



برونئي دارالسلام

Brunei Darussalam

Brunei Darussalam news letter

Published by the Department of Information
Prime Minister's Office

FEBRUARY, 2015
VOLUME 30 ISSUE 2

HM: Brunei Darussalam needs to accelerate economic diversification

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 23 – An economy dependent on one sector alone is unsustainable, therefore, economic diversification is needed as preparation for difficult and unexpected times.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam stressed this matter in a *titah* (royal speech) for Brunei Darussalam's 31st National Day.

His Majesty also stressed the need for all parties to practice good financial and resources management especially when revenues decrease.

Some of the ways to redouble the efforts towards economic diversification include attracting more Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the non-oil and gas sector, improving the environment for investment and entrepreneurship, easing the doing of business, providing physical infrastructure and empowering human capital.

Touching upon entrepreneurship, His Majesty consented to the amendment of the Miscellaneous License Act 2015 to expedite the process of



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivers a *titah* (royal speech) on the eve of the 31st National Day celebration at Istana Nurul Iman.

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His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consents to attend the 31st National Day celebration at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien.

Brunei Darussalam celebrates 31st National Day

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 23 – More than 22,000 people across the country flocked to the capital to celebrate Brunei Darussalam's 31st National Day at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien.

The crowd eagerly welcomed the arrival of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam as His Majesty consented to attend the General Assembly.

His Majesty was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah were also present.

After the national anthem was sung, His Majesty consented to inspect

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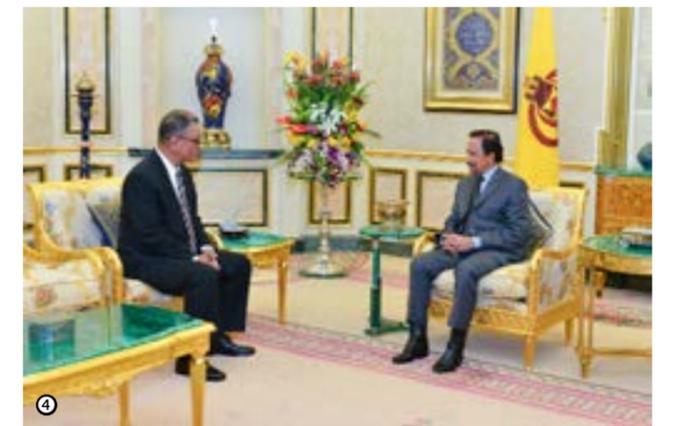
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His Majesty receives audiences

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to receive in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:

1. His Excellency General Worapong Sanganetra, the Chief of Defence Force of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, on February 2.
2. His Excellency Dato Paduka Seri General Tanasak Patimapragorn, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand, on February 3.
3. Her Excellency Daw Yin Yin Myint, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam, on February 12.
4. His Excellency Nestor Z. Ochoa, the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Philippines, on February 12.

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

- The President of the Islamic Republic of Iran, His Excellency Hassan Rouhani, the government and the people of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the occasion of the 36th anniversary of Iran's Islamic Revolution victory, on the February 11.
- The Emir of the State of Kuwait, His Highness Sheikh Sabah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, the government and people of Kuwait on the occasion of the state's 54th National Day, on February 25.



FEBRUARY 2015 VOLUME 30 ISSUE 2

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM NEWSLETTER

is published monthly by the Department of Information. It reports on government, social and business events in the country. All money values are expressed in Brunei dollars \$, unless otherwise stated. Any information in this newsletter may be reproduced; a clipping of the publication would be appreciated. For free subscription (excluding postage) please write to the Distribution Unit, Department of Information, Prime Minister's Office, Old Airport, Berakas BB 3510, Brunei Darussalam.

EDITORIAL Advisory Board:

Mawardi Haji Mohammad
(mawardi.mohammad@information.gov.bn)

Editor:

Azman Haji Abdul Rahim
(azman.rahim@information.gov.bn)

Ameiliatun Assyakinah Haji Abdullah

Sub Editor:

Wahid Haji Halim
(wahid.halim@information.gov.bn)

Ishak Haji Othman
(ishak.othman@information.gov.bn)

Hajah Zaianit Haji Noorkhan
(zaianit.noorkhan@information.gov.bn)

WED attachment student:

Asnizaitul Nadia Abdullah
Siti Noor Aqeelah Ahmad Sanisi

Layouter:

Hajah Zaianit Haji Noorkhan
(zaianit.noorkhan@information.gov.bn)

Translator:

Hajah Apsah Haji Sahdan
(apsah.sahdan@information.gov.bn)

Haji Mirazman Haji Othman
(mirazman.othman@information.gov.bn)

Photographs

Photography Unit of Department of Information

General inquiries

Tel: (673) 2383 400/ext English News
Fax: (673) 2382 012

Information Department

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>> 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 422,700 people (2012).

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



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to receive diplomatic credentials from seven non-resident foreign envoys to Brunei Darussalam. The ceremony was held at the Istana Nurul Iman on February 26.

They were:

1. His Excellency Dr. Jamrad Jamshed, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.
2. His Excellency Dr. Aziz Ponary Mlima, the High Commissioner of the United Republic of Tanzania.

