



# برونى دارالسلام Brunei Darussalam

newsletter

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## Royal 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary speech

### HM: Peace and prosperity determine rise or fall of a nation

**ISTANA NURUL IMAN, July 15** – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam underscored the importance for the people and citizens of Brunei Darussalam to maintain the nation's peace and prosperity. These two are the fundamentals that would determine the rise or fall of the nation.

His Majesty said these in his *titah* (royal speech) at the Audience and Investiture ceremony held at Balai Singgahsana Indera Buana (throne chamber) of Istana Nurul Iman in conjunction with His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

His Majesty also spoke on the establishment of Monetary Authority of Brunei Darussalam (AMBD), AMBD which is in line with best international practices, according to His Majesty, will be enforced on January 1, 2011 where this body will be responsible on monetary policies, and supervision on financial institution and financial management.

Speaking on Civil Service, His Majesty said it requires improvement in terms of productivity and work ethics. His Majesty expressed his hope for the Civil Service to continuously evaluate its strength and weaknesses based on stipulated Key Performance Indicators. This will enable us to measure how far the Civil Service implement its responsibility in fulfilling the nation and public's expectation.

His Majesty also spoke on housing scheme provided by the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam. He said that his government is currently trying to speed up the process to provide suitable public housings. The Ministry of Development through the Department of Housing Development will fix its target and measures to fulfil the demands including housings provided by the Brunei Economic Development Board (BEDB). He hopes that with efficient measures, the

distribution of houses will be speed up.

His Majesty also said that we are moving in a more conducive development for investment by improving the preservation of the natural environment and quality of life. In this regard, the Ministry of Home Affairs is currently implementing developments for Bandar Seri Begawan through the Bandar Seri Begawan Master Plan.

On the health sector, His Majesty said the relevant ministry must strengthen its policies, assess its health system and management especially on the capacity and quality of resources of the doctors and other professions. According to His Majesty, we do not want the hospitals to be seen as terrifying just because the doctors failed to deliver their services.

His Majesty also spoke on food security where he reminded that we should not neglect food security whether they are from local or abroad. Assessments and control must cover all aspects including *halal*, cleanliness and safety.

Speaking on the education sector, His Majesty described it as most important and challenging. The Ministry of Education, through the education system would manage the teaching and learning process and adopt new methods without neglecting nation's



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivers a *titah* at the Balai Singgahsana (throne chamber) Indera Buana.

major interest. Core subjects and its contents must be given priority.

Earlier in his *titah*, His Majesty also expressed his happiness on the encouraging news from 'The World Economic Forum (WEF) Global Competitiveness Report 2008-2009' which stated that Brunei Darussalam was on the top spot for the government's debt management considering the country has no public debt.

Meanwhile, Brunei Darussalam was also in the second place from 134 countries from the aspect of macroeconomic strength.

PHOTO: AMPUAN HAJI MAHMOUD AMPUAN HAJI TENGAH



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### BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

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## Their Majesties receive audiences

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha received audiences from invited foreign dignitaries attending the 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary of His Majesty. The audiences took place at the Istana Nurul Iman on July 15.

They were:

- ① The Right Honourable Pehin Sri Dr. Haji Abdul Taib bin Mahmud, the Chief Minister of Sarawak and Yang Berhormat Datuk Amar Haji Awang Tengah bin Ali Hassan, Sarawak's Second Minister of Planning and Resource Management and Minister of Public Utilities.
- ② Yang Amat Berhormat Datuk Seri Penglima Musa bin Haji Aman, the Chief Minister of Sabah.
- ③ Her Royal Highness Princess Basma binti Talal and husband, His Excellency Dato Seri Setia Al-Syed Walid Ismail Al-Kurdi from the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

Also present was the son of Her Royal Highness, Mr. Sa'ad Kurdi.

- ④ The former Prime Minister of Malaysia, Yang Amat Berbahagia Dato Laila Utama Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi.
- ⑤ Yang Berbahagia General Dato Paduka Seri Tan Sri Azizan bin Ariffin, Chief of the Malaysian Armed Forces and his wife, Yang Berbahagia Puan Sri Datin Sri Noorainee binti Abd. Rahim.
- ⑥ His Excellency Raymond Lim Siang Keat, Republic of Singapore's Minister of Transport and Second Minister of Foreign Affairs.

- ⑦ His Excellency General Dato Paduka Seri Djoko Santoso, Chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces and his wife, Madam Angky Retno Yudianti.
- ⑧ The wife of former Prime Minister of Malaysia, Datin Tun Jeanne Abdullah.
- ⑨ The wife of Chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces, Madam Angky Retno Yudianti.
- ⑩ The wife of the Republic of Singapore's Minister of Transport and Second Minister of Foreign Affairs, Madam Lim Moo Liang.



PHOTOS: ABDULLAH HAJI AWANG DAMIT  
ABDUL KADIR MD. TAHIR



## His Majesty visits Suri Seri Begawan Hospital

**KUALA BELAIT, July 6** - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam visited the Suri Seri Begawan Hospital based in Belait District and toured its various sections.

During the visit, His Majesty took a closer look at the various sections which include visit to the pharmacy, administration block, fundamental health care service, accident and emergency, flu clinic, radiology, wards and intensive care unit.

His Majesty ended his visit at the Renal Dialysis Centre which began its operations last year.

This hospital is the second largest in the country. It was opened in 1972 and today it provides medical and health services to the district's more than 80 thousand residents.



Pharmacy, one of the sections visited by His Majesty at the Suri Seri Begawan Hospital.

## His Majesty presides 1<sup>st</sup> Cabinet Ministers' Meeting

**ISTANA NURUL IMAN, July 8** - His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presided the first Cabinet Ministers Meeting since the cabinet was reshuffled on May 29.

Also present at the meeting were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The meeting was held at the Istana Nurul Iman.



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presided the first Cabinet Ministers Meeting.

## Prayer is a special gift

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 10** - Israk Mikraj recorded various lessons and one of it is Allah's gift which is prayer. According to Allah's *firman* in Surah Al'Ankabuut verse 45 stated that prayer is a special gift where it is able to prevent all sorts of fouls and disobedience.

The matters were stated by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in his *titah* (royal speech) in conjunction with the National Israk Mikraj celebration for year 1431 Hijrah held at the International Convention Centre (ICC) in Berakas.

His Majesty also expressed his happiness that the format for this year's Israk Miraj celebration has been changed from Takmir Masjid Award to Excellent Imam and Bilal Award (Anugerah Imam dan Bilal Cemerlang).

The award scheme for *imam* and *bilal*, said His Majesty must be considered important as motivation to produce *imams* and *bilals* with quality.

At the ceremony, His Majesty presented the Excellent Imam and Bilal Awards to Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Khatib Imam Awang Haji Mustafa bin Haji Murad and Bilal Awang Haji Hamdini bin Haji Garif respectively.

Also present at the ceremony were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed



His Majesty presents the Excellent Imam Award to Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Khatib Imam Awang Haji Mustafa.

Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.



## His Majesty confers state decoration to Prime Minister of Malaysia

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 13**

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha received in audience the Prime Minister of Malaysia, The Right Honourable Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib and wife, Yang Berbahagia Datin Paduka Seri Rosmah at the Ceradi Laila Kencana, Istana Nurul Iman.

At the ceremony, His Majesty conferred Brunei Darussalam's state decoration, The Most Esteemed Family Order Laila Utama (Darjah Kerabat Laila Utama Yang Amat Dihormati - D.K.) to The Right Honourable Dato' Sri Mohd. Najib which carries the title 'Dato Laila Utama'.

The ceremony was followed by a luncheon held at Baiturrahmah, Istana Nurul Iman.

Present at the ceremony were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Senior Minister at Prime Minister's Office and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri

Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

Also present were Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Kalthum Al-Islam and other members of the royal family.

