



# بروني دارالسلام

## BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

newsletter

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# A nation celebrates



FULL REPORT + ROYAL SPEECH P2 + P3 + P7, NATIONAL DAY IN FOCUS P8 + P9



# Government will work to meet expectations of the people — HM.

**T**he nineteen-nineties — the decade approaching the twenty-first century, is predicted to be a decade of progress and improvement of life for the people of many countries around the world.

And the ideological race which had characterised international relations during the previous decade, is expected to change into an economic race.

These views were expressed by His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in his titah (royal address) telecast nationwide in conjunction with the country's sixth National Day anniversary on Friday, 23 February.

In Southeast Asia, security will be more stable making it possible for greater economic growth to take place.

All these give hope to the people of this region to enjoy improved wellbeing.

Brunei Darussalam, said His Majesty, shares the same interest towards security.

"We are of the same view as our partners in ASEAN that the security of the region begins with the stability of the countries within the group. Thus, the nation-building and progress which we have undertaken for our benefit from the beginning, had been

aimed at preserving the national stability. In this way, we are helping to bring about the security and stability of the region," His Majesty explained.

For Brunei Darussalam, said His Majesty, I see the 1990's as a decade full of challenges towards fulfilling the expectations of citizens and the people for a better life".

His Majesty pointed out that the government's ability to plan and implement new development programmes and at to maintain the already-existing services in the fields of medical and health, and education as well as in other social fields would depend on the national income and the smooth-running of the government administration.

In face of this, appropriate steps will be continued in conserving government spendings and in improving the quality of administration.

I wish to emphasise that the curbing of government expenditures will not affect projects which are of direct benefit to the people. Budgets for such projects will continue to be allocated," His Majesty assured.

The Brunei ruler has earlier said that Brunei Darussalam was celebrating its sixth National Day on a firm footing with its people enjoying peaceful existence.

All this, he said, was due to our sincere efforts towards achieving our goals and in upholding the interests of our country.

"Our independence is clear to the world. We are recognised by all nations. We are capable to shoulder our international responsibility."

"And more importantly, we have an effective government which is able to conduct the country and protect and lead its people towards wellbeing," His Majesty further said.

With such capability, we can continue to further develop aspects of nationhood and in doing so, we can identify our genuine long-term interests, not just mere aspirations or short-term desire.

His Majesty expressed his appreciation for the support given by the people to the government.

The Sultan outlined the challenges facing the country during this decade. They include meeting the needs of the people and citizens in housing.

This, said the Brunei ruler, covers the provisions of pleasant environments. In addition to this are facilities for communication, recreation, mosques and schools as well as medical and health centres.

In this respect, the present housing schemes will be widened with the intention of speeding-up completion of houses already planned, and draw-up new programmes which can meet the housing needs within a reasonable frame of time.

In the social fields which involves youth, the challenges facing us will be to ensure that our youths have a strong commitment towards the country.

"Steps taken in providing them with formal education should be followed up by other continuous

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programmes. We are well aware of the role of youths in the future." His Majesty the Sultan said.

He added that as dynamic young people, they have certain expectation and hopes about the future of the country.

"It is therefore vital that steps be taken to coordinate such expectation and hopes for the benefit of the country as a whole."

In facing the era of independence, it is natural, too, for the people to hope for improved

quality of wellbeing and for a more assured future.

"The government on its part will untiringly make every effort to carry out its responsibility in leading and conduct the nation with greater care," His Majesty further assured.

Nonetheless, the people must realise the problems faced by the government.

It is important for us to face these problems together and find the solutions, said His Majesty.

The Brunei ruler said unity is another important aspect in achieving the goals of nation-building.

"I am pleased that unity among the people had helped the government, in particular in its efforts to preserve peace".

What we need now is a more solid unity and to do this, we need to give due attention to effective communication, His Majesty said.

## Sixth National Day anniversary celebrated in colourful splendours

**T**hey came in their thousands to celebrate Brunei Darussalam's sixth year of independence.

The young and not-so-young braved the heat to revel in the blazing sun to join in a colourful National Day tribute at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium, which was almost packed to capacity on Friday, 23 February.

Some 16,000 people from various ministries, uniformed organisations, schools and colleges as well as from the private sector took part in a two-hour extravaganza of colourful displays watched from the royal stand by His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and his three brothers, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Perdana Wazir Sahibul Himmah Wal-Waqar Pengiran Muda Haji Mohammed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Bendahara Seri Maharaja Permaisura Pengiran Muda Haji Sufri Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, cabinet ministers, cheterias, foreign diplomats and a host of other Brunei dignitaries and thousands more spectators who thronged the nearly 40,000 seat stadium.

Many thousands more watched the colourful display in their homes via live telecast by courtesy of Radio Televisyen Brunei.

Held under the auspices of Ministry of Communication, the

celebration highlighted through the various presentations and performances the theme that "Effective Communication Strengthens Unity."

The participants and spectators began assembling in the stadium at dawn for the celebration.

The arrival of His Majesty accompanied by his brothers was followed shortly afterwards with the reading of a pledge of loyalty by the participants and spectators while a segment of the participants formed the pattern of the words "taat setia" which means "loyalty."

