective of which is to have an efficient, clean, honest and trustworthy administration for the benefit and prosperity of Brunei Darussalam and the well-being of its nationals and residents, God Willing.

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Brunei Darussalam, he said, hailed the Algiers Declaration as a historic document for peace because it provides a realistic and attainable alternative that can ensure peace and stability in the region.

He reiterated Brunei Darussalam's support for the convening of the international conference where all the parties involved, including the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, should be allowed to participate on equal footing.

The Deputy Minister pointed out that the recent statement by the PLO leadership in Stockholm and the historic address by Chairman Arafat to the assembly, recognising Israel and renouncing terrorism in all its forms, have shown beyond doubt the PLO's sincerity.

"By addressing the two fundamental problems, the PLO uniterally removes the main obstacles to peace in the Middle East," he stressed.

Dato Haji Zakaria said the world community must continue to put pressure on Israel to accept the path of peace through negotiation and not through force.

Health Minister: Be vigilant for AIDS

E very person in Brunei Darussalam must always be on the alert and make every effort to prevent AIDS from spreading into the country.

The advice came from the Minister of Health, Dato Paduka Dr. Haji Johar bin Dato Paduka Haji Noordin, at the launching of an exhibition on AIDS to mark the World AIDS Day on December 1.

The minister said the Sultanate involvement in observing the World AIDS Day was not aimed at highlighting or paying special attention to the problem of AIDS in Brunei, as it is not a problem at present.

However, he said: "The AIDS situation, which has affected other countries and can spread rapidly, has always posed a threat and no particular nation should feel safe from it."

Dato Dr. Haji Johar pointed out that AIDS infection was caused by people who exposed themselves to those suffering from the disease through sexual contact, sharing unsterilised needles or receiving blood transfusion contaminated with the AIDS virus.

The minister assured that in Brunei all blood transfusions are carried out in accordance with safe practices, which are free from the AIDS virus.

He added that in the absence of a vaccine or cure for AIDS, informing and educating the people about the killer disease and how it could be contracted were the most important weapons to fight against it.



Dato Dr. Haji Johar looking at the exhibition on AIDS.

The week-long exhibition, which was held at the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha Hospital in the capital, among other things, highlighted the worldwide AIDS situation and some of educational materials produced by other countries, including those from ASEAN.

Brunei Darussalam was among the 166 nations who responded to the call of the World Health Organisation to observe the World AIDS Day, which bore the theme "Let's Talk About AIDS".

Apart from the exhibition on AIDS, the Ministry of Health initiated various programmes, including publicity and information, opinion poll on AIDS, essay and poster competitions as well as a seminar on AIDS.

Seminar discusses reportage of ethnic issues

M ore than thirty media practitioners and academicians from the ASEAN countries, India dan Sri Lanka took part in a seminar on Media, Ethnicity and National Unity held in Kuala Lumpur from December 1 to 3.

The seminar, organised by the Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) Malaysia and the Singapore-based Asian Mass Communication Research and Information Centre, discussed country reports presented by Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka, Malaysia and the Philippines.

Brunei Darussalam, the only participant with no ethnic problems, was chairman of a session on 'Debate in society, scholarly and professional publications on media coverage of ethnic issues'; and a panelist in another session on 'Legal and statutory restrictions on ethnic reporting'.

Following the various discussions of the issues involved and exchanging of ideas on ethnic reportage, the seminar recognised that: ethnic conflicts can be a serious threat to national unity as well as regional peace; efforts are required to resolve ethnic problems continuously and peacefully; and the government, the media, the academe and nongovernment organisations are expected to lead in the efforts.

In consequence, the seminar made several recommendations, including suggestions for journalists and other media practitioners to follow in order to improve their knowledge and coverage of ethnic issues.

Statement by His Excellency Dato Haji Zakaria bin Haji Sulaiman, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam at 43rd United Nations General Assembly at Geneva on "Question of Palestine"

Mr President,

I join other speakers who spoke before me to commend Mr. Yasser Arafat for his important and enlightening address before this assembly yesterday. He offered a unique opportunity for peace. His impassioned plea should not be left unweeded.