Meanwhile, The Right Honourable's entourage include Minister of Home Affairs, The Honourable Dato' Seri Hishammuddin; Head of Secretary at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Rastam Mohd. Isa;



Prime Minister of Malaysia receives a state decoration from His Majesty.

and Malaysia's High Commissioner to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Dato' Ku Jaafar Ku Shaari and wife.

The Right Honourable and wife, and the entourage were in Brunei Darussalam for a two-day visit in which the visit has further strengthened existing cordial relations and cooperation in various fields.

## HM visits Sixth Form Centre and Al-Falaah School



His Majesty at the Al-Falaah School at Ban 5, Kampung Paya, Mulaut.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 14** - The progress of the education sector, its development and achievements continue to receive serious attention by His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and this could be seen through His Majesty's unscheduled visit to two educational institutions in Brunei-Muara District.

His Majesty first visited the Katok Sixth Form Centre based in Kampung Katok and toured around the facilities available at the school.

Located on 12-hectares of land, Katok Sixth Form Centre was officially opened on August 21, 2008 and currently has 1,433 students.

His Majesty then proceeded to visit a branch of Al-Falaah School located at Ban 5, Kampung Paya, Mulaut.

The school started its operation in January 1999 where it is one of the private schools registered at the Private Education Division, Ministry of Education.

Currently there are 160 students undergoing studies at the school ranging from Pre-school to Year Six.

## Thanksgiving prayers mark His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 14** - His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and male members of the royal family joined scores of Muslims for the thanksgiving prayers to mark His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary.

Also joining the ceremony were His Majesty's invited guests for the royal birthday celebration.

Similar thanksgiving prayers were held at all mosques and suraus throughout the nation with the main focal point at the Jame' 'Asr Hassanil Bolkiah in Kampung Kiarong.

His Majesty and male members of the royal family joined scores of Muslims for the thanksgiving prayers.





# His Majesty attends 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary honour parade



PHOTO: AK AMIRULIZAM PG HAJI MOHD. AU

His Majesty inspects the guard-of-honour and contingents comprising of uniformed personnel.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 15** – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended honour parade in conjunction with His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary at the Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddin in the capital.

His Majesty's arrival was received with the military guard of honour and a 21-gun salute. His Majesty then inspected the guard-of-honour and contingents comprising of uniformed personnel.

Also present at the parade were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah; and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

## Ninety-five receive state decorations and medals

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 15** – Eighty-two people received state decorations and 13 received medals issued by His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the Balai Singgahsana Indera Buana (throne chamber) at Istana Nurul Iman.

The ceremony was held soon after His Majesty delivered his *titah* (royal speech) during the Audience and Investiture Ceremony.

Among the state decorations issued were The Most Esteemed Family Order Laila Utama (Darjah Kerabat Laila Utama Yang Amat Dihormati – D.K.) which carries the title 'Dato Laila Utama' bestowed to the wife of His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah binti Dato Haji Nasir; and also to Yang Amat Berbahagia Tun Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, former Prime Minister of Malaysia.

Other decorations bestowed were:

The Most Gallant Order of Pahlawan Negara Brunei (1<sup>st</sup> Class) (Darjah Paduka Keberanian Laila Terbilang Yang Amat Gemilang Darjah Pertama – D.P.K.T.) which carries the title 'Dato Paduka Seri' to three recipients;

The Most Distinguished Order of Paduka Seri Laila Jasa (2<sup>nd</sup> Class) (Darjah Paduka Seri Laila Jasa Yang Amat Berjasa Darjah Kedua – D.S.L.J.) which carries the title 'Dato Seri Laila Jasa' to two recipients;

The Most Honourable Order of Seri Paduka Mahkota Brunei (2<sup>nd</sup> Class) (Darjah Seri Paduka Mahkota Brunei Yang Amat Mulia Darjah Kedua – D.P.M.B.) which carries the title 'Dato Paduka' to 23 recipients;

The Most Eminent Order of Islam Brunei (3<sup>rd</sup> Class) (Darjah Seri Ugama Islam Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bersinar Darjah Ketiga – S.S.U.B.) to 10 recipients;

The Most Blessed Order of Setia Negara Brunei (3<sup>rd</sup> Class) (Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah Ketiga – S.N.B.) to 41 recipients; and

The Most Distinguished Order of Paduka Seri Laila Jasa (3<sup>rd</sup> Class) (Darjah Paduka Seri Laila Jasa Yang Amat Berjasa Darjah Ketiga – S.L.J.) to one recipient.

Meanwhile, 13 people received Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah Medal (1<sup>st</sup> Class) (Pingat Hassanal Bolkiah Sultan Pangkat Pertama – P.H.B.S.).



His Majesty bestows The Most Esteemed Family Order Laila Utama (D.K.) to the wife of His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah.



His Majesty bestows The Most Esteemed Family Order Laila Utama (D.K.) to Yang Amat Berbahagia Tun Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, former Prime Minister of Malaysia.



## Banquets celebrate His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday

**ISTANA NURUL IMAN, July 30** – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha attended a state banquet held in conjunction with His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary on July 15.

Prior to the state banquet, Their Majesties received in audience the invited foreign dignitaries.

Also present at the banquet were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah and other members of the royal family.

On July 17, a banquet for uniformed personnel of government departments and civilian organisations was held.

The Royal Brunei Police Force also held similar occasion on July 28 at Assarraa Hall.

Meanwhile on July 30, a banquet was hosted by the Royal Brunei Armed Forces at BRIDEX Conference Hall.



Their Majesties attend a state banquet held in conjunction with His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary.

PHOTO: MASRI OSMAN

## His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> Birthday: Meet-the-people session



His Majesty receives a greeting from the people and residents in Belait District.

**KUALA BELAIT, July 25** – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a meet-the-people session in Belait District at Padang Bandaran. The session was held in conjunction with His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary on July 17.

Accompanying His Majesty were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Azim and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and other members of the royal family.

Similar ceremony was also held at other districts; Temburong District on July 20, Tutong District on July 22, and finally on July 25 for Brunei-Muara District.

This is a much awaited event as the people and residents of each district are able to personally greet His Majesty in conjunction with His Majesty's birthday anniversary.

PHOTO: MASRI OSMAN

## Knowledge Convention 2010

**BERAKAS, July 26** – In conjunction with the 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, a Knowledge Convention 2010 (Majlis Ilmu 2010) has been organised.

Present to officially open the convention was His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam held at the International Convention Centre.

In his *titah* (royal speech), His Majesty among others touched on the importance of protecting Brunei Darussalam's national philosophy – Melayu Islam Beraja (MIB) from fading or weakened by any influences in the form of ideology or system.

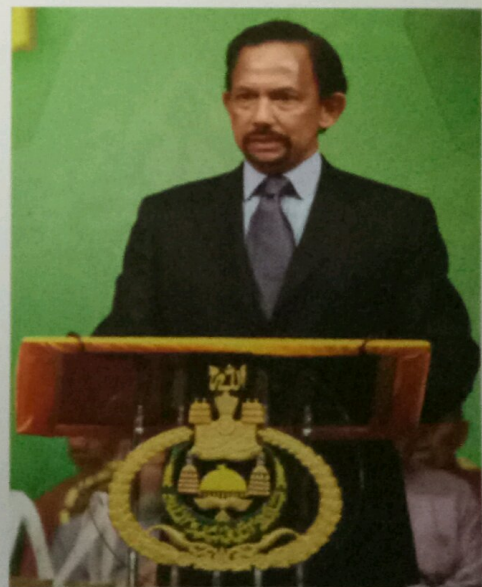
MIB, according to His Majesty, is the soul of Brunei. It could not be seen through the naked eyes but it should be seen through understanding and awareness. Everyone should understand that MIB is not a narrow path but one that is long and wide. It promises comfort and welfare to everyone.