From then onwards, the participants thrilled the spectators with a colourful display of patterns symbolising among other things, Brunei values of love and loyalty to the country, religion and monarch as well as symbolising the country's goals in nation-building.

Among other displays, they formed the patterns of a keris (small dagger) *dastar* (Malay traditional headwear) and a star which together symbolise Brunei Darussalam as a Malay Muslim Monarchy and the pattern of a computer and all its components to symbolise Brunei Darussalam as a progressive developing nation.

The two-hour long displays culminated in a grand finale which saw thousands of multi-coloured balloons being released into the air accompanied by trails of colourful smokes as cannons roared a twenty-one gun salute.

With the excitement and euphoria of the sixth National Day anniversary festival well behind, the country now settles down for the seventh year of independence - driving hard to achieve its nationbuilding goals.

## World leaders convey greetings to HM Sultan on Brunei Darussalam's Sixth National Day

**M**essages of congratulations from world leaders have poured in on the occasion of Brunei Darussalam's sixth National Day.

His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei

Darussalam received messages from Their Majesties and Excellencies the Yang Dipertuan Agong of Malaysia, Sultan Qaboos bin Said of the Sultanate of Oman,

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# HM the Sultan condemns 'evil' elements trying to jeopardise national unity

**H**is Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has strongly criticised certain elements which are trying to turn the people hostile towards the government and its leaders.

His Majesty said these undesirable elements are not happy to see the achievements and progress made in the develop-

"Their aim is purely to make the people antagonistic towards the government and leaders in the government," the Sultan added.

The Brunei ruler urged his subjects and people of Brunei Darussalam not to be influenced by such elements.

Falling prey to these elements would be of no benefit to anyone and it would weaken the unity and spirit of cooperation between the

people and the government, and jeopardise the political, economic and social stability of the country.

His Majesty expressed confidence that the people were not easily swayed by such treachery, because they are well aware of the truth that efforts carried out by the government and actions taken the leaders in the government in running the administrative machinery are in accordance with Islamic teachings and guidelines.

"But the people and citizens of this country must be alert against activities such as those I have mentioned and cooperate by reporting to the authorities any suspicious activity aimed at threatening the security and stability of the country," His Majesty further urged.

His Majesty the Sultan also devoted a part of his address to the young generation, urging them to read, study and understand the Koran and to adhere to its teachings in particular with regards to the formation of moral characters and avoidance of anti-social activities.

His Majesty also announced a scheme aimed at encouraging excellence in the standard of Koran reading.

Brunei representatives who emerge among the top three winners at International Koran Reading competition will receive incentives in the form of cash prizes.

The Ministry of Religious Affairs disclosed later that a Brunei Darussalam representative winning first place in International Competitions would receive \$10,000; first runner-up \$7,000; and a third place win would bring for the representative \$4,000.

The winners of this year's National-level competition, Awang Haji Mohd. Yusof bin Abu Bakar (men's section) and Dayang Hajjah Jamilah binti Haji Abdul Manaf will represent Brunei Darussalam at the forthcoming annual International Koran Reading Championship in Kuala Lumpur, at which competitors from throughout the Muslim world will also be participating.



His Majesty the Sultan presenting prizes to Awang Haji Mohd. Yusof bin Abu Bakar, who beat three other men to emerge champion of the National Koran Reading Competition recently.

ments of the country as well as with the political and economic stability which exist in Brunei Darussalam.

The Brunei ruler voiced his condemnation in an address shortly before he presented prizes to the participants of the annual National-level Koran Reading Championship, which was held for two days at the International Convention Center starting January 30.

"Driven by jealousy and frustration of not achieving a certain purpose, these elements try to undermine the support and confidence of the people towards the government and its leaders by spreading leaflets filled with false information and propaganda," His Majesty said.



Dayang Hajjah Jamilah binti Haji Abdul Manaf was adjudged the best among the women readers.



## Brunei-Singapore special ties

# HM Sultan urges expansion of Brunei-Singapore cooperation

The Republic of Singapore rolled out the red carpet on 12 February in a special welcome for His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha at the start of their three-day state visit to the island republic.

At a banquet hosted by the Singapore President, His Excellency Mr. Wee Kim Wee in honour of the royal visit, His Majesty the Sultan spoke of the special relationship Brunei Darussalam has with Singapore, both of which are members of ASEAN.

This special relationship, pointed His Majesty, has been mutually beneficial to both countries, fostering understanding and cooperation.

"It is my sincere hope that the level and scope of existing cooperation will be further strengthened and widened in the years to come, particularly in the fields of industry and investments."

"We very much welcome investors and industrialists from Singapore to invest in Brunei Darussalam and contribute to the success of our industrialisation programmes," the Sultan said.

Brunei Darussalam is currently in the midst of a major drive to diversify its economy for which, among other things, it is actively promoting foreign investments in the country to accelerate the diversification efforts.

His Majesty outlined some of the existing areas of cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore which include defence, aviation, training of officials, expert services and also in ASEAN and international forums, and he said apart from being mutually beneficial, such cooperation has also contributed to the stability of the region.