We meet here in Geneva under a rather unfortunate circumstances. In the normal course of events, this debate would be held in the United Nations Headquarters in New York. It is unfortunate that the United States has refused the visa application of the chairman of the PLO. Chairman Arafat is the key to the debate on the question of Palestine because he represents the people of Palestine, the people most concerned in this matter. The refusal to grant him a visa is a clear violation of the headquarters agreement signed between the United States and the United Nations. This is not a healthy precedent. If such a decision is repeated, the United Nations cannot properly carry out its functions and will lose its effectiveness as a world body.

Brunei Darussalam has always given firm support to the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. We feel that it is crucial that the PLO must be heard and allowed to participate in the debate on this question. Yesterday's address Mr Arafat has proved us right.

The Question of Palestine has been on the agenda of the United Nations General Assembly since 1947 - almost as old as the United Nations itself, a gentle reminder perhaps of how urgent this problem has became. However recently, we see the best chance of resolving this problem when the leaders of the Palestinian people took the bold step of accepting unsecurity council resolutions 242 and 338. We welcome this courageous step. It is a step in the right direction. The leaders of the people of Palestine have shown that they can be flexible. They have expressed a genuine desire for peace. Peace which have eluded them for so long. They have gone a long way in their search for peace. They have even gone to the extent of giving up some of their basic principles. However, it is disappointing and regrettable

that this good and noble intentionthis genuine offer for peace was met with scepticism. Instead of responding favourably, Israel has chosen the path of confrontation. Instead, Israel chose to strengthen its grips on both Gaza and the West Bank. She has failed to match the bold step towards peace taken by the PLO.

The decision of the Palestine National Council (PNC) taken in Algiers recently must be taken seriously. It has been endorsed overwhelmingly by the International Community. It constitutes a realistic approach for a peaceful solution to the problem. The declaration of an independent Palestinian State is perhaps the most important step in the direction of a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. The world has a moral obligation and a duty to give the PLO a chance. We welcome and extend our recognition to the new independent state of Palestine. The Palestinians must be given a permanent home of their own as promised by this August body in 1947. Israel and its allies must realize that the problem of Palestine can be resolved only by peaceful means; 40 years of fighting has more than proved that and as Chairman Arafat and the PNC have shown.

Mr President,

We hailed the Algiers Declaration. It is a historic document for peace. It provides a realistic and attainable alternative which can ensure peace and stability in this region. My delegation supports the convening of the International conference where all the parties involved including the PLO should be allowed to participate on equal footing. We see that this is the only way to resolve the problem. Israel must have realised by now that the use of force cannot resolve this problem. It has tried for forty long years. The price has been heavy on both sides. Her actions to suppress the Intifada, the heroic uprising of the people of Palestine in the oc-cupied territories, have not only triggered more anger but have sustained their efforts to fight this aggression. The continued killing of innocent civilians women and children have not dampened the spirit of the people of Palestine. If anything it has aroused and strengthened their resolve and desire to continue to fight for their inalienable rights to a homeland.

Within the context of the UN, my delegation noted that "the committee on the exercise of the inalienable rights of the Palesti-nian people" has made a number of recommendations specifically designed to enable the Palestinian people to attain and exercise its rights in Palestine, including its appeal to the security council to take approriate action in convening the international peace conference. I wish to put on record my delegation's sincere appreciation to its chairperson, Her Excellency Ambassador Absa Claude Diallo of Senegal as well as its other members for their untiring efforts in carrying out the task mandated to them by the General Assembly.

Mr President.

The 43rd session of General Assembly started in September with optimism that the 'outbreak of peace' in many regions augurs well for the future-a future for peace. Let us keep this momentum. My delegation calls on all members to put pressure on Israel to accept the peace proposal so genuinely offered by the PLO. This is a unique opportunity and Israel cannot afford to miss it. There may not be another chance in the future.

The recent statement by PLO Leadership at Stockholm and the historic address by Chairman Arafat to this assembly yesterday on the recognition of Israel and the renounciation of terrorism in all its forms have shown beyond doubt the sincerity of the PLO. By addressing the two fundamental problems, the PLO unilaterally removes the mains obstacles to peace in the Middle East. This is a giant step, a positive step in the peace process. But the fundamental question is to restore the dignity and the rightful land to the Palestinian people and let them decide their own future in their own state of Palestine. The world community must continue to put pressure on Israel to accept the path of peace through negotiation and not through force. There can be no other way. It is our mandated obligation-to seek a peaceful solution to all problems. In this respect, Brunei Darussalam joins others in calling upon all members of the United Nations to continue to work and formulate tangible and meaningful steps to achieve this objective.