His Majesty expressed his hope that the Knowledge Convention will be able to change the perception on MIB.

Also present at the official opening ceremony were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

At the event, His Majesty also took a closer look at the convention's exhibition where with the theme 'Tamadun Melayu Bestari' the exhibition features historical information materials, evident and valuable Malay artefacts showcased by various local and foreign institutions.

A number of activities have been arranged for the Knowledge Convention which includes forums and exhibitions opened for the public from July 26 to August 1.



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivers a *titah* at Knowledge Convention 2010.

PHOTO: HAJI MOHD. YUSOF MOHD. YASIN



## His Majesty awards state decorations

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 27** – His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presented Brunei Darussalam's state decorations to 692 recipients in conjunction with His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary.

The ceremony was held at the Istana Nurul Iman.

Present at the ceremony were His Royal Highness Crown Prince Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah, His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Abdul 'Azim and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

The state decorations awarded were:

- The Most Distinguished Order of Paduka Seri Laila Jasa – 2<sup>nd</sup> Class (Darjah Paduka Seri Laila Jasa Yang Amat Berjasa Darjah Kedua – D.S.L.J.) which carries the title 'Dato Seri Laila Jasa' to one recipient, Mr. Nagamuthu Ravindranathan;
- The Most Blessed Order of Setia Negara Brunei – 3<sup>rd</sup> Class (Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah Ketiga – S.N.B.) to two recipients;
- The Most Distinguished Order of Paduka Seri Laila Jasa – 3<sup>rd</sup> Class (Darjah Paduka Seri Laila Jasa Yang Amat Berjasa Darjah Ketiga – S.L.J.) to two recipients;
- The Most Honourable Order of Seri Paduka Mahkota Brunei 3<sup>rd</sup> Class (Darjah Seri Paduka Mahkota Brunei Yang Amat Mulia Darjah Ketiga – S.M.B.) to 131 recipients;
- The Most Eminent Order of Islam Brunei – 4<sup>th</sup> Class
- The Most Blessed Order of Setia Negara Brunei – 4<sup>th</sup> Class (Darjah Setia Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bahagia Darjah Keempat – P.S.B.) to 515 recipients;
- The Most Eminent Order of Islam Brunei – 5<sup>th</sup> Class (Darjah Seri Ugama Islam Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bersinar Darjah Kelima – P.U.B.) to 20 recipients.

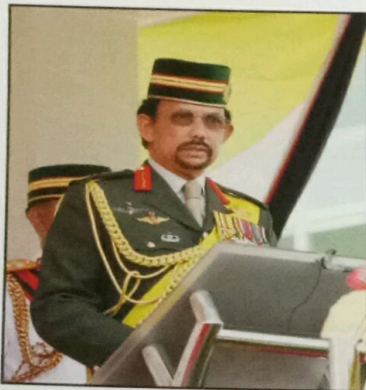


His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presents state decorations to the recipients.

(Darjah Seri Ugama Islam Negara Brunei Yang Amat Bersinar Darjah Keempat – S.U.B.) to 20 recipients;

The ceremony took place at Istana Nurul Iman.

## Research centre, Defence Science Technology formed



His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivers a *titah* (royal speech) at the sovereign passing out parade of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Intake of RBAF Officer Cadets.



Mohamad Nabil bin Jalil, Naval Officer Cadet received Sword of Honour Award.

**SUNGAI AKAR, July 29** – His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to the formation of a centre for research and Defence Science and Technology that will play a role in the strategic planning and modernisation of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF).

With the establishment of the centre, the Ministry of Defence moves another step forward toward comprehensive and balanced development of RBAF especially in strengthening the expertise in the fields of military and defence.

His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of the RBAF said in his *titah* during the sovereign passing out parade of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Intake of RBAF Officer Cadets

at the Officer Cadet's School.

His Majesty also underlined the importance of effective leadership that should be practiced among RBAF leaders and for all personnel to maintain the force's image and good name. His Majesty also outlined efforts implemented by the Ministry of Defence toward raising levels of knowledge in the RBAF.

At the event, His Majesty officially commissioned the 32 officer cadets of the third intake.

Mohamad Nabil bin Jalil, Naval Officer Cadet received Sword of Honour Award. It is the most prestigious award given to an Officer Cadet bestowed

by His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam. The Best in Academic Study Award was received by Officer Cadet Ak. Ashrin bin Pg. Mohammad Zaidi.

The Best Military Skill Award was received by Naval Officer Cadet Hidayatul Zabidah binti Haji Dayang. The award is given to an Officer Cadet who has been selected among the best in the most excellent achievement in all Military Skill subjects. And the Best in Physical Training Endurance Award was received by Officer Cadet Mohamad Husiani bin Haji Mohamad Sofian. This award is in recognition of the best achievement by an Officer Cadet in outstanding physical training accomplishment throughout the training period.



## Cleanliness and Landscape Art Competition and Flower Show



Her Majesty The Raja Isteri presents the prizes to the winner of the Cleanliness and Landscape Art Competition.

**GADONG, July 21** – Kampung Sengkurong 'B' emerged as the overall champion for the Cleanliness and Landscape Art Competition.

The Cleanliness and Landscape Art Competition hosted several categories including Kampung Ayer Category; for Secondary and Arabic Secondary Schools; for Primary and Religious Schools (on land); for Religious Schools on Kampung Ayer and Petrol Stations.

The winners for these categories were Kampung Bolkiah 'A', Jerudong Arabic School; Pengiran Anak Puteri Muta-Wakkilah Hayatul Bolkiah; Sungai Kebun Primary School, and Mar'azmala Petrol Station Trading in Jerudong respectively.

Present to award the prizes was Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha who also officially opened the Cleanliness and Landscape Art Competition and Flower Show organised in conjunction with His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's 64<sup>th</sup> birthday anniversary.

The ceremony took place at the Centrepont Hotel.

Also present were Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Noor Ehsani.

## Her Majesty attends Knowledge Convention Premier Lecture

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 27** – Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha attended the Knowledge Convention 2010 Premier Lecture (Ceramah Perdana Majlis Ilmu 2010) at the International Convention Centre (ICC) in Berakas.

Also present were Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Muta-Wakkilah Hayatul Bolkiah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Noor Ehsani.

The Premier Lecture entitled 'Dapatan Terbaharu Kajian Purba: Melayu Manusia Tertua?' was presented by the Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Sains Malaysia, Pulau Pinang, Malaysia, Tan Sri Professor Dr. Dzulkifli bin Abdul Razak.

Her Majesty also visited the Knowledge Convention Exhibition.



Her Majesty The Raja Isteri visits the Knowledge Convention Exhibition.

## His Royal Highness attends Knowledge Convention Premier Forum 2010

**BERAKAS, July 28** – As part of the Knowledge Convention 2010, a Premier Forum was organised entitled 'Bangsa Bestari Diredai Langit dan Bumi'.

Present to attend the forum was His Royal Highness Crown Prince Pengiran Muda Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.

Also present was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik.

The event was held at the International Convention Centre.

His Royal Highness The Crown Prince (right) and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik (left) at the Premier Forum in conjunction with the Knowledge Convention 2010.







VIETNAM 2010

PHOTOS: RAMLI TENGAH



His Royal Highness and other ASEAN leaders in a group photo soon after the opening ceremony of the 43rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting.

## HRH attends AMM, PMC and ARF

HANOI, VIETNAM, July 19 – His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade was in Hanoi to attend the 43rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM), Post Ministerial Conference (PMC) and the 17th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF).

Accompanying His Royal Highness was Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah.

The meeting will be held from July 19 to 23 at the National Convention Centre (NCC).

Also present were Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz.

The 43rd AMM brings the theme 'Towards ASEAN Community: From Vision To Action' where it will involve discussions on ASEAN community building, the regional architecture and the implementation of ASEAN Charter.