His Majesty pointed out that the relationship between Brunei



The leaders of two close neighbours exchange honours. His Excellency President Wee Kim Wee bestowed Singapore's highest honour — the Order of the Temasek, first class as well as the republic's highest military honour — The Distinguished Service Order (Military) upon His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during a ceremony at the president's residence, Istana Negara. The Brunei monarch in return bestowed upon the Singapore Head of State Brunei Darussalam's highest honour — The Darjah Kerabat Laila Utama, first class at the same ceremony. More pictures of royal visit to Singapore on pages 12 and 13.

Darussalam and Singapore had been established since the fifties by his late father, Almarhum Sultan Haji Omar Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew, and later continued and further deepened between Mr. Lee and His Majesty himself.

"It is my earnest wish that this visit will further consolidate and strengthen the special relationship between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore which was nurtured by the older leaders and I am confident will be continued by the new-generation leaders in both countries," His Majesty remarked.

The Sultan also noted that in the efforts to continue and strengthen

the existing relationship, the present ministers and government officials of both countries have warm and close personal contacts with each other.

"Brunei Darussalam will always welcome the visits by ministers and senior officials from Singapore."

His Majesty commended Mr. Lee Kuan Yew for his dynamic leadership and the diligence of the people of Singapore for their achievements.

His Majesty said the splendid achievements of Singapore in the fields of economy, industry and developments have made it a model state in the region and many aspire to emulate its success.



# Brunei prosperous and respected under Sultan's wise leadership

**B**runei Darussalam has prospered and become a respected member of the international community under the wise leadership of His Majesty the Sultan, the Singapore President, His Excellency Mr. Wee Kim Wee has said.

Speaking during a banquet he gave at Istana Negara in honour of the state visit to Singapore of Their Majesties the Sultan and Raja Isteri, President Wee said, "the people of Brunei Darussalam enjoy political stability and economic development and Your Majesty's concern of the people has been felt by all, from urban Kampong Ayer to rural Temburong."

He noted that the Brunei monarch has built up a strong foundation for a modern Monarchy, one which is proud of its cultural and historical roots, and with a clear vision of a modern future.

The Singapore leader also touched on the close ties between Brunei Darussalam and Singapore, which he said are based on trust and common interest.

He expressed the hope that the 1990s would see that the spirit of friendship, cooperation and understanding between the two ASEAN neighbours would be even stronger.

The Singapore leader said His Majesty's visit marked the culmination of a well-established series of exchanges.

Being the smallest in Southeast Asia, Brunei Darussalam and Singapore have much in common, remarked Mr. Wee.

He went on to say that with momentous changes in the global geopolitical scene which will certainly affect the region, the two countries can also help each other to ride "the tide of uncertainties."

And by sharing a common commitment to ASEAN, Brunei Darussalam and Singapore, President Wee pointed out, must

continue to work together to ensure that ASEAN continues to be a dynamic institution adapting to the demands of a rapidly changing world.

He said ASEAN provided a sound and stable framework for peace and stability so that we can cooperate with each other for mutual advantage.

## Their Majesties the Sultan and Raja Isteri on action-packed schedule

**T**heir Majesties the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Raja Isteri had an action-packed itinerary during their visit to Singapore.

Arriving at the Changi International Airport, the Brunei royal couple was met by the Singapore Trade and Industry Minister, Brig. General (Res) Lee Hsien Loong and a long line of Singapore officials.

Their Majesties were driven in a motorcade to Istana Negara where a full red carpet and full ceremonial welcome awaited them.

Before His Majesty inspected a guard of honour mounted by men of the Republic of Singapore Armed Forces at the Istana ground, the royal couple was introduced to a long line of Singapore dignitaries by the country's president, His Excellency Mr. Wee Kim Wee and his wife.

The VIPs included Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and members of the Singapore Cabinet and Parliament, foreign diplomats and business leaders.

After the formal welcome, His Majesty and Her Majesty went on separate schedule. For His Majesty, it included a visit to the Singapore Airforce base at Paya Lebar, where he heard a briefing on the Airforce and its training programme. His Majesty also took part on a flight on board the EC Hawkeye Reconnaissance aircraft and piloted it for 20 minutes. His Majesty was also given a tour of the air combat simulator.

His Majesty, who is also Defence Minister, showed a par-

ticularly keen interest in the latest technology in air defence. Military cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Singapore goes as far back as ten years ago, with a bilateral arrangement allowing Brunei military personnel to be trained in the Republic. At the same time, Singapore Armed Forces personnel use the remote areas of Brunei for jungle training.

His Majesty later heard a briefing on the Singapore navy. While on board the RSS Valour, the missile corvette, His Majesty saw its capability in sea combat.

His Majesty also went to the Jurong Town Corporation, Singapore's largest industrial estate. The Corporation is responsible for the development and management of Industrial estates in Singapore. His Majesty also visited the Asian Aerospace '90 show, widely regarded as the world's third most important after Paris and Britain's Farnborough.

His Majesty was also conferred Singapore's highest state award, the Order of Temasek First Class, and its highest military award, the Distinguished Service Order (Military) by President Wee. In turn, His Majesty conferred Brunei's highest state award, the Darjah Kerabat Laila Utama (DK), First Class, normally given to members of the royal family and dignitaries, to President Wee and Prime Minister Lee. The awards, symbolising the close relationship between the leaders, were exchanged during separate occasions.



His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, the Finance Minister, also received the Order of Nila Utama, First Class.

Her Majesty had an equally tight schedule. She visited the Rosyth School, the Botanic Garden, where an orchid was named after her, the Singapore Zoological Garden and the Risis Factory.

Their Majesties' delegation included the Finance Minister, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah, Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Masna, Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Puteri Hajjah Norain, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz, Grand Chamberlain, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Maharaja Lela Sahibul Kahar Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Yusof, the Special Adviser to His Majesty at the Prime Minister's Office and the Home Affairs Minister, Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia Bakti Diraja Dato Laila Utama Haji Awang Isa and Datin and the Deputy Defence Minister, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Sanggamara Diraja Major General Pengiran Haji Ibnu.

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Queen Koningin Beatrix of the Netherlands, Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al-Nahayyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Rashid bin Saad Al-Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, Most Reverend Sir Paul Reeves, Governor-General of New Zealand, the Honourable Bill Hayden, A.C., Governor-General of Australia, V. Ringadoo, Governor-General of Mauritius, the Honourable Margaret Thatcher, the British Prime Minister, President George Bush of the United States of America, President Soeharto of Indonesia, President Corazon Aquino of the Philippines, President Wee Kim Wee of Singapore, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, Prime Minister of Singapore, President R. Venkataranam of India, Pakistan's President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and Pakistan's Prime Minister, Mrs. Benazir Bhutto, President Hussain Mohammad Ershad of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, President Maumoon Gayoom of the Republic of

Maldives, President Ali Abdullah Saleh of the Arab Republic of Yemen, President Hosny Mubarak of the Arab Republic of Egypt, President Chadli Benjadid of the Republic of Algeria, President Turgut Ozal of Turkey, President Saddam Hussein of the Republic of Iraq, President Hafez Al-Assad of Syria, President R. Premadasa of Sri Lanka, President George Vassiliou of Cyprus, Sheikh Jabar Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait, King Birendra Bir Birkham Shah of Nepal, King Juan Carlos I of Spain, King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachey, President of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic, President Arnold Koller of Switzerland, President Petar Mladenov of Bulgaria, Mr. Javier Perez De Cuellar, Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Right-Honourable R.J. Hnatyshyn, Governor-General of Canada, the Right-Honourable Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir Mohammad, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, King Boudouin of Belgium, President Censu Tabone of the Republic of Malta.

## Brunei Darussalam speaks of its hopes as the OIC celebrates its 20th anniversary

**B**runei Darussalam hopes that the organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) will continue to serve the interests of the Islamic ummah and contribute to the attainment of their welfare and prosperity.

In commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the OIC, Brunei Darussalam joins all Islamic countries in leading its support to the OIC in the pursuance of its noble objectives.

As a member of the organisation, Brunei Darussalam has participated in the annual meeting since 1984. In keeping with the principle directed towards the preservation of the Islamic cultural heritage, Brunei Darussalam also successfully organised the international

seminar on 'Islamic civilization in the Malay world' held in Bandar Seri Begawan in June 1989.

The OIC was established in 1970 with the aim of promoting Islamic solidarity by establishing a framework within which much vital economic, social, cultural and scientific cooperation could take place and through which consultations among member states could be conducted both within the OIC itself and also in other international organisations.

In addition, the OIC undertook to promote a number of measures in support of International peace, security and justice. It sought to create a suitable atmosphere for the promotion of cooperation and understanding among member states and other countries and to

coordinate efforts to safeguard holy places. To this end, the OIC has always been in the forefront of support for the Palestinian people in their struggle to regain their rights and liberate their land.

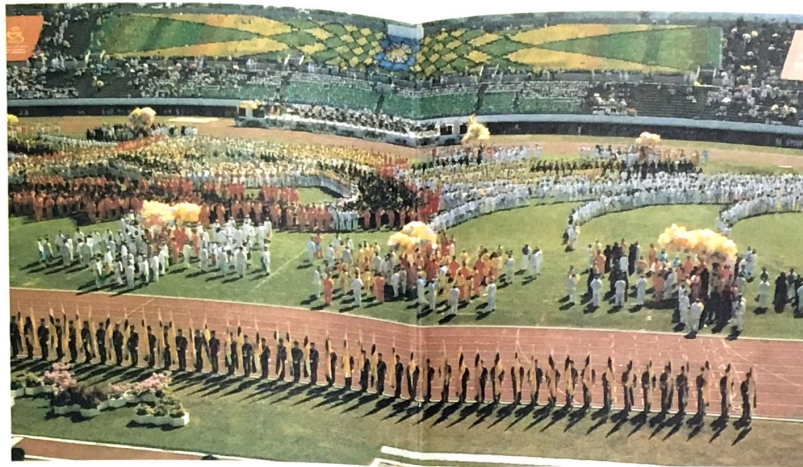
The OIC has implemented several major projects notably the establishment of four universities, the setting up of a number of projects in Islamic studies, the unification of the Hijri calendar and many specific measures for the preservation of Islamic cultural heritage.

In terms of seeking solution to numerous global problems, the OIC has worked in close cooperation with other international organizations, especially the United Nations, its specialized agencies and associated institutions.





Top picture: His Majesty the Sultan (forefront) watches the National Day celebration at the Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium. Seated on His Majesty's right are his brothers, HRH Prince Muda Haji Mohamed Bolkiah and HRH Prince Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah and partly hidden on His Majesty's left is HRH Prince Muda Haji Sufri Bolkiah. Above: The centre-part of the stadium is engulfed by a sea of colours as participants went about with their presentations. And Below: The private sector, too, contributed towards making the National Day celebration as colourful and memorable as possible and banners put by some private organisations line the streets of the capital alongside the multi-coloured illuminations and arches.



Pictures above and right show some of the numerous shapes and formations put up by participants during the two-hour extravaganza. Left, schoolchildren waving the national flag and bearing flip cards made-up more than one third of the total 16,000 participants taking part in various presentations of the celebration.



Above: With the theme and logo of the celebration imprinted in their caps, the National Day is a time for rejoicing for both participants and spectators alike. Left: Beautiful arches are everywhere creating a lively atmosphere of celebration and festival. Right: The participants make yet another formation based on the theme of the celebration that "Effective communication strengthens unity."





# Oil and gas industry remains strong with exports on the increase

The year 1989 has been a historic year for the oil and gas industries in Brunei Darussalam.

The price of oil in 1989 was higher than that of 1988, with an average of US\$18 per barrel. At the same time, production level remained at an average of some 150,000 barrels per day. Higher prices resulted in higher income for 1989 although much of the advantage was eroded by exchange rate fluctuations.

As to the gas industry, the demand for clean fuel is still very strong especially with the economic growth that is taking place in the Far East region. During the year, additional cargoes were supplied to Brunei Darussalam customers in Japan over and above the contract quantities.

The good news were announced in February by the Managing Director of Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sendirian Berhad, Mr. George Innes at the presentation of long service medals to staff of the company.

Mr. Innes said, "As in previous years, all deliveries have been on time and confidence in our ability to maintain our supply without interruption will be vital as we continue our negotiations for sales contracts beyond 1993."

A rejuvenation programme is already underway at the Brunei Liquefied Natural Gas (BLNG) Plant to ensure that the facilities remain in excellent working order for many years to come.

Brunei Darussalam exports 5.14 million tonnes of liquefied natural gas annually, two thirds of which go to the Tokyo Electric Company.

Oil related investment had also increased during 1989 and it is set to continue at a high level over the next few years. Mr. Innes informed that emphasis will be on increased drilling activity and maintenance of facilities to meet production targets while existing reservoirs decline with age.

The increase in activity will continue to provide opportunity and challenge to local contrac-

tors. The value of contracts awarded during 1989 was the highest for seven years, with the value of local contracts rising by almost a quarter. As in 1988, over 98 percent of this value went to Bumiputra owned companies and there is now also a strong emphasis on Bumiputra leadership and technical expertise to maximise the benefit to the nation.

A further boost is provided by increasing the services provided by local Bumiputra contractors to specialist international contractors.

Brunei Shell, said Mr. Innes, will also continue with its policy of Bruneisation. Overall, Brunei citizens now form 65 percent of the company's employees with 200 Malay citizens in senior staff positions. The opportunities to extend the programme of Bruneisation are mainly in the positions which require higher qualifications and expertise. This is being addressed through sponsorship and scholarship to develop the appropriate Brunei citizen resources.

## New arrangements in court appeals between Brunei and Britain

New arrangements relating to appeals from the Supreme Court in Brunei to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London have been agreed by the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and recorded in an Exchange of Notes dated 27th June, 1989.

All legislation necessary to give effect to this has been enacted in Brunei and in the United Kingdom and 1st February, 1990 has been fixed as the date the new arrangements come into force.

The new arrangements will differ from the existing ar-

rangements only in three specific areas.

Firstly, appeals to the Judicial Committee and the ensuing advice of the Committee which at present are addressed to Her Majesty The Queen in Council, will in future be addressed to His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan. This change is consistent with the fact that the Sultan and not the Queen is the Head of State of Brunei Darussalam.

The second difference is that at the request of Brunei constitutional matters will be excluded from the Judicial Committee's jurisdiction. This change is consistent with the provisions of the Constitution of Brunei Darussalam of 1959 which provide for an Interpretation Tribunal to deal

with matters arising from the Constitution.

The third difference is that the minimum value of civil disputes that may be subject to appeals to the Privy Council will be substantially increased. The existing figure of 500 Pounds Sterling was set in 1951 and is now out of date. This minimum value has now been increased to B\$200,000 (about 60,000 Pounds Sterling).

Criminal matters will continue to be governed by the same procedure as previously, namely, by way of special leave of the Judicial Committee.

The Emergency (Supreme Court) (Appeals to Privy Council) Order, 1989 and Appeals from the Supreme Court Order, 1989 were made on 20th December, 1989 and 27th December, 1989 respectively. Whereas the Brunei Appeals Act, 1989 was enacted by the United Kingdom parliament on 16th November, 1989 and the Brunei Appeals Order, 1989 was made on 19th December, 1989. All these legislations came into force on 1st February, 1990.



The main consumer of Brunei Darussalam's LNG, the Tokyo Electric Power Company, the biggest utility company in Japan, had expressed "a strong wish" to extend the sale agreement of Brunei's liquefied natural gas to Japan.

Brunei's LNG sales contract which underlies Brunei's trade relation with Japan will expire in 1993. The two countries are currently entering the process of negotiations for a possible extension of another 20 years. Brunei Darussalam exports 5.14 million tonnes of LNG to Japan annually under a 20 year contract which began in 1972. Two thirds of the volume goes to the Tokyo Electric Power Company. The balance is shared between Tokyo Gas and Osaka Gas.

The indication to extend the present sales agreement was in response to the proposal of His Majesty's Government and given by the Executive Vice President of the Tokyo Electric Power Company, Mr. Toshiyuki Kondo who visited Brunei Darussalam early last month. Mr. Kondo was on a familiarization visit of the three ASEAN LNG exporters namely Indonesia, Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam, which together form the largest gas suppliers to Japan.

Mr. Kondo met Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Laila Kanun Diraja Pengiran Haji Bahrin, the

# Japan wants more gas from Brunei Darussalam

Law Minister who is also a Director of the Brunei LNG. During his discussion with Pengiran Haji Bahrin, Mr. Kondo said that the company will have to look for new suppliers by the 21st century. Various factors, such as security, cost and the environment, must be taken into consideration when Japan looks for future sources of energy. Mr. Kondo also spoke of the need for additional supply from the existing suppliers.

As to the proposal for extending Brunei's LNG sales contract for another 20 years, Pengiran Haji Bahrin assured Mr. Kondo that the Brunei Government would do its best to ensure the success of the extension negotiations for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

During his stay here, Mr. Kondo, on behalf of the Tokyo Electric Power Company, received a souvenir from the Chairman of Brunei's LNG, His Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Digadong Sahibul Mal Pengiran Muda Haji Jefri Bolkiah. The souvenir was presented by the Law Minister. Mr. Kondo had also

met the Deputy Finance Minister Dato Paduka Seri Laila Jasa Haji Ahmad Wally Skinner. The Executive Vice President toured the LNG plant in Lumut and met management of the Brunei Shell Companies, involved in the LNG project.

The Brunei Government owns 50 percent of Brunei LNG and Brunei Coldgas. The other two partners are Royal Dutch/Shell and Mitsubishi Corporation of Japan who own 25 percent each. Brunei LNG liquefies natural gas which it buys from Brunei Shell Petroleum Company and in turn sells it to Brunei Coldgas.

The decision by the Brunei Government in 1986 to increase its share to 50 percent of the equity in Brunei LNG and Brunei Coldgas underlies the continuing focus of an increasing Brunei involvement in the country's oil and gas industries. These agreements serve to establish a commitment amongst the shareholders to a long-term relationship on the management of Brunei Darussalam's major natural resources.

## Further measures for Brunei Darussalam's economic drive

The Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources is to go on a series of trade missions this year as part of its efforts to boost foreign investments into Brunei Darussalam.

The Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Pehin Orang Kaya Setia Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Abdul Rahman early last month led a delegation in the first of such missions overseas with the aim of promoting Brunei Darussalam as an investment potential.

The week-long visit was expected to cover at least two countries.

Included in the delegation were the ministry's Permanent Secretary, Dato Paduka Malai Ali, the Director of Fisheries, the

acting Director of the Industrial Unit, a number of senior government officers and eight local entrepreneurs representing the Brunei Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and the Brunei Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The mission is part of the efforts by the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam to encourage the growth of the private sector. The private sector's role in the Government's economic diversification programmes is recognised as being vital in ensuring that the country's economy is less dependent on oil and gas.

Prior to the trade missions, the ministry made another step for-

ward to boost foreign investments in Brunei Darussalam.

As another of its overseas promotion, several videotapes and printed materials with comprehensive accounts of the various incentives and the infrastructure in the country, were handed to representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Royal Brunei Airlines.

RBA is now using the videotape as an inflight movie. These videotapes will also be shown during official functions, for instance during National Day receptions hosted at Brunei embassies and high commissions abroad.

The move was announced by the Permanent Secretary of the

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Top left: His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam inspected a guard of honour mounted by Singapore's Armed Forces personnel at the ground of the Istana Negara soon after the Brunei ruler arrived for a three-day state visit. His Majesty and Her Majesty the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha were also given a red carpet welcome earlier at the Changi International airport, picture above. Middle picture: From left to right are the Right-Honourable Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew, Her Majesty the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha, His Excellency Mr. Wee Kim Wee, Mrs. Wee Kim Wee and His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at a state banquet hosted by the Singapore President. Their Majesties the Sultan and the Raja Isteri attending a reception hosted by Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. Below: In a separate itinerary, Her Majesty the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha visited the Rosyth School - an institution for some of the republic's brightest students.







Top left: His Majesty the Sultan and President Wee Kim Wee engrossed in discussion during a tea party hosted by the Singapore Head of State. Above: During a visit to the Jurong Industrial Estate, the Brunei ruler planted a 'Tambusu tree' to mark his visit there. In the picture on left, His Majesty the Sultan bids farewell to the Commander of the RSS Valour at the end of his tour of the missile-corvette and saw its sea combat capability. Bottom left: Sporting an airman's uniform, the Brunei monarch took part in a 40-minute flight on board a Hawkeye Reconnaissance aircraft of the Singapore Airforce, which he piloted for part of the flight. Bottom picture: Her Majesty the Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha signing the visitor's book on arrival the Singapore Botanical Garden where an orchid was named *Dendrobium Saleha*, in her honour.





## Incentives needed to woo locals into jobs in the private sector



Dato Paduka Malai Ali bin Haji Malai Othman, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources.

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Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, when he officiated at the opening of a seminar on banks' lending services.

The Permanent Secretary cited favourable factors such as political stability, social harmony and the various tax incentives (there are no taxes on sales, manufacturing, improt, export, income etc) in the country as conducive for foreign investments.

Already in the country, the Ministry is vigorously promoting the Government's economic diversification programmes with jingles slotted over RTB during prime time. Several huge banners driving home the message that the private sector plays a key role in the country's economic development, stand at major roads and junctions of the capital. Through the Brundex (Brunei National Development) Exhibition held last December, the Government hopes to further increase foreign investments into the country.

The seminar, organised by the Ministry hopes to encourage small and medium scale entrepreneurs to be independent of Government's assistance. By gaining first hand knowledge on the various loan schemes offered by the banks, the Ministry hopes that

entrepreneurs wishing to start business locally, would look to the banks as an alternative means of finance.

Some 150 entrepreneurs mainly from the fisheries, manufacturing, forestry and the agriculture sectors, heard talks from representatives of the four commercial banks in Brunei Darussalam, namely the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Bhd. Citibank N. A, the Standard Chartered Bank and the International Bank of Brunei. The talks, among other things, touched on application procedures, financing criteria, the various loan schemes, repayment schemes and interests rates.

The seminar was also part of the Ministry's efforts to encourage and nurture the development of Malays as leaders of commerce and industry, one of the primary concerns of the Fifth National Development Plan which ends this year. The Government, through the Economic Development Board, in the early 1970's, created a source of "soft" finance for Brunei businessmen to borrow money at favourable rates in order to start a business enterprise locally. The loans, which can be obtained up to a maximum of \$500,000 are repayable over 10 to 12 years.

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources, Dato Paduka Malai Ali has urged the private sector to introduce new incentives to make it more attractive for more Bruneians, in particular school leavers, to join the private sector.

The matter is of utmost concern as the 2,000 newly created industries within the next five years after the end of the Fifth National Development Plan in 1990, will bring about 40,000 new job opportunities.

"Employers in the private sector could devise new terms and conditions of service such as pensions and other financial benefits in order to attract more Bruneians," the Permanent Secretary said during a forum on the working environment in the private sector recently.

He also pointed to the fact that Bruneians should be psychologically prepared to work in the private sector. Parents in particular could play a role by not dissuading their children from working in the private sector amid belief of less job security and inadequate perks. In light of the 40,000 job opportunities in the next five years after 1990, the permanent Secretary assured that employment in the private sector abounds.

The success of the Fifth National Development Plan does not rest upon the Government or the private sector alone. Bruneians, in particular Government officials should also shoulder the same responsibility, Dato Paduka Malai Ali said.

Some 40 participants at the forum organised by the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources were reminded to play their part in fostering a dynamic, disciplined and responsible society as agents of progress and development, a primary objective of the B\$3.7 billion Fifth National Development Plan.

The Permanent Secretary further reiterated the "titah" (royal address) of His Majesty Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam. His Majesty had remarked that the people should not become a constraint towards the country's economic diversification programme.

During the one-day forum, participants heard talks by the Com-



missioner of Labour and representatives from the Education Ministry's Counselling and Career Guidance Section, the Economic Planning Unit, the Industrial Unit of the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources and the Permanent Chairman of the Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Brunei Darussalam.

The Commissioner of Labour, Haji Zainal bin Haji Momin disclosed that as of 1989, about 9,460 applicants registered with the Employment Centre of the Labour Department. At the same time, the Centre recorded 30,000 foreigners working in the private sector in Brunei Darussalam. This figure included the professionals, the skilled, semi-skilled and the unskilled workers.

Haji Zainal further informed that the foreign workers are mainly found in the 10 categories classified by the Centre, namely the forestry, fisheries and agriculture industries, the oil and gas industries, the quarry industry, the construction of roads and buildings and civil engineering, the wholesale and retail business, services in the hotel, restaurant and coffee houses, transportation and communications services, financial, insurance and trading services, and the community and social services.

He urged school leavers to venture into the private sector not necessarily as an employee, but also as an entrepreneur. He said it was imperative that school leavers, especially those from technical colleges, change their attitude towards employment in the private sector. The fact remains that whether one is working with the Government or private firms, one is still making a significant contribution towards the development of the country.

## Your turn

The next issue of the *Brunei Darussalam* newsletter will appear during the second week of April 1990. 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 March 20, 1990. All editorial rights reserved.

The Commissioner of Labour made it clear that the Centre does not find jobs for applicants, but it merely channels them to available jobs in the Government or the private sectors. Availability of jobs however, will depend on whether the Centre is informed about the positions needed in the private sector.

As a measure to reduce the dependence on foreign workers, he revealed the screening of work permits for foreigners. If the same position could be filled by a local with similar qualification and working experience, the Centre will propose to employers to recruit the Bruneians. The centre would also do likewise with the renewal of work permits.

The representative from the Employment Unit of the Education Ministry also detailed the various measures undertaken by the unit to encourage school leavers to join the private sector as well as the Government service.

From time to time, he said, since mid 1988, representatives of the private sector, such as Brunei Shell have been invited to deliver talks to students about the various job opportunities available within their corporations. He said the private sector must provide competitive terms and conditions of service, especially in the form of a more attractive financial scheme to lure Bruneians into their fold.

The Head of the Implementation and Coordination Section of the Economic Planning Unit, on the other hand, highlighted that the country is only able to supply an average of 3.4 thousand workers annually. With the forecast of 8,000 job opportunities per year to meet the total of 40,000 jobs in five years time after 1990, this only meant that the country would continue to rely on foreign workers in order to enable the country to diversify the economy. He suggested that the school curriculum be more geared towards meeting the necessary skills required by the economy.

In an interview, the Public Affairs Manager of Brunei Shell, the second largest employer after the Government in the country, said that "It is high time that the people looked to the private sector for employment."

Awang Mohd. Zaini bin Haji Omar, the Public Affairs Manager further emphasised that "The people cannot forever depend on the Government for

employment. As far as Brunei Shell is concerned," he continued "we are making every effort to provide meaningful employment and a more challenging career for those with the right skills, qualification and attitude to work with us." "And being a technically commercial company, one has everything to look forward to while working with Brunei Shell."

The Public Affairs Manager later revealed that the middle management level in the company still needs to be filled. These included positions in engineering and finance such as accountants, civil engineers, geophysicists and geologists.

Currently, key positions such as the Public Affairs Manager, the General Manager (Marketing) and the Personnel Manager are taken by Bruneians. The Personnel Manager is also the first Bruneian Managing Director of Brunei Shell Marketing.

Brunei Shell already employs 64 percent locals. According to the April, 1989 figures, there are 2,870 locals inclusive of 506 Permanent residents, working with Brunei Shell out of a total of 3,650 employees.

The company also offers a package of incentives which compare favourably with that of the Government, the Public Affairs Manager remarked.

In another interview, the President of the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Malay Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dato Paduka Haji Awang Hapidz Laksamana said the call by the Permanent Secretary was appropriate in view of the current economic diversification efforts by the government.

As to incentives to woo more Bruneians into the private sector, Dato Hapidz said that as an employer, he would support the Government if it were to introduce the CPF or the EPF (Central Provident Fund in Singapore and the Employee Provident Fund in Malaysia) in Brunei Darussalam.

Dato Hapidz, who owns more than three companies, also believes that productivity of workers and the profitability of a company, are two crucial factors in determining whether new incentives could be introduced. Apart from the one month bonus each year, his staff are awarded a five percent increment if they perform well.





**This clock does not just keep time, but.....!**

**I**t stands on a cross-road formed by the convergence of Jalan Sultan and Jalan Elizabeth II, right in the heart of Bandar Seri Begawan, the capital of Brunei Darussalam. And even after thirty years, the hands are still as sharp and accurate as on the day the clock was put up, when it comes to time keeping. But the significance of this clock is not just to keep time, but more importantly it is also fondly looked upon by many people as the 'zero-mile-clock'. Why one might ask? As the clock stands right in the heart of Bandar Seri Begawan, distances from the Brunei capital to other major towns in the country such as Kuala Belait, Seria, Tutong and Bangar are measured from this clock. The clock has stood in this strategic location for thirty years with its foundation stone laid on 11 July 1959 by Duli Yang Maha Mulia Seri Paduka Baginda Tuanku Abdul Rahman, the then Yang Dipertuan Agong of Persekutuan Tanah Melayu to commemorate his visit to Brunei Darussalam. Indeed, the clock is regarded as one of Brunei Darussalam's landmarks.

## BRUNEI IN BRIEF

Capital City :	Bandar Seri Begawan
Land size :	5765 sq.km
Population :	241,400 (1988)
Official Language :	Malay
Official Religion :	Islam
January 1990 rainfall :	387.8 mm.
(annual 2,818mm)	

## PRIME LENDING RATE

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