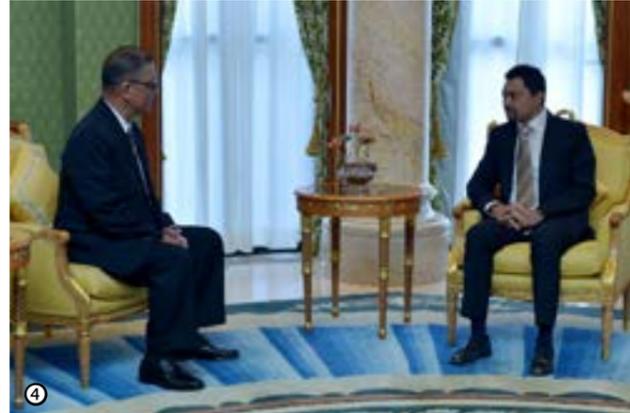
3. His Excellency Kang Choi, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.
4. His Excellency Dr. Anwar H Al-Agha, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Palestine.
5. His Excellency Benjamin Clement Eghan, the High Commissioner of the Republic of Ghana.
6. His Excellency Basim Hattab Habash Al Tumma, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Iraq.
7. His Excellency Carlos Dominguez Diaz, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Spain.

Her Majesty The Raja Isteri receives audiences



Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam consents to receive in audience at the Istana Nurul Iman:

1. The spouse of the Chief of Defence Force of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, Mrs. Wichuda Sanganetra; the spouse of the Deputy Chief of Defence of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, Captain (L) Woranart Pongsapipatt; the spouse of the Chief of Joint Staff of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, Major General Rachada Kaotira; the spouse of Deputy Chief of Joint Staff of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, Mrs. Vanvimol Suwana-Adth and the spouse of the Chief of Staff Officer to the Chief of Defence of the Royal Thai Armed Forces, Mrs. Jiraporn Srisuwan, on February 2.
2. Her Excellency Yang Jian, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam, on February 17.
3. The spouse of the outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Philippines to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Nestor Z. Ochoa, Mrs. Maria Tomasa E. Ochoa, on February 17.
4. The outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam, Her Excellency Daw Yin Yin Myint, on February 17.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, consented to receive in audience at Qashr Al-Meezaan:

1. The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Hisham bin Abdul Wahab bin Zar'ah, on February ².
2. The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Abdolhamid Fekri, on February ².
3. The outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam, Her Excellency Daw Yin Tin Myint, on February ³.
4. The outgoing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Philippines to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Nestor Z. Ochoa, on February ³.
5. The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to Brunei Darussalam, Her Excellency Yang Jian, on February ⁵.
6. The High Commissioner of Canada to Brunei Darussalam, Her Excellency Marina Laker, on February ⁵.

Indonesian President visits Brunei Darussalam



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 consent to receive in audience the President of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency Haji Joko Widodo and Ibu Hajah Iriana Widodo at Istana Nurul Iman.



His Majesty consents to bestow a state decoration, the 'Most Esteemed Family Order Laila Utama', upon His Excellency.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 7 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam consented to receive in audience the President of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency Haji Joko Widodo and his spouse, Datin Ibu Hajah Iriana Widodo.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman and other members of the royal family were also present.

His Majesty also consented to bestow a state decoration, the 'Most Esteemed Family Order Laila Utama' upon His Excellency, which carries the title 'Dato Laila Utama' at the ceremony held at Istana Nurul Iman.

During his two-day visit, His Excellency toured Kampung Ayer, the Royal Regalia Museum and Brunei Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) in Lumut.

His Excellency also took the opportunity to meet and greet the Indonesian nationals living in Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty with the cabinet ministers during a bilateral meeting with the Indonesian President and his delegation.

Meeting discusses bilateral, regional and international matters

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 7 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to hold a meeting with the President of the Republic Indonesia, His Excellency Dato Laila Utama Haji Joko Widodo at Baitul

Masyuarah, Istana Nurul Iman.

During the meeting, His Majesty and His Excellency discussed bilateral relations and exchanged views on current issues as well as the regional and international matters of mutual concern.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam meets with the President of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency Dato Laila Utama Haji Joko Widodo.

Brunei Darussalam and Republic of Indonesia sign MoU on health

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 7 - The Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Government of the Republic of Indonesia signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on health cooperation in a ceremony held at Baitul Masyuarah, Istana Nurul Iman.

The Minister of Health, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Adanan bin Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Mohd. Yusof signed the agreement on behalf of the Government of His Majesty while the Republic of Indonesia was represented by the Indonesian Minister of Health, Her Excellency Ibu Nila Djuwita Anfasa Moeloek.

The signing was witnessed by His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the President of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency Dato Laila Utama Haji Joko Widodo.

Afterward, a MoU was also signed between the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Brunei Darussalam and the Indonesia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KADIN).

Brunei Darussalam was represented by the Chairman of the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Brunei Darussalam, Awang Haji Mohd. Razali bin Haji Johari while the Republic of Indonesia was represented by the Chairman of KADIN, Bapak Suryo Bambang Sulisto.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister Office and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade were also present to witness the signing ceremony.



The Minister of Health, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Adanan and the Indonesian Minister of Health, Her Excellency Ibu Nila Djuwita Antasa Moeloek signing the MoU on health cooperation.