## ASEAN urge tackle political and security issues

HANOI, VIETNAM, July 20 – ASEAN Foreign Ministers play a vital role in the association's operation to overcome issues related with political cooperation; security and internal relationship.

This was stated by His Excellency Nguyen Tan Dung, the Prime Minister of Vietnam in his opening keynote address at the official opening of 43rd ASEAN Ministerial Meeting (AMM) held at National Convention Centre.

He further outlined five main focus of ASEAN which are to realise the ASEAN Community vision which has become ASEAN's main agenda today and for many years to come; to sustain peace and stability of the Asia Region and Asia Pacific that has become the main aim of ASEAN member countries including nations in the Asia Pacific; ASEAN must continue the effectiveness and quality for cooperation with its partners through ASEAN + 1 based on concrete strategies and action plan; ASEAN must become a responsible body

towards the international community in handling global challenges such as financial and economic crisis, climate change, national disasters, pandemics and decrease in natural resources; and lastly to ensure ASEAN's success in the new era by moving towards strengthening unity and solidarity, valuing traditional values, and respecting organisation's principles.

Representing Brunei Darussalam at the official opening of 43rd AMM was His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Prior to the opening ceremony, His Royal Highness with other ASEAN ministers attended a courtesy call to the Prime Minister of Vietnam, His Excellency Nguyen Tan Dung.

Soon after the opening ceremony, the ASEAN ministers had a closer look at an exhibition entitled 'Vietnam-ASEAN: 15 Years Record'.

## ASEAN ministers observe development on ASEAN + 3 cooperation

HANOI, VIETNAM, July 21 – ASEAN ministers had observed the development on the ASEAN + 3 cooperation through Chiang Mai Initiatives and Energy Security. Foreign Ministers from ASEAN member countries, China, Japan and Republic of Korea had expressed their happiness on the progress made in the implementation of the second joint declaration on ASEAN + 3 Cooperation Work Plan 2007-2017 where it supports the establishment of ASEAN Community 2015.

These matters were reiterated at the ASEAN + 3 Foreign Ministers Meeting held at National Convention Centre.

His Royal Highness at the ASEAN + 3 Ministerial Meeting.



Representing Brunei Darussalam at the meeting was His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Also present at the meeting were Foreign Minister of Japan, His Excellency

Katsuya Okada; the Minister of Trade at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea, His Excellency Kim Jong Hoon and Foreign Minister of People's Republic of China, His Excellency Jiechi Yang.



## BDNOC ensures national sports thrive

**BERAKAS, July 6** – Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) is the main body in Brunei Darussalam accredited by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to ensure that the national sports continue to thrive and enjoyed by all walks of life.

This was said by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, President of the BDNOC in his *sabda* at a second meeting between BDNOC and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

His Royal Highness also reminded the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports that Brunei Darussalam must participate the inaugural Youth Olympic Games (YOG) which will be held in Singapore from August 14 until 26 or face the possibility of the country's membership in the IOC to be suspended. If this happens, Brunei Darussalam will not be allowed to take part in any sport festivals accredited by IOC.

His Royal Highness also said that the meeting was to discuss and exchange views on ways to further upgrade the quality of sports in Brunei Darussalam; besides to create a more harmonious atmosphere and understanding between BDNOC and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports in working together to raise the country's prestige with excellence in sports.

## Youth Olympic Games



His Royal Highness hands over the National Flag to Brunei Darussalam's Chef de Mission, Dayang Mariam binti Ulat.

**BERAKAS, July 24** – Brunei Darussalam will be participating in the Youth Olympic Games taking place in Singapore, the first participation for Brunei Darussalam in a world sporting event of Olympic level especially for the local youths.

Thus a National Flag presentation ceremony was held for the Brunei contingent.

Present to hand over the National Flag was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) to Brunei Darussalam's Chef de Mission, Dayang Mariam binti Ulat.

Also present was the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Hazair.

The event took place at Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium.

Brunei Darussalam's contingent will leave for the Republic of Singapore on August 11.

## Neuroscience, Stroke and Rehabilitation Centre (NSRC)

**JERUDONG, July 19** – Brunei Darussalam has achieved another milestone in its health sector with the establishment of Neuroscience, Stroke and Rehabilitation Centre (NSRC). This initiative will not only save many lives but also reduce the burden and sadness of family members in providing full-time treatment for their loved ones who became disabled due to stroke-related illnesses.

The matters were highlighted by His Royal Highness Prince Haji 'Azim in his *sabda* (royal speech) at the official opening of NSRC at Jerudong Park Medical Centre (JPMC).

The initiative, said His Royal Highness, might also symbolised the beginning of the world class projects for JPMC to provide better services to the people of this nation and it is pleasing to see JPMC moving towards that.

His Royal Highness further added that, it is the vision of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam to provide his subjects with world class medical and health services, and this centre symbolises some important parts in realising his vision.

According to the Head of NSRC, Professor

Uta Meyding-Lamade, the centre was built with one model that is 'To Teach To Treat and To Treat To Teach' through exchange programmes, 24 hours telemedical support with teaching and telemedical instruments.

With all these, he added, scientific cooperation between JPMC and Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) in learning and gaining knowledge on stroke symptom at the hospital has begun since July 1, 2010.

The centre is a joint cooperation between JPMC and Krankenhaus Nordwest of



His Royal Highness signs a plaque to mark the official opening of NSRC.

Frankfurt, Germany. It is expected to play main role in Brunei as preferred treatment centre for patients from abroad and enhance development of medical tourism in Brunei Darussalam.

### Congratulatory Messages

**His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam sent congratulatory messages to:**

- The Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, and The Right Honourable Stephen Joseph Harper, the Prime Minister of Canada; and the government and people of Canada in conjunction with Canada Day on July 1.
- His Excellency President Barack H. Obama and the government and people of the United States of America in conjunction with the country's 234<sup>th</sup> Independence Day on July 4.



## Did you know that...

- Two significant events occurred during the reign of Sultan Ahmad Tajuddin, Brunei Darussalam's 27<sup>th</sup> Sultan; the discovery of oil in 1929 and the invasion of Brunei by the Japanese in 1941.
- Coal was an important export item for Brunei before the discovery of oil.
- Brunei introduced its policy on education in 1954. The aim was to ensure the provision of education facilities for primary, secondary English education, vocational training and adult education for the people of Brunei.
- In 1958, an English medium school for girls, Sekolah Tinggi Perempuan Raja Isteri was set up in Brunei Town (now known as Bandar Seri Begawan). The school still exist today.

## >> **BRUNEI IN BRIEF**

- Official name is Negara Brunei Darussalam.
- Capital is Bandar Seri Begawan.
- It is located on the north-west of Borneo Island in Southeast Asia.
- Land size is 5765 sq. km
- Population is estimated at 406,200 people (2009)
- It is divided into four districts – Brunei Muara, Tutong, Kuala Belait and Temburong.
- Malay is the official language but English is widely spoken.
- Islam is the official religion and it allows other religions to be practiced.
- National carrier is Royal Brunei Airlines.
- It has an equatorial climate, a uniform temperature, high humidity and heavy rainfall.