Thank you.

Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha has urged students to work harder in order to attain a higher standard of education.

Her Majesty was speaking before she officially declared open the new secondary school, which was been named after her, at Kampong Birau in the Tutong District on November 24.

Her Majesty said it is in line with the nation's needs to have more people with higher education to enable the country to implement the required development.

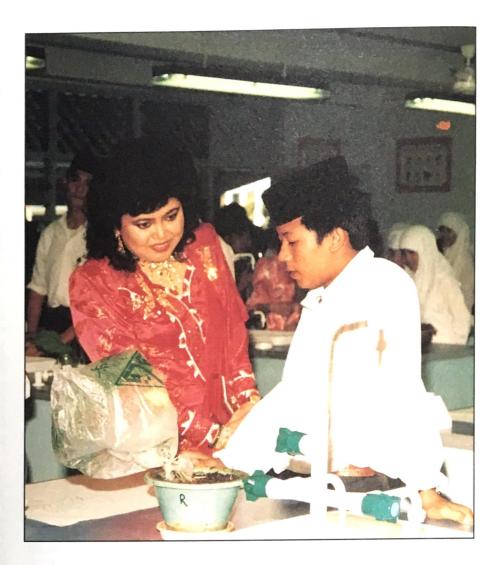
Her Majesty reminded students in the country that they are very lucky because the Government provides free education at local as well as overseas institutions.

After the ceremony, Her Majesty was shown around the school and viewed the display depicting various student activities.

The school, the work on which began in 1985, has room for more than 500 Form One to Form Five students at a time.

Located about 32 km from Bandar Seri Begawan, it has 30 classrooms, a science laboratory, a language laboratory, a domestic science room, a woodwork workshop, an ironsmith workshop, a computer-room, audio-visiual-aids, an administration block, a staff room, a hall and a library.

Among those present was Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman, the Education Minister.



Her Majesty the Raja Isteri takes a close look at a science project at the science laboratory.

Brunei needs more people with higher education



The Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha Secondary School

Students urged to take advantage of free education

S tudents have been urged to take advantage of the free education, which enables them to further their studies overseas provided by His Majesty's Government.

The call was made by Her Royal Highness Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam before declaring open the Serasa Secondary School, which has been named for her, on December 5.

Her Royal Highness added that students should not blame any parties if they failed in their studies.

Her Royal Highness also reminded teachers that they are responsible for helping and teaching the students to become useful citizens, who are dedicated to society and country.

Work on the school, which is sited on a 9.6-ha piece of land,



Her Royal Highness (right) tours the exhibition

started in 1983 and completed in mid-1985.

The school, which can accommodate 800 students, has audiovisual-aids, a woodwork

workshop, domestic science room, an art and handicraft room, a science and language laboratory, an administration office, a library and a hall, among other things.



The Pengiran Isteri Hajjah Mariam Secondary School

APAA meeting

A SEAN should introduce brokers telegraph system, inter-ASEAN bulk pool system, point to point shipping services, and the establishment and strengthening of freight booking and cargo consolidation centres as these things, to a greater or lesser extent, affect the ports.

Dato Paduka Awang Haji Ahmad, the Ministry of Communication Permanent Secretary, suggested these issues at the opening of the 14th. Meeting of the ASEAN Port Authorities Association (APAA) held at the Islamic Dakwah Centre in Bandar Seri Begawan on December 6.



Dato Paduka Awang Haji Ahmad

The Permanent Secretary said he was sure that APAA would benefit from these issues, which were among those agreed at the 3rd. ASEAN Summit Meeting of the Heads of Government in Manila in December 1987.

The APAA three-day meeting was held at the Brunei Arts and Handicrafts Training Centre in the capital after the official opening ceremony.

This year Brunei Darussalam, which was the venue for the 7th. APAA Working Committee Meeting in August 1986, became host for the first time to the APAA plenary meeting.

The association had made numerous efforts to increase cooperation among the ASEAN port authorities and to improve their standards during the past 13 years.

Important roles of science, technology



The Development Minister at the Science Week project presentation.

A part from the stability, economy and financial security of the country, science and technology play an important role in the nation's development.