The Chairman of the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Brunei Darussalam, Awang Haji Md. Razali bin Haji Johari (right) and Chairman of KADIN, Bapak Suryo Bambang Sulisto signing the MoU.



Their Majesties and other members of the royal family with the Indonesian President and First Lady at the state banquet held at Istana Nurul Iman.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* at the state banquet.

His Majesty praises relations with Republic of Indonesia

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 7 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam consented to host a state banquet in honour of the President of the Republic of Indonesia, His Excellency Dato Laila Utama Haji Joko Widodo and his wife, Datin Ibu Hajah Iriana at Istana Nurul Iman.

His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman and other members of royal family were also present.

In a *titah*, His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam praised the close relationship and long-standing cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Indonesia in different areas.

His Majesty also said that he is looking forward to further strengthen the existing relationship and jointly explore new areas of collaboration that have been identified.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah with His Excellency Dato Laila Utama Haji Joko Widodo and Datin Ibu Hajah Iriana.

Brunei Darussalam celebrate 31st National Day



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam inspecting the guard of honour on the 31st National Day at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien.



More than 22,000 people across the country flocked to the capital to celebrate Brunei Darussalam's 31st National Day at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien.

HM: Strength and integrity important for country's future



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* at the Sovereign's Parade ceremony of the Officer Cadet School's 12th Intake.



His Majesty consents to award the most prestigious 'Sword of Honour' to an Officer Cadet who excelled in all fields of training.



His Majesty consents to meet and greet the newly commissioned officers and their families.

SUNGAI AKAR, February 5 - Leaders must be steadfast in addition to having a strong sense of integrity, as these attributes are important in achieving excellence.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Minister of Defence and Supreme Commander of Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF), emphasised this matter in a *titah* (royal speech) at the Sovereign's Parade ceremony of the Officer Cadet School's 12th intake at Sungai Akar Camp.

The future of the country, His Majesty said, greatly depends on the younger generation's energy and integrity especially when they have the physical and spiritual strength.

However, should they be weak, the defence and safety of the country would also be threatened.

"Therefore, there is no doubt that our aim is to produce a strong younger generation that is knowledgeable and faithful towards being a greater country in the future," said His Majesty.

His Majesty also highlighted that the future calls for the loyalty and commitment of the Officers Cadets.

They need to be more attentive to the current issues and must remain vigilant in facing the unexpected.

In addition, His Majesty stressed the need for the military personnel to upgrade their knowledge and expertise as well.

Knowledge, His Majesty said, is vital in generating quality professional military officers that are tech-savvy and competitive.

"It is also necessary for them to fully master the safety procedures as a step to prevent any unwanted incidents from happening," His Majesty added.

Apart from that, His Majesty also called for the continuous skill enhancement of trainers through best practices.

"The introduction of a Virtual Learning Environment hopes to offer a new experience in the learning process," His Majesty said.

His Majesty also underlined the need for effective procedures to select qualified trainers for the whole training institution of the RBAF.

Earlier, His Majesty congratulated all 22 Officer Cadets for finishing their training and for their courage in entering a military career.

His Majesty said the 48-week rigorous and intensive training was a positive and life-changing experience that characterised true leadership.

"We must bear in mind that everyone is a leader and is responsible for their leadership," said His Majesty.

His Majesty also expressed appreciation to the parents and family members who had always prayed for their children to achieve the best during their training.

The Officer Cadets could not have successfully completed their training without the strong support of their parents and family members, added His Majesty.

In addition, His Majesty also lauded all members of the RBAF Defence Academy for their commitment in educating the cadet officers tirelessly from the beginning to the end of their training.

His Majesty leads team to victory in charity polo tournament



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the polo match.

JERUDONG, February 8 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to participate in and won the finals of the charity polo tournament, the Richard Mille Gold Cup, for the Children's Cancer Foundation (YASKA) at Royal Brunei Polo and Riding Club (RBPRC).

His Majesty led the Black Team to victory after securing a 7-6 win over the Red Team led by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

The Black Team won 3-2 in the first chukka (period) and 6-5 in the second.

The other Black Team members were Her Royal Highness Princess 'Azemah Ni'matul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Bahar and Pablo Mac Donough of Argentina.

Meanwhile, the Red Team members included Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Haji 'Abdul 'Ali Yil-Kabier bin Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz; Haji Abdul Azeez bin Pehin Orang Kaya Lela Pahlawan Mejar Jeneral (B) Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Muhammad Jaafar and Lucas Monteverde of Argentina.

At the end of the tournament, His Majesty consented to collect the Richard Mille Gold Cup Trophy from Peter Harrison, the Chief Executive Officer of Richard Mille (a brand of luxury Swiss watches).

His Majesty also consented to award the White Team for winning the third place after defeating the Grey Team led by His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien with a 5-4.

The White Team members were Tawil, Farid bin Abdullah, Abu Kassim and Ignacio Novillo Astrada while the Grey Team members included Ploy Bhing Sing, Amr Zedan and Aljandro Agote.

Her Majesty Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam, His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Wakeel ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Her Royal Highness Princess Ameerah Wardatul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, Her Royal Highness Princess Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar were also present at the tournament.