**Public Warning:** The trafficking of controlled drugs carries the death penalty in Brunei Darussalam

## >> **HOW TO GET TO BRUNEI DARUSSALAM?**

**There are a number of ways to reach Brunei.**

- By air - Brunei's national carrier, Royal Brunei Airlines travels to more than 20 destinations around the world. The airline also has worldwide office for you to book a return flight to Brunei (to know the nearest RBA's office at your place, please log to: [www.brunelair.com](http://www.brunelair.com))
- International airlines such as Singapore Airlines, Malaysia Airlines and Thai Airways also fly frequently to Brunei. Beginning July 2006, Air Asia, one of Malaysia's lowest airfare carrier has direct flight from Kuala Lumpur to Brunei.
- Arrival by plane would land you to Brunei International Airport (BWN), the sole airport in the nation.
- For those who enjoy journey by sea, you can reach Brunei by boat or ferry. The main ferry terminal in Brunei is the Serasa Ferry Terminal at Muara. You can catch a ferry from Labuan, Sabah or Lawas and Sundar, both in Sarawak, a state of the neighbouring country, Malaysia. Another option is via a boat from Limbang, Sarawak which will arrive at the jetty around Jalan Residency area in the Capital.
- You would have two options of entry point to Brunei by land transport. You can enter through the Sungai Tujoh Immigration Control Post in Belait District or the Kuala Lurah Immigration Control Post in Brunei Muara District. The Sungai Tujoh Immigration Control Post in Belait is the entry point for those from Miri, Sarawak. While the Kuala Lurah Immigration Control Post is the entrance for those coming from Limbang, Sarawak; Kota Kinabalu; and Kalimantan.



## Ramadan a month full of blessings



His Royal Highness distributes the dates to one of the representatives of uniformed personnel.

**JALANTUNGKU, July 24** – Ramadan is a month full of blessing besides various challenges such as refraining from eating and drinking and also preventing oneself from committing sins contradictory to Islamic teachings.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik said that in his *sabda* at the Launching Ceremony of the Distribution of Dates held at the Chancellor Hall of Universiti Brunei Darussalam.

In his *sabda*, His Royal Highness also said that the Islamic *ummah* can benefit from the fasting month to give more alms because such practice is mostly encouraged during the month of Ramadan. His Royal Highness also said giving more alms is also a way to establish relations between the alm givers and recipients.

This year, a total of 138 metric tonnes of dates of Safawi brand from the Al-Madinah Dates Company, Saudi Arabia will be distributed to all Muslims in the country. Each Muslim who resides in the country regardless of their age and status of their citizenship will receive a box containing 300 grams of dates. The dates are a personal gift of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in conjunction with the upcoming month of Ramadan.

## HRH Princess Hajah Rashidah Community Service Awards launched



Her Royal Highness presents an award to one of the members of Girl Guides.

**BERAKAS, July 26** – A community project by the Brunei Darussalam Girl Guides Association (PPNBD) known as 'Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Community Service Awards' has been introduced with the aim to support the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) Action Themes that focus on the United Nations (UN) Millennium Development Goals.

These matters were stated by the Head Commissioner of PPNBD, Dayang Hajah Siti Hafsa binti Haji Abdul Halim at the launching of 1<sup>st</sup> Community Day and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Community Service Awards held at its headquarters in Anggerek Desa.

Present to officially launch the ceremony was Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah, President of PPNBD. Also present was Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Vice President of PPNBD.

This year's Community Day carries the theme 'Plant, Grow and Share'.

## Minister attends reception



The Minister of Development, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Suyoi attended a reception to mark the 234<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United States of America Independence. The ceremony was held on July 4 at the new U.S. Embassy site in Jalan Kebangsaan.

## Charity activity with Pusat Ehsan

**BENGKURONG, July 21** – A delegation of 35 people from Journey of Lifetime Trust – JoLT United Kingdom organised a charity activity with Pusat Ehsan Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam.

Present at the event was Her Royal Highness Princess Fadilah Lubabul Bolkiah.

Among the activities held were singing performance, dance and games. It was participated by the members of Pusat Ehsan, JoLT delegation and officers and staffs from British High Commissioner.

JoLT is one of Charity Associations held voluntarily by a group of people with respective carrier which was formed in 1983 to give positive impact continuously to the life of disable people, ill, neglected as well as abused.



## PSK: Brunei-Muara champion

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 3** – Brunei-Muara's contingent emerged as the champion for 9<sup>th</sup> Pesta Sukan Kebangsaan (PSK – National Sports Fiesta) after beating 12 other teams.

The contingent collected 81 gold medals, 68 silver and 52 bronze. First runner-up was from Royal Brunei Armed Forces' Sport Council (MS ABDB) while second runner-up was Tutong District.

Awards were also given to best male and female athlete which was won by Siu Kent Chung and Amanda Liew Xia Xin respectively. Amanda collected 13 gold medals and broke two national records through swimming event while Siu Kent Chung (best male athlete) collected eight gold medals also through swimming event.

Present at the closing ceremony of the biennial games was Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports,

Datin Hajah Adina.

About 4,000 people participated in this sporting event which was officially opened on June 26 by Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Hazair.

Thirteen contingents took part in PSK namely Brunei-Muara, Tutong, Belait, Temburong, Royal Brunei Armed Forces' Sport Council (MS ABDB), Royal Brunei Police Force Sport Council (MS Polis DB), Schools Sports Council (MSSS), Higher Institutions (IPT), Banks Association of Brunei (BAB), Royal Brunei Airlines (RBA), Brunei Shell Petroleum Company (BSP), and two invited teams from Malaysia;



The Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports presents a trophy to the champion of 9<sup>th</sup> National Sports Fiesta.

Limbang, Sarawak and Labuan, Sabah.

## New regulations introduced under Medicine Order 2007

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 3** – Ministry of Health announced new regulations introduced under the Medicine Order 2007 effective July 1, 2010.

The new regulations under the Medicine Orders 2007, namely; Medicines (Licensing, Standard Provisions and Fees) Regulations 2010 and Medicines (Labelling) Regulations 2010 are aimed to ensure the effectiveness of medicines control procedure in Brunei Darussalam for the safety and security of the country's people and citizenship.

Law enforcement will be taken to those avoiding these laws.

The Medicines (Licensing, Standard Provisions and Fees) Regulations 2010 allocated for control of products, importers, wholesalers and medicine products manufacturers through licensing as Chapter 10 under the Medicine Control 2007 which stated only registered medicines are allowed to be manufactured, sold, supplied or imported by importer, seller or wholesaler who holds the respective license.

Under the regulation, fees will be imposed to licenses issued as stated in schedule five.

Meanwhile, Medicines (Labelling) Regulations 2010 under the Medicine Order 2007 provides allocation for labelling of medicines product as in Chapter 46 under the same order.

Among the allocation under the regulations; medical products dispensed should be labelled with details showing name of patient, name and address of the health clinic including dentist, registered pharmacy, hospital and or any of the institutions that supply or dispense the medical products, date of the medicines dispensed, instruction of using the medicine, the medicine's name and strength.

Those who failed to comply with both regulations can be compounded not more than \$5,000, imprisonment not exceeding two years or both.

## Four resolutions on addressing violence against women

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 7** – Four resolutions were passed where it addressed issues related to violence against women. These resolutions were derived from a forum entitled 'Programme to Address Violence Against Women' held from July 5 to 7 at SEAMEO VOTTECH.

Each resolution is divided into main titles of Prevention, Protection, Legislation and Support.

The resolutions among others suggested for the establishment of crisis centre for victims which is managed by non-government organisation (NGO) or personally-owned as complementary to government shelter; publication of a book containing complete and update civil and syariah laws on violence against women; and to provide information for increasing public awareness on violence against women.

At the closing ceremony, 50 participants received certificates from Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Jemat.

The President of Brunei Darussalam Women Council, Pengiran Datin Paduka Hajah Mariam in her speech expressed the council's hope to establish a team of volunteers among the participants to become active counsellor.

The three-day programme organised by the Brunei Darussalam Women Council was facilitated by three invited speakers from All Women's Action Society – AWAM (Persatuan Pergerakan Wanita Malaysia).

## Six students to attend APCC

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 7** – Brunei Darussalam's delegation comprising of six Year 7 students and two secondary teachers will participate in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Asian-Pacific Children's Convention 2010 (APCC) in Fukuoka, Japan.

The Assistant Director of Secondary Section at Ministry of Education, Cheong Huat Joo said that the programme aims to provide opportunities to students, to discover, share, learn and respect the culture, tradition and lifestyle of others apart from inculcating the spirit of goodwill among participants from 57 countries.