Pengiran Dato Seri Laila Jasa Dr Haji Ismail, the Development Minister, stated this when he opened Science Week '88 held at the Duli Pengiran Muda Al-Muhtadee Billah College on December 9.

The minister went on to underline the roles to be played by science and techonology in the country's economic development. These include the creation of value-added products from raw material; the introduction of new efficient and productive techniques such as in the field of biotechnology, tissue-culture, hydrophonic and so on; inventing new technology through pure or applied research for commercial purposes; and upgrading the ability and efficiency of manufacturing process.

The minister described the efforts made by the Brunei Association for Science Education (BASE) as a positive contribution to attract, interest, guide and encourage more local people to become scientists and technologists in future.

Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand also took part in Science Week '88, which was BASE's annual project and sponsored by Brunei Shell.

Science Week, whose activities included a science project presentation, a quiz and camping, attracted about 300 students from primary, secondary and tertiary institutions.

It aimed to get more students involved in doing scientific research and activities in the hope that this would stimulate their imigination and creative ability.

Seminar on how to manage coastal area

Sustainable and environmentally sound socio-economic development principles are going to be the government guideline for developing and managing the coastal area in the Sultanate.

Dato Paduka Haji Ibrahim, the Commissioner of the Town and Country Planning Department, was speaking at the opening of a two-day seminar on Coastal Area Management in the capital on November 29.

The policy development seminar, organised by the Ministry of Development, aimed to identify critical problems affecting the State's coastal environment and to find ways to overcome these problems.

It also helped development planners to draw up environmentally sustainable plans for the development of coastal resources in Brunei Darussalam.

About 30 officials and consultants attended the seminar, which was conducted by three experts from the Lanka Hydraulic Institute of Sri Lanka.

Brunei Darussalam declared malaria free



Dr. Hen, a WHO representative, present the certificate to Dato Dr. Haji Johan

A bout one million people, mostly from developing countries, die from malaria every year.

The figure was disclosed by Dato Paduka Dr. Haji Johar, the Health Minister, at a ceremony held at the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha Hospital in Bandar Seri Begawan on December 17 to declare Brunei Darussalam a

malaria-free area.

Dr. Haji Johar added that in eight years from 1927 until 1935 about 4,030 malaria cases were reported in the State.

The early stage of the Malaria Eradication Project (MEP) in the country started in 1962 with the assistance of the World Health Organisation (WHO), and in 1966, the Government decided to undertake MEP as one of the projects under the Five-Year Development Plan.

The minister said since 1971, there have been no indigenous malaria cases reported in the country.

Dr. Haji Johar received a certificate from Dr. S.T.Han, a WHO representative, to mark that Brunei Darussalam has been officially declared free from malaria.

Dr. Han, in his address, said the a chievement of Brunei Darussalam is highly commendable, and a valuable example for other countries or areas where malaria still exists.

Brunei Darussalam has been officially registered in the WHO Register of malaria-free areas since August 1987.



The Malaria Eradication Project was also carried out in the rural areas with the help of the army. Picture shows the MEP team during the early 70s.

Another student sponsorship deal



Mr King Holford (left) signing the deal witnessed by Awang Haji Mustafa (right).

The Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (HSBC) is the latest to undertake the joint student sponsorship scheme with the Institute Technology Brunei (ITB).

An agreement was signed between ITB and HSBC by Awang Haji Mustafa bin Abu Bakar, the ITB Director, and Mr King Holford, the HSBC Manager, in Bandar Seri Begawan on December 1.

The sponsorship scheme is for two-undergraduates in the HND Business and Finance faculty of ITB. As part of the course, the undergraduates will spend a sixmonth industrial attachment programme with the bank.

So far four undergraduates of the same faculty have benefitted from similar grants given by Yaohan Brunei and the Standard Chartered Bank.

Brunei Malay in a minute

Each month we introduce readers to common Brunei Malay words as used in the State. This month the word selected is kikik.

Kikik, layang-layang in standard Malay, is kite in English. In Brunei, the frame of kikik is made from processed stem of the tall, thin bamboo called 'temiang'. The frame, which comes in many shapes, is covered with thin coloured paper.

'Main kikik' or kite-flying is a popular traditional game and pastime among the people of Brunei Darussalam.