YASKA provides children diagnosed with cancer and their families with support while undergoing treatment as well as increasing the awareness of children's cancer in Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty receives a bouquet of flowers from the Children's Cancer Foundation (YASKA).



His Majesty consents to collect the Richard Mille Gold Cup from the CEO of Richard Mille.

His Majesty awards land lots and house keys to 594 recipients

TUTONG, February 28 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to award land lots and house keys to 594 recipients under the Bukit Beruang National Housing Plan (RPN) at a ceremony held at the Ma'had Islam Brunei Hall in Tutong District.

His Majesty also consented to meet and greet the new land and home owners at the ceremony.

Earlier His Majesty was greeted upon arrival by the Minister of Development, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Haji Awang Suyoi bin Haji Osman; the Minister of Home Affairs, The Honourable Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Dato Paduka Haji Othman and the Tutong District Officer, Awang Wardi bin Haji Mohammad Ali.

In his welcoming speech, the Tutong District Officer said that the presentation of the awards demonstrated His Majesty's concern and attention toward fulfilling and safeguarding the needs of the citizens and residents of the country.

The ceremony began with the recital of *Surah Al-Fatihah* led by the Tutong District's Shari'ah Subordinate Court Judge, Pengiran Haji Shahril Azman bin Pengiran Haji Metusin.

A *doa selamat* was also read by the judge to bless the ceremony.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consents to award a recipient of RPN Kampung Bukit Beruang.

After the awarding ceremony, His Majesty consented to visit the Ma'had Islam Brunei, which currently accommodates 647 students.

The college originally admitted only male students but in 2015, accepted its first female students in Year 5 and 6.

Afterward, His Majesty consented to tour the Hana Soy & World Company (B) Sdn. Bhd., located at the Serabangun Industrial Complex and was greeted by the Assistant Director of the Hana Soy & World (B) Sdn. Bhd., Wan Krisnizaha Haji Osman.

His Majesty then visited the Perpindahan Kampung Bukit Beruang II Primary School, Zone Tutong II and was greeted by the school's principal, Dayang Hajah Inani binti Haji Ahmad Kamboh.

Subsequently, His Majesty visited the residence of the village head of Kampung Bukit Beruang, Awang Ahmad bin Aman at Jalan Bincaloi, RPN Bukit Beruang, Mukim Telisai.

At the village head's house, His Majesty signed a plaque and met the members of the Tutong District Volunteers.

Then, His Majesty was introduced to the members of the Kampung Bukit Beruang Consultative Council who exhibited the village products ranging from food to handicrafts.

To conclude the visit, His Majesty also consented to a photo session before visiting several houses at the RPN Kampung Bukit Beruang.



His Majesty with one of the students of the Perpindahan Kampung Bukit Beruang II Primary School, Tutong.



His Majesty receives a briefing during a tour at Hana Soy and World Company (B) Sdn. Bhd.



His Majesty consents to visit a house of one of the RPN Kampung Bukit Beruang recipients.



His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah consents to cut a birthday cake.

MUARA, February 17 – His Royal Highness Prince General Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Crown Prince, Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and General of Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF), consented to attend a high-tea reception commemorating His Royal Highness's 41st birthday hosted by the RBAF.

The reception was held at the Royal Brunei Navy Officers' Mess in Muara.

His Royal Highness was accompanied by Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah

binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

Upon arrival, Their Royal Highnesses were greeted by the RBAF Commander, Yang Dimuliakan Pehin Datu Pekerma Jaya Major General Dato Paduka Seri Awang Mohd. Tawih bin Abdullah.

At the reception, His Royal Highness The Crown Prince consented to cut a commemorative birthday cake and subsequently, received a *pesambah* (gift).

In addition, His Royal Highness consented to watch a video clip

RBAF celebrates HRH Crown Prince 41st birthday

presentation and receive a photo album featuring His Royal Highness's visits to the Ministry of Defence, the RBAF and working military visits abroad.

His Royal Highness also consented to sign a Royal Parchment.

At the ceremony, Their Royal Highnesses consented to a photo group session and prior to leaving, also receive '*junjung ziarah*' from the Ministry of Defence and RBAF personnel.



His Royal Highness The Crown Prince consents to receive a *pesambah* (gift).

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 18 - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Crown Prince, Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Deputy Inspector General of Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF), and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab Rahaman consented to attend a high-

tea reception commemorating His Royal Highness's 41st birthday hosted by the RBPF.

Their Royal Highnesses were accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Commandant of

RBPF celebrates Police Deputy Inspector General's 41st birthday

the Women's Police; and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar.

Upon arrival at the RBPF's Banquet Hall, Their Royal Highnesses were greeted by the Permanent Secretary (Security and Enforcement) at the PMO, Yang Mulia Dato Paduka Haji Hamdan bin Haji Abu Bakar; the RBPF Commissioner, Dato Paduka Seri Bahrin bin Mohd Noor; the RBPF Deputy Commissioner, Dato Seri Pahlawan Haji Mohd Jammy bin Haji Mohd Shah Al-Islam, and their wives, as well as other senior RBPF officers.

At the reception, His Royal Highness The Crown Prince consented to cut a commemorative birthday cake and receive a *pesambah* (gift).

In addition, His Royal Highness consented to sign a Royal Parchment and to a photo session with the RBPF personnel.

Prior to leaving, Their Royal Highnesses consented to receive '*junjung ziarah*' from the officials and their wife.

* From frontpage (HM: Brunei Darussalam needs to accelerate economic diversification)

business licensing on January 1, 2015.

"*Alhamdulillah*, I was informed that with the amendments, business licenses can now be obtained within a day only. In addition, the application and approval for company registration can also be done online," said His Majesty.

His Majesty hopes that the young generation would utilise these opportunities.

Apart from that, His Majesty also said

that the private sector workforce is another need that must not be ignored.

The government has provided policies and programmes to equip the local workforce with the skills and ability needed in the private sector.

However, not many people are seizing the opportunities.

"Why is this happening? Perhaps they have not been able to escape the shackles of their comfort zone where many are still too hopeful of getting employment in the government," His Majesty said, adding that this issue must be solved.

In concluding the *titah*, His Majesty

* From frontpage (Brunei Darussalam celebrates 31st National Day)



the guard of honour comprising of personnel from Royal Brunei Army Force (RBAF) and Royal Brunei Police Force (RBPF).

His Majesty then proceeded to the grandstand to watch the annual procession of more than 22,000 people representing a total of 126 groups, led by the bearers of the super-sized National Flag.

The participants included representatives from uniformed personnel, government agencies, schools, non-profit organisations and community associations.

The celebration continued with a presentation, a silent drill, by 312 trainees of the National Service Programme (PKBN).

It was then followed by performances by representatives from higher education institutions, colleges, schools, associations, civil society organisations

and foreign associations in Brunei Darussalam.

Afterward, the National Day pledge was recited by Awang Haji Mohammad Shahrol Azmi bin Haji Abdul Muluk then followed by the triple chant of 'Allah Akbar' by ASP Wan Firdaus bin Haji Mohammad Aminuddin.

The highlight of the celebration was the performance that embodied youth as the country's hopes in shaping a strong and independence nation involving nearly 8,000 youth from secondary schools, colleges and higher education institutions.

Earlier, His Majesty was greeted upon arrival by the members of the celebration's Executive Committee, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Laila Diraja Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Hazair bin Haji Abdullah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Lela Cheteria Sahibun Najabah Pengiran Anak Haji Abdul Aziz bin Pengiran Jaya Negara Pengiran Haji Abu Bakar.

His Majesty was also welcomed by the Deputy Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, Yang Mulia Dato Paduka Awang Haji Abdul Wahab bin Juned; the Deputy

expressed sincere appreciation and gratitude to the members of the 31st National Day Executive Committee, participants and staffs involved in ensuring the celebration's success.

In addition, His Majesty also expressed gratitude to all levels of the civil service, including those working abroad and security forces as well as those serving in the private sector.

"With *doa*, may we and our country always be safeguarded and protected by Allah SWT," said His Majesty.

Minister of Religious Affairs, Yang Mulia Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Baharom bin Pengiran Haji Bahar and the Deputy Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Yang Mulia Datin Paduka Hajah Adina binti Othman.

Prior to leaving the event, His Majesty consented to meet and greet the participants involved in making the celebration a success.

The theme for this year's celebration was 'Generation with a Vision', which is an important component in realising the Vision 2035.

The theme defined the future leaders of the country as excellent and competent.

The Government of His Majesty has given wide opportunities as well as preparing a resilient learning ecosystem for the citizens to obtain knowledge, including providing religious knowledge in order to create an excellent and worthy generation with strong sense of integrity and good individuality.

Thus, the Visionary Generation should have proactive, creative, innovative, resilient and strong views and thoughts in leading the country as well as developing it into a more competitive nation.



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah at the launch of the book 'Tasek Merimbun - The Black Beauty of Brunei Darussalam'.

TASEK MERIMBUN, February 28 - His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade expressed his appreciation for the publication of the book 'Tasek Merimbun - The Black Beauty of Brunei Darussalam'.

HRH Prince Mohamed Bolkiah launches Tasek Merimbun book

The book is written by His Royal Highness's son, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Omar Ali who is the Museum's Curator of National History and manager of the Tasek Merimbun Heritage Park.

The launching ceremony was held in conjunction with the 30th anniversary of the ASEAN Heritage Park.

In his welcoming speech, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Laila Diraja Dato Seri Setia Haji Hazair bin Haji Abdullah said it is hoped that the book will disseminate awareness of Tasek Merimbun and inspire interest in people especially the youth in the country.

The Minister of Education, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna Dato Seri Setia (Dr.) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apong was also present at the ceremony.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade hosts farewell luncheon for outgoing ambassadors

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 5 - His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, consented to hold a farewell luncheon for three outgoing ambassadors at the Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan.

His Royal Highness was accompanied by Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

The outgoing ambassadors were:

His Excellency Nestor Z.Ochoa, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Philippines to Brunei Darussalam since April 2011.

His Excellency Apichart Phetcharatana, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to Brunei Darussalam since October 2011.

Her Excellency Daw Yin Yin Myint, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar to Brunei Darussalam since November 2012.

HRH hosts luncheon for Deputy Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 3 - His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, consented to host a luncheon for the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand, His Excellency General Tanasak Patimapragorn and his wife, Mrs Penlaksana Patimapragorn.

The ceremony was held at the Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan.

Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna binti Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, was also present.

His Excellency was in the country on a three-day official visit.

Construction contracts signed for Temburong Bridge project



The Minister of Development witnessing the signing of the contract between the Ministry of Development and Daelim SWEE JV.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 4 - The Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, through the Ministry of Development, signed a contract with Daelim SWEE JV for the construction of the CC² Marina Viaducts of the proposed Brunei Temburong Bridge Project.

The signing, held at the Atria Simpura Hall of the Public Works Department Headquarters in Berakas, was witnessed by the guest of honour, the Minister of Development, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Indera Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Suyoi bin Haji Osman.

The CC² Marina Viaducts is the first contract package of the six construction contracts of the Temburong Bridge that is anticipated to link Brunei Muara District and Temburong District, making it easier

for people to commute to and from the districts.

It consists of constructing low-level bridges or viaducts extending over 13.4 kilometres across the Brunei Bay.

The viaducts will stretch from Brunei Channel Navigation Bridge to the Eastern Channel Navigation Bridge, and from Eastern Channel Navigation Bridge to Tanjung Kerasek in Temburong District.

The contract also includes the provision of turnaround facility at and future connection to Pulau Baru-Baru and Pulau Berambang.

The construction for the CC², started on February 5, is scheduled to be carried out over a period of 45 months.

More than 130 employees are expected to be involved where 52 workers

will be under the Central team and CC² team.

Local engineers who recently graduated will also be recruited in stages to ensure that Brunei Darussalam has the capacity to fulfill the engineering needs of the project at present and in the future.

The minister stated that Sejampang Jetty at Sungai Besar would be temporarily closed during the construction period as it is located in the project site.

However, it will be reinstated upon the completion of the project.

The minister also said that various marine activities would be carried out around the Brunei Bay when the construction and other packages are at its peak.

Therefore, he stressed the importance of looking after the marine environment to ensure the safety of the marine routes, he added.

The Temburong Bridge is constructed to facilitate a dual two-lane motorway stretching over 30 kilometres from Jalan Utama Mentiri in Brunei Muara District to Jalan Labu in Temburong District.

To accelerate the construction of the bridge, the project is divided into separate work contracts.

The other five contracts include the CC³ Navigational Bridges, CC⁴ Temburong Viaducts and Roads, CC¹ Mentiri Tunnels and Land Viaducts, CC⁵A Traffic Control Surveillance Systems and CC⁵B Power Supply and Road Lighting.

All contracts are expected to be completed by 2018.

The proposed Temburong Bridge project.

Ministry of Health launches second PARK project



The Minister of Health joins the crowd in the BOKWA aerobics session.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 15 - The Minister of Health, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Adanan bin Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Mohd. Yusof launched the second Active and Recreation Programme for Health (PARK) project at the Silver Jubilee Park Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah, Jalan Kumbang Pasang.

The PARK project aims to get more people involved in doing physical activities regularly at recreational parks provided by the government.

It is hoped that PARK project would enlighten the public that engaging in physical activity is not tiring and complicated, but participating in one as a family can be a fun way to stay active.

The event included a mass Bokwa aerobics session, a walkathon and sports activities.

It also saw the presentation of

gifts and certificates of participation to representatives of schools in Mukim Kianggeh and seven Healthy Elderly citizens from Mukim Kianggeh by the minister who is also the guest of honour.

The seven recipients were Pengiran Haji Othman bin Pengiran Anak Hashim of Kampung Tumasek; Cheong Tit Lee @ Cheong Teck Lee of Kampung Pular Ulak; Awang Haji Muhammad bin POKILBMSU Haji Ismail of Kampung Kianggeh; Wee Liang Too of Kampung Berangan; Dayang Hajah Siti Nor'ani binti Haji Abdul Rahman of Jalan Kebangsaan; Dayang Hajah Julia binti Abdullah of Kampung Kumbang Pasang; and Dayang Hajah Jasmine binti Abdullah of Kampung Mabohai.

In addition, the minister presented letters of appointment to the members of the Healthy Lifestyle Committee in Kota Batu and the Consultative Council Committee of Mukim Kota Batu.

In a statement provided at the event,

the National Health and Nutritional Status Survey 2009-2011 found that 45.4 per cent of the nation's adults and 28.3 per cent of children engaged in physical activity.

The Ministry of Health advises adults over the age of 18 to exercise (moderate intensity) for at least 30 minutes a day and five times a week while youth between the ages of 5 and 17 are recommended to exercise 60 minutes a day daily.

The second PARK project was co-organised by the Health Promotion Centre under the Ministry of Health, the Municipal Department, the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Mukim Kianggeh Consultative Council, schools and institutions in Mukim Kianggeh, the Centre for Children with Special Needs (KACA) and Persatuan Kemajuan Insan (KESAN).

* Continue on page 17

RIPAS conducts Internal Medicine Basic Speciality Training

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 4 – The Department of Internal Medicine at Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha (RIPAS) Hospital is conducting an Internal Medicine Basic Speciality Training (BST) for physicians under the Ministry of Health.

At the launching ceremony, the Minister of Health, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Johan Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Adanan bin Begawan Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Mohd. Yusof was present as the guest of honour.

The Internal Medicine BST is an initiative to improve the services provided by the department concerning various matters such as the quality or standards issue, mentorship, correlation with the needs of the training partners outside the country and Manpower Planning.

BST is the first stage of training for physicians and leads to higher specialty training in various fields of internal medicine.

The Department of Internal Medicine at RIPAS Hospital is one of the largest clinical departments under the Ministry of Health in terms of manpower and services



The Minister of Health and guests at the BST launching ceremony.

rendered to patients.

Until December 2014, the Internal Medicine specialties include Endocrinology, Cardiology, Respiratory Medicine, Palliative Medicine and Oncology, Geriatrics, Rehabilitation Medicine,

Neurology, Nephrology, Gastroenterology, Dermatology, Hematology, Rheumatology, Infectious Disease and Acute Medical Unit (AMU).

More efforts needed to elevate Malay as language of knowledge, says minister

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 9 - Educators should instill confidence in students learning the Malay language to elevate the official language as the language of knowledge.

In addition, educators need to be more creative, proactive and innovative in searching, implementing and customising the approach in teaching Malay that complies with the students' needs.

As the country is facing challenges and obstacles that could mar the Malay language, educators should also seek to foster the love of Malay language in students.

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Laila Diraja Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Hazair bin Haji Abdullah, as the guest of honor, stated this matter at the finals of the Malay Language Debate competition held at the Language and Literature Bureau (DBP)'s Sarmayuda Hall.

The Malay Language Debate competition was held in conjunction with the Language Month for 2015.

The competition, organised by DBP, aimed to enhance the Malay communication skills as well as the usage of good language that has the ability to open the audience's eyes, heart and ears.

A good speech gives a positive impression and an impact on the public understanding of the nation's independence and sovereignty as well as matters concerning the country's aspirations and vision, said the minister.

Earlier, the minister stated that the use of composite language may be the cause of students' failure in mastering the use of Malay language and passing Malay subjects in the examination with distinction at primary and secondary school.

A composite language consists of speeches via short message service (SMS) that do not follow the rules or patterns of the Malay language system either in terms of spelling, vocabulary selections, expressions and suchlike, he explained.

If this matter is not dealt with, students would become accustomed to using it in spelling and writing, thus creating a cultural phenomenon.

Therefore, the minister suggested that DBP should work



The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports delivering a speech at the Malay Language Debate Competition finals.

together with educators to organise and implement a more effective strategy in developing and elevating the use of Malay through the latest approaches and methods in order to attract more students and the public in using Malay in literature and everyday speech.

Originally, the usage and application of social media was thought to mar the purity of Malay language, however, instead it can be used as an advantage in expanding the usage and upholding of the Malay language.

"At the same time, methods and approaches such as hiring language mentor, language ambassadors and partners from the society including civil servants, professionals, students, non-government organisations and the private sector are also needed," said the minister.

He also urged for the educators to create good debaters among the students.

These students need to be exposed, taught and trained thoroughly in reading, writing, listening, speaking and communicating with the public, as these skills are required in debate.

Kuwait Embassy celebrates 54th National Day



The Minister of Education cutting a cake to commemorate the occasion with the ambassadors at the Empire Hotel & Country Club.

JERUDONG, February 25 – The Embassy of the State of Kuwait in Brunei Darussalam hosted a reception to celebrate Kuwait's 54th National Day

at the Indera Samudra Grand Hall, The Empire Hotel & Country Club.

The Minister of Education, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Kerna

Dato Seri Setia (Dr) Haji Awang Abu Bakar bin Haji Apeng attended the celebration as a representative of the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

In his welcoming speech, the Ambassador of the State of Kuwait to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Dr. Fahad Mashary Al Thafiri said that Brunei Darussalam and Kuwait have a longstanding relationship that included many official bilateral visits between the two countries.

His Excellency added that he appreciates the friendship and close cooperation between the two countries as well as the people and hopes that such cooperation will continue in the future.

Earlier, the celebration began with the singing of the national anthems of both countries and subsequently, continued with a cake cutting session to commemorate the occasion.

Brunei Darussalam and Kuwait established diplomatic relations on May 1, 1990 and will continue to expand in the areas of trade, economy, culture, communication, education, health, tourism and sports.



The Minister of Industry and Primary Resources cutting a cake to commemorate the celebration with The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Brunei Darussalam.

Iranian Embassy celebrates 36th anniversary of Islamic Revolution

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, February 11 – The Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Brunei Darussalam held a reception to celebrate the 36th anniversary of Iran's Islamic Revolution victory at Rizqun International Hotel.

The Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar attended the celebration as a representative of the Government of His Majesty The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam.

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Islamic Republic of

Iran to Brunei Darussalam, His Excellency Abdolhamid Fekri said Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Iran have a regional and international cooperative relationship.

In his speech, His Excellency also explained the development of bilateral relations between both countries.

Earlier, the reception began with the singing of the national anthems of both countries and subsequently, continued by a cake cutting session to commemorate the occasion.

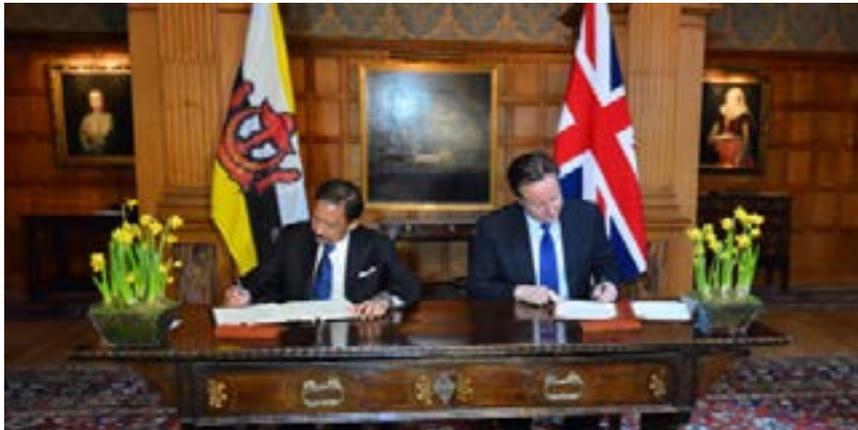
Brunei Darussalam and the Islamic Republic of Iran have initiated various types of cooperation since the two

countries established diplomatic relations on May 1, 1990.

Since the establishment of the Iranian Embassy in Bandar Seri Begawan in 1994, several cooperation agreements such as the Memorandum of Understanding in the fields of economy, trade, science and culture have also been signed.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with The Right Honourable David Cameron at the Chequers Court in Buckinghamshire, London.



His Majesty signing the 'Exchange of Letter and Note' with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, The Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with The Right Honourable Susan Garden, Baroness Garden of Frognal as representative to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

His Majesty and British Prime Minister sign Exchange Letter & Note

LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, February 15 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam consented to hold a meeting with the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, The Right Honourable David Cameron, and sign an Exchange of Letter and Note between Brunei Darussalam and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The event took place at the Chequers Court, Buckinghamshire in London.

Upon arrival, His Majesty was greeted by The Right Honourable and then, proceeded to the Hautrey Room to hold a bilateral meeting.

During the meeting, both leaders discussed ways to further strengthen

bilateral cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and the United Kingdom as well as exchanging views on regional international matters of interest.

Afterward, His Majesty signed the Exchange of Letter and Note between His Majesty's Government and the British Government on the stationing of the Battalion of British Brigade of Gurkha and Amendment to the Exchange of Notes dated September 22, 1983 concerning the arrangement for the United Kingdom Force in Brunei Darussalam.

The Right Honourable signed the exchange of letter and note on behalf of the British Government.

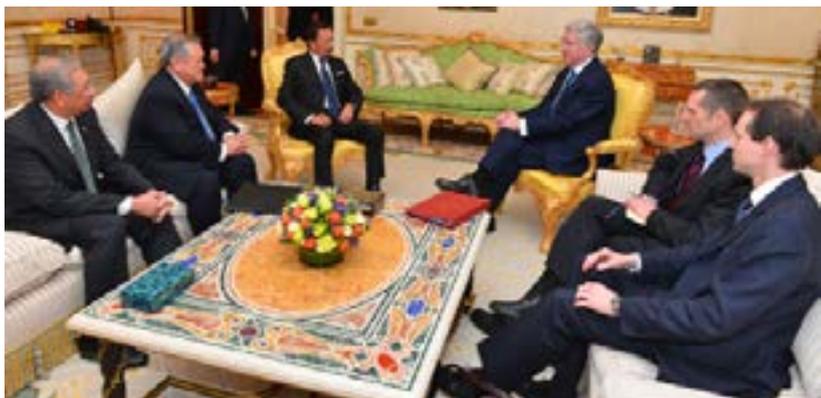
Prior to the meeting, His Majesty received in audience the Secretary of Defence of the United Kingdom, The Right Honourable Michael Fallon at the Kensington Palace Gardens in London.

During the audience, His Majesty and The Right Honourable exchanged views to enhance the cooperation between the two countries as well as discussing the current regional and international developments.

Before departing for Heathrow Airport, His Majesty also signed the guest book at the Chequers Court.

His Majesty was accompanied by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah and Her Royal Highness Princess Fadzilah Lubabul Bolkiah binti His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah.

The Minister of Finance II at the Prime Minister's Office, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Laila Setia Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Haji Ibrahim; the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade II, The Honourable Pehin Orang Kaya Pekerma Dewa Dato Seri Setia Lim Jock Seng; the Minister of Energy at the Prime Minister's Office, The Honourable Pehin Datu Singamanteri Colonel (Rtd) Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Yasmin bin Haji Umar; the Deputy Minister of Defence, Yang Mulia Dato Paduka Haji Mustappa bin Haji Sirat; and the High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam to the United Kingdom, His Excellency Major General (B) Dato Paduka Seri Awang Haji Aminuddin Ihsan bin Pehin Orang Kaya Saiful Mulok Dato Seri Paduka Haji Abidin were also present.



His Majesty with the Secretary of Defence of the United Kingdom at the Kensington Palace Gardens during an audience ceremony.