The convention will be held for 10 days beginning July 16 to 27 with a slogan 'We are the BRIDGE: We connect dreams around the world'.



## Tell-A-Friend awareness

## Campaign promotes

**GADONG, July 8** – Increase awareness, enforcement and a change in attitudes are the three main key aspects to increase security on the road.

These were stated by the Managing Director of Brunei Shell Petroleum Cooperation Sendirian Berhad (BSP), Dr. Grahaeme Henderson at the launching of Brunei Tell-A-Friend Road Safety Partners Engagement event.

Present as guest of honour was the Minister of Communications, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Abdullah.

This campaign is the second to be held where the first was officially launched by His Majesty The Sultan and

Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Road Safety 'Tell-A-Friend' Campaign in 2009.

This campaign is one of the continuous efforts by BSP to support road safety by taking personal responsibility for safety on the road and to increase road safety awareness with sharing five security message namely wearing the safety belt; do not use hand phone while driving, monitor speed limit; use pedestrian crossing and wear helmet for motorcyclist whilst on the road.

The event was held at Royal Brunei Police Officer's Mess.

## Brunei Darussalam participates ASEAN Sports School Championship

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 8** – Brunei Darussalam through the Ministry of Education will participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> ASEAN Sports School Championship in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia which will be held from July 12 to 21.

Brunei's contingent of 112 participants comprising of officers and athletes will be participate in seven sports events namely athletic, badminton, golf, hockey, netball, swimming and takraw.

## RTB marks 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of television services

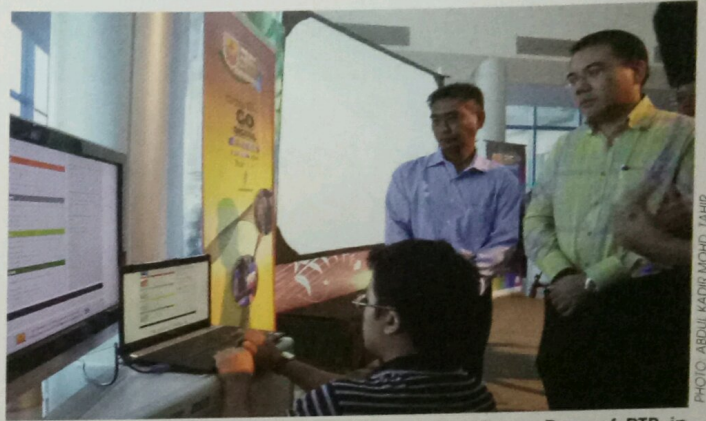
**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 9** – Radio Televisyen Brunei (RTB) marked its 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary since its establishment on July 9, 1975 with an Open Day at the RTB Broadcasting Complex in Sungai Akar.

Present as guest of honour was the Director of RTB, Awang Haji Idris bin Haji Md. Ali who also officially launched RTB's organisation webpage.

In his speech, Awang Haji Idris said that Brunei's television service today provides choices that suit the television viewers through the introduction of five channels.

Also touched in his speech was the digital system that can be received through Set-Top-Box which enables audiences to view programme guides through Electronic Programme Guide – EPG.

Various activities were organised in conjunction with the Open Day which include an exhibition on the services and products available in RTB, quiz, colouring competition for children, car booth sale and many more.



The Director of RTB, Awang Haji Idris at the Open Day of RTB in Sungai Akar.

## Brunei participates in International Al-Quran Reading and Memorisation Competition



Brunei Darussalam to participate in the 27<sup>th</sup> International Reading and Memorisation of All Juzuk (chapters) of Al-Quran.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 9** – Brunei Darussalam will participate in the 27<sup>th</sup> International Reading and Memorisation of All Juzuk (chapters) of Al-Quran.

Representing the country are Awang Mohammad Hashim bin Haji Abdullah Al-Hafiz and Awang Muhd. Fahmie bin Haji Awang Metussin.

Awang Mohammad Hashim is a lecturer at Institut Tahfiz Al-Quran Sultan Haji Hasanal Bolkiah (ITAQSHHB) where he will participate in Memorisation of 30 Juzuk (chapters) of Al-Quran.

He was first-runner at the annual Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz Competition on The Memorisation of Quran and Sunnah for Southeast Asian Countries 2008 held in Indonesia.

Meanwhile, Awang Mohd Fahmie is a graduate from the Kolej Universiti Perguruan Ugama Seri Begawan (KUPUSB) who has won many awards related to Al-Quran reading competition held locally and abroad.

The competition will be held in the Islamic Republic of Iran from July 10 to 18.



## His Majesty's 64<sup>th</sup> royal birthday website launched

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 12** – Information Department, Prime Minister's Office as Committee for Activity and Information (Jawatankuasa Kegiatan dan Penerangan) for His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's 64<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary announced that the official website for His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's 64<sup>th</sup> Birthday Anniversary is now officially launched.

Among others this website contains news and information in conjunction with the celebration. Members of the public are welcomed to browse the website at [www.royalbirthday.org.bn](http://www.royalbirthday.org.bn).

## Religious schools receive Mushaf Al-Quran

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 12** – Two religious schools namely Pelambayan Religious School and Pengiran Muda Abdul Malik Religious School received Mushaf Al-Quran from the Embassy of Saudi Arabia in Brunei Darussalam.

The mushafs were presented by Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Mohamad J.A Hashim at the embassy based in Kampung Salar.

Receiving the mushafs for Pelambayan Religious School was its headmistress, Dayang Hajah Mariam binti Haji Jeludin.

Meanwhile for Pengiran Muda Abdul Malik Religious School in Kampung Benkurong, the mushafs was received by its headmaster, Awang Saharin bin Haji Suboh.

The Mushaf Al-Quran are to be



The headmaster of Pengiran Muda Abdul Malik Religious School receives the mushafs from the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to the country.

used for Khatam ceremony (completion of reading the Al-Quran) of the two academic institutions. The mushafs donated are *tafsir* (with translation) types that has two languages - Malay and English.

## Haiti and Chile Earthquake Humanitarian Fund collects \$150,705.59



The fund was received by the Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 12** – A sum of \$150,705.59 had been collected for the Haiti and Chile Earthquake Humanitarian Fund in a period of three months it was opened for public's donation.

The fund's presentation ceremony was held at Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports. The donations were received by Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Datin Hajah Adina.

## UBD inks pact with University of Korea

**TUNGKU LINK, July 12** – Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) achieved another milestone for the education sector with the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between UBD and University of Korea.

Signing on behalf of UBD, the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Haji Zulkarnaen bin Haji Hanafi; meanwhile University of Korea was represented by its President, Professor Ki-Su Lee.

The MoU marks an early cooperation in academic field between UBD with University of Korea, one of the oldest and largest university in Korea which offers various programmes in the area of humanitarian and science as well as professional areas including medical and business administration.

The signing ceremony was held at UBD.

## Fruit Tree Planting Campaign



The Minister of Industry and Primary Resources plants a young local fruit tree for Rural Agriculture Development Farm at the Community Hall in Mukim Pengkalan Batu.

**MUKIM PENGKALAN BATU, July 14** – An estimated number of 100,000 fruit plants will be planted in a five-year period starting 2008 to 2012.

This was stated by the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Yahya at the launching of a campaign to plant local fruits for Rural Agriculture Development Farm (KPLB) at the Community Hall in Mukim Pengkalan Batu.

According to the minister, only 50 per cent of the KPLB had been developed successfully even though these sites are the largest allocated areas for fruit plantations.

When comparing between the production and number of areas allocated for fruit plantations, it showed wastage in providing the lands as productivity are low. One of the reasons for its low productivity is most of the farmers do not implement good farming practice but instead practice the '3T' system which is *tanam* (plant),

*tinggal* (leave), and *tuai* (harvest).

Referring to statistics from Department of Agriculture and Agrifood in 2009, production of local fruits was only up to 23.4 per cent, said the minister.

He further added that from 2,450 hectares of land provided for fruit plantation, 1,279 hectares are for KPLB.

The campaign with the theme 'Local Fruit National Heritage: Love and Appreciate' is hoped to provide awareness to the public and the new generation on the importance on conservation of local fruits.

At the ceremony, the minister presented fruit plants to 16 Penghulus who represented 46 KPLB areas throughout the nation.



## Positive indicators for Brunei's e-government initiatives

**JERUDONG, July 17** – Brunei Darussalam in 2010 is placed on number 68 for its e-Government initiatives compared to being placed on number 87 in 2008. These indicators are from United Nations' survey on e-Government in 2010 where it was based on composite index comprising of online services, telecommunications' infrastructure and human resource development.

The matters were highlighted by Mr. Richard Kerby, a specialist from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at the United Nations (UN). He is in Brunei Darussalam to conduct a

workshop entitled 'Measurement and Evaluation Tool for e-Government Readiness' (METER).

METER is an online interactive tool designed especially to assist the government and decision-makers in developing, monitoring, examining, and improving the context of usage of Info-communications Technology (ICT) towards efforts of government transformation through e-Government.

The workshop was attended by the Deputy Permanent Secretary (IT and e-Government) at the Prime Minister's

Office, Awang Abdul Mutalib; and other senior officers from government ministries and e-Government National Centre (EGNC). It was organised by the Prime Minister's Office at Bunkers Café, The Empire Hotel & Country Club.

It is hoped that through this program and commitments of all parties on e-Government applications, it will enhance and improve government's efforts in providing services to the public besides improving Brunei Darussalam's position in UN's e-Government 2012 survey.

## Training program on enhancing VTET policies and practices

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 19** – Brunei Darussalam is currently hosting a training program, 'Enhancing VTET Policies & Practices Through Evaluation Research'. It is attended by participants from ASEAN member countries.

Present to officially opened the training program was Acting Director of SEAMEO Voctech, Awang Alias bin Haji Abu Bakar at Teratai Hall in SEAMEO Voctech Regional Centre in Gadong.

The program among others content strategies used in evaluating research, data and measures, writing report, action plan and proposal of research evaluation and other matters related to policies and practices in this region.

It is hoped that the research efforts resulted from this training program will contribute to the enhancement ASEAN's institutions and VTET.

The two-week training program runs from July 19 to 31.

## Borneo Amateur Radio Festival

**BERAKAS, July 23** – The involvement of Brunei Darussalam Amateur Radio Federation (BDARA) in the 6<sup>th</sup> Borneo Amateur Radio Festival reflects the commitment and interest of the members of the association on radio amateur.

The Deputy Director II of Youth and Sports, Awang Haji Muhammad Zamri bin Dato Paduka Haji Hamdani stated the matter at the official opening of the 6<sup>th</sup> Borneo Amateur Radio Festival 2010.

The three-day festival will be held until July 25 which is organised by Brunei Darussalam Amateur Radio Festival held at Anjung, Sports Village, Sports Complex of Hassanal Bolkiah National Stadium.

The festival provides an opportunity to the radio amateur enthusiasts to exchange and share ideas on the facilities used in the amateur radio.

Around 300 participants from Kalimantan of Indonesia, Sabah and Sarawak from Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam are taking part in this event.

## Strengthen comprehensive health care system

**SINGAPORE, July 23** – Brunei Darussalam's health strategy is focused on the strengthening of a comprehensive health care system based on basic health care. To improve the quality of the lives of its citizens and residents and to prevent various diseases, the health strategy also gives strong emphasis on the implementation of health promotion programs.

These were some of the measures taken by Brunei Darussalam on its effort to enhance the health status through the Ministry of Health's Vision 2035 – Together Towards Health Citizens.

The Minister of Health, Pehin Dato Awang Haji Adanan stated the matter at the 10<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Health Ministers Meeting; the 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN + 3 Meeting; and the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN + China Meeting.

Speaking on ASEAN, health challenges faced by ASEAN countries can be overcome through close cooperation based on strategies

outlined in 'ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Blueprint'.

The meeting was held on July 22 to 23 in Singapore. Other meetings that also took place were the 4<sup>th</sup> ASEAN + 3 Meeting and the 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN + China Meeting.

The minister also held courtesy call with the Minister of Health of Singapore, His Excellency Khaw Boon Wan and exchanged ideas on health issues in ASEAN region and international. He also held bilateral discussion with Malaysia's Health Minister, The Honourable Dato' Sri Liow Tiong Lai on health cooperation between Brunei and Malaysia as has been agreed under the Memorandum of Understanding.

## Brunei participates International Tilawah Al-Quran

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 26** – Brunei Darussalam will be participating in the 52<sup>nd</sup> International Al-Quran Reading Competition for year 1431 Hijrah/2010 Masihi held at the Putra Jaya World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from July 27 to August 3.

Representing Brunei to the competition are *qari* (male reader) Awangku Mohd. Adibul Amin bin Pengiran Haji Marjuki and *qariah* (female reader) Dayang Nurfaezah binti Haji Emran.

Both are the champions (*qari* and *qariah*) of the National Al-Quran Reading Competition 1431 Hijrah which was held last May at the International Convention Centre (ICC) in Berakas.



## UBD hosts orientation week

**RIMBA, July 27** – Universiti Brunei Darussalam (UBD) in its effort to be a world-class university, will not forget the nation's philosophy which is Melayu Islam Beraja (MIB). It strives to excel in every field it ventures into based on the Bruneian identity and Islamic values.

These were highlighted by the Vice Chancellor of UBD, Dr. Haji Zulkarnain at the official opening of Orientation Week for UBD's new students.

He also said that UBD is constantly

aware of current changes and these can be seen through the changes of its studying environment, research and internationalisation and will continuously work towards achieving its vision as an internationally recognised university.

A total of 1,100 new students of UBD are taking part in the Orientation Week held at Chancellor Hall.

The Vice Chancellor said that with this new entry session, the total

number of students studying at UBD has increased to 4,873 and this has shown UBD as the preferred university.

He also said that GenNext Degree Program is in its second year where it always gives opportunity to technology as an important asset to add value to the learning experience in UBD as a desire to increase student's productivity in a flexible learning environment.

## ITB widens niche through twinning programs

**JERUDONG, July 27** – It is hoped that the cooperation in organising twinning programs between Institut Teknologi Brunei (ITB) and Queens University Belfast Northern Ireland on Public Engineering and Environment and University of New South Wales in the Chemical Engineering and Petroleum would enhance the quality of programs organised.

These were said by Permanent Secretary (Core Education) at the

Ministry of Education, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Mohd. Daud at the official opening of Academic Session Orientation and Course 2010/2011 of ITB held at BRIDEX Conference Hall.

The Permanent Secretary said ITB will widen its niche through twinning programs which is in line with ITB's strength to meet the nation's aspiration in Vision 2035.

ITB is one of the leading higher learning institutions where it offers

undergraduate programs including Higher National Diploma programs. ITB was officially opened in January 1986 where the programs offered focus on the field of engineering, ICT and business.

This year saw 515 new students where 111 will be undertaking nine undergraduate programs; and 404 will undertake Higher National Diploma programs.

## Integrated Transports System creates BIMP-EAGA vision



The Minister of Communications at the opening of the 5<sup>th</sup> BIMP-EAGA Transports Ministers' Meeting.

transport system is critical to realise the long-term vision of BIMP-EAGA as the Food Basket for ASEAN and the rest of Asia and as the premier ecotourism destination.

The minister stated the matters in his welcoming remarks at the official opening of 5<sup>th</sup> BIMP-EAGA Transports Ministers' Meeting (5<sup>th</sup> TMM) at the Grand Hall, The Empire Hotel & Country Club.

According to the minister, ASEAN as a 'Community of Connectivity' will be a region where goods and people, as well as investments and initiatives can move across the borders without obstacles.

"This can come about through concerted effort to enhance region-

wide multi-modal transportation linkages, including maritime, land and air transport," said the minister.

The challenge of logistics must be jointly addressed and he believed that development in transport connectivity and infrastructure in BIMP-EAGA would support the realisation of the ASEAN Connectivity and the establishment of the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015.

Regular engagement with the private sectors through the BIMP-EAGA Business Council could provide strategic feedback in the implementation of the BIMP-EAGA transport priority projects.

"A strong support and commitment from the State/Provincial Governments in BIMP-EAGA is essential in ensuring successful implementation of projects," said the minister.

The 5<sup>th</sup> BIMP-EAGA TMM was held in Brunei Darussalam from July 27 to 28 and chaired by Minister of Communications.

**JERUDONG, July 28** – Minister of Communications, Pehin Dato Haji Awang Abdullah believed that there is vast potential for a strong synergy for economic growth in the sub-region derived from our geography, richness of culture and natural resources.

An efficient and integrated

## Brunei celebrates World Breastfeeding Week

**BERAKAS, July 31** – Positive indicators has been recorded over breastfeeding rate in Brunei Darussalam as it has continuously increased between 50 to 68 per cent in 2009. Its increase is as a result of community awareness particularly parents who realised and understood the benefit and advantage of breastfeeding.

The matters were highlighted by the Minister of Health, Pehin Dato

Haji Awang Adanan at an event to commemorate World Breastfeeding Week 2010 at the Health Promotion Centre.

At the ceremony, the minister also launched Breastfeeding Help-Line and SMS Push for all districts; and presented certificates to mothers practising exclusive breastfeeding and health staff who support breastfeeding.

The World Breastfeeding Week

is organised by World Health Organisation (WHO) with UNICEF and has become an annual activity for Ministry of Health since August 1999.

This year theme is 'Breastfeeding. Just 10 Steps! The Baby-Friendly Way'.



## Brunei-Japan Friendship Association conducts arts performance

**BERAKAS, July 7** – Brunei-Japan relation was further strengthened with the conducting of an art performance – Japanese Martial Arts Festival. It was held as part of Japan-East Asia Network of Exchange for Students and Youths Program (JENESYS) held by the Embassy of Japan in cooperation with the Brunei-Japan Friendship Association and the Japan International Cooperation Centre (JICE).

Present as the guest of honour was Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Wadood Bolkiah and wife.

Various martial arts were performed which also involved Brunei Darussalam's Aikido, Kendo and Wadokai Karatedo associations. The art performance was held at the Orchid Garden Hotel.

## Chinese Cooperation Forum (Ningxia) – Brunei opens opportunities for cooperation

**YINCHUAN CITY, NINGXIA, CHINA, July 19** – A forum entitled 'Chinese International Cooperation Forum (Ningxia) and Brunei Darussalam' provided the opportunity for Brunei Darussalam and Ningxia to share experiences and ideas on best strategies to develop and enhance cooperation in the food industry such as halal, tourism sector and cultural field.

The forum was attended by the Ambassador of Brunei Darussalam to the People's Republic of China, Her Excellency Magdalene Teo and the Vice Governor of Ningxia, His Excellency Tia Ming.

Also present were representatives from Brunei-China Friendly Associations and Brunei Photography Association.

The forum was held with the 2<sup>nd</sup> China International Expo (Ningxia) on Art, Cultural and Tourism which will be ended on July 24.

The forum was held in Ayu Hotel, Yinchuan City, Ningxia.

## Call to establish bodies for Sports Science and Coaches

**BERAKAS, July 21** – A call was made to establish two bodies which are for Sports Science and Coaches in line with the National Sports Policy. The establishment of sports bodies that could support sports science and coaches should be encouraged.

The call was made by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah,

the President of Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) at the council's Annual General Meeting 2010 held at Dewan Muzakarah, International Convention Centre.

His Royal Highness also spoke on the Olympic Solidarity Program where the International Olympic Council (IOC) has allocated US\$80,000 for Brunei Darussalam for the period 2009 – 2013 and has been partially utilised by Brunei Darussalam.

BDNOC, according to His Royal Highness, will also have a new constitution and logo in which the constitution has been approved by IOC; while the logo has been approved by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

## ASEAN participants visit Technical Educational Department

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 24** – The participants in the Training Programme 'Increase Policy and VET Practice through Educational Assessment' from SEAMEO Voctech Regional Centre visited Technical Educational Department.

The delegation was led by the Director of Regional Affairs SEAMEO Voctech Regional Centre, Dr. Paryono.

A total of 20 participants from ASEAN including Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam comprising of teachers, lecturers, expertises, principals, officers and senior administrators from various government associations and non-government respective countries are participating in the program.

The visit aimed to have a closer look at the activities conducted by the Research Division. The delegation was welcomed by the Acting Director of Technical Education, Pengiran Suhaimi bin Pengiran Haji Bakar.

During the visit, the participants were briefed on the organisation structure, direction, challenges and courses provided in the Vocational and Technical Education Institution by the Assistant Director, Denis Ho Mun Tai.

## Brunei Darussalam hosts 5<sup>th</sup> BIMP-EAGA TMM

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 27** – Brunei Darussalam hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> BIMP-EAGA Transport Ministers Meeting (TMM) on July 28 at The Empire Hotel & Country Club in Jerudong.

The meeting was preceded by an Informal Meeting of BIMP-EAGA Transport Senior Officials on July 27.

Those attending the meeting include Transport Ministers, Deputy Transport Ministers and officials from BIMP-EAGA countries including Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and also representatives from BIMP-FC, BIMP-EAGA Business Council (BEBC), Asian Development Bank, Germany Technical Cooperation (GTC) and ASEAN Secretariat.

## Brunei hosts Joint Surveyors Board Meeting

**BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, July 31** – Survey Department, Ministry of Development hosted the Joint Surveyors Board (JSB) Meeting at the Centrepont Hotel in Gadong.

The meeting was chaired by Surveyor General, Awang Haji Mohd. Jamil bin Haji Mohd. Ali.

The meeting was attended by representatives from respective board of surveyors from Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore, Sabah and Sarawak.

The main objective of the meeting was to enhance professionalism on management aspect of Land Surveyors Board and knowledge on the usage of land survey technology.

Survey Department, Ministry of Development established its board on March 18, 1980.

## TECHXPO 2010 in November

**BERAKAS, July 30** – An exposition known as TechXpo 2010 will be held in November this year where it will feature the latest technology and the field of communications.

This expo will be organised by Infocom Federation Brunei (IFB) with Sunlit Advertising Sdn. Bhd.

In this regard, the signing of agreement between IFB and Sunlit Advertising Sdn. Bhd. was held at the Info-Communication Technology Industry of Brunei Darussalam (AITI) at Anggerek Desa.

Present to witness the signing ceremony was Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Communications, Dato Paduka Awang Haji Alaihuddin.

Signing on behalf of IFB was Awang Abdul Ghani bin Pengiran Metusin and the Deputy Chairman of IFB, Sheikh Abas bin Sheikh Mohammad; meanwhile Sunlit Advertising Sdn. Bhd. was represented by its Managing Director, Jackson Ting and the Assistant Managing Marketing, Tazio Erwann Andrew Seong Onn Lai.

TechXpo 2010 is scheduled to be held from November 4 to 7 at the International Convention Centre.



Meet - the - people session



PHOTO: MASRI OSMAN

Belait District on July 17.



PHOTO: MASRI OSMAN

Temburong District on July 20.



PHOTO: MASRI OSMAN

Tutong District on July 22.



PHOTO: MASRI OSMAN

Brunei-Muara District on July 25.