Let us use the word kikik in a sentence:

Peraduan main kikik diadakan setiap tahun di Daerah Brunei dan Muara sempena perayaan hari keputeraan Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Baginda Sultan dan Yang Di-Pertuan Negara Brunei Darussalam.

Kite-flying competition is held every year in the Brunei and Muara District in conjunction with His Majesty the Sultan's birthday celebrations.



More books for LLB



His Excellency Mr. Anwar ul-Alam presenting the books to Awang Haji Ahmad.

The Bangladesh High Commissioner (BHC) presented 77 books in the English language to the Language and Literature Bureau (LLB) in Bandar Seri Begawan on December 14 as part of the celebrations to mark Bangladesh's 17th Victory Day.

The books, under 69 titles, were previously published in the Bangladeshi language and include 15 volumes on the Bangladesh Liberation War.

They were handed over to the LLB Director, Awang Haji Ahmad bin Kadi, by the Acting Bangladesh High Commissioner, His Excellency Mr Anwar ul-Alam.

In 1987, the BHC donated to the LLB 50 books in English on Bangladeshi literature, history and the Islamic religion.

Mindef team won badminton tourney



His Majesty receiving the trophy from Pehin Dato Haji Hussain

H is Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah led the Defence Ministry team to victory and clinched the overall championship trophy in the First VIP Badminton Championship held at the Istana Nurul Izzah recreation hall at Jerudong outside the capital on December 6.

The final saw the Ministry of

Defence team edged the Ministry of Development team to second place after very exciting matches.

In the men's doubles all five titles were won by His Majesty's team.

The tournament, which started last September, was organised by

the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports. It attracted 16 teams of VIP from all ministries, state dignitaries, Royal Flight, and the Diplomatic Corps.

Winners received their trophies from Pehin Jawatan Luar Pekerma Raja Dato Seri Paduka Haji Awang Hussain, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

RBA appoints another GSA

Your turn

The next issue of the Brunei Darussalam newsletter will appear during the second week of February 1989. If there are events relating to our country you would like featured in this newsletter please call us on Tel: 02-25941 or better still, send us a report with a picture, if possible. Contributions for our next issue should arrive by January 20, 1989. All editorial rights reserved.



The RBA Managing-Director (second from left) and Mr. Willy Kremer signing the agreement.

The Royal Brunei Airlines (RBA) has appointed Willy Kremer & Partner GMBH as its General Sales Agents (GSA) in the Federal Republic of Germany with effect from December 1, 1988.

Pengiran Tengah bin Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Metassim, the RBA Managing Director, signed the agreement on November 29.

With that, Royal Brunei now has a total of 41 offices, including GSAs overseas.



A lovely spot at the Sungai Liang Arboretum

An arboretum to cool you off

When you are tired of the sun and seaside you can always go into the forest to cool off. One such place is the Sungai Liang Arboretum, located just off the Labi road in the Belait District. The 6.8-ha arboretum, set up and maintained by the Forestry Department, has been opened to the public since 1970. Among the amenities provided there, are several huts with ponds, jogging tracks, and wooden bridges. For those who are not interested in picnicking or a dip, the arboretum, has plenty of tree-lined paths to walk along. With a bit of luck they will see, besides the tall trees, some other aspects of wildlife, including rare birds, a wide range of plants and a variety of insects. For the academically inclined visitors, the arboretum with its coolness, tranquility and verdant surroundings, is an ideal place to conduct a research and other educational pursuits. It is open all the year round, and there is no entrance fee to pay. In addition, there are no restrictions for visitors to make use of all the and there is no entrance fee to pay. In addition, there are no restrictions for visitors to make use of all the facilities available.

BRUNEI IN BRIEF

Capital City: Bandar Seri Begawan 5765 sq.km Land size: 226,000 (1986) Population: Official Language: Malay Official Religion: Islam

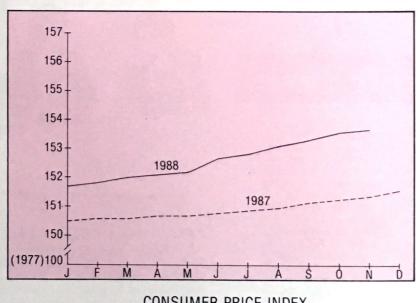
486.2 mm.

(annual 2,818mm)

PRIME LENDING RATE

January 6.25%. (quoted by Bankers' Association).

November 1988 rainfall:



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX