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Brunei Darussalam

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His Majesty welcomes Lao PDR President

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 25 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien,

Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam

welcomed the arrival of His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) and spouse, Madam Naly Sisoulith, and delegation at Istana Nurul Iman.

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam with His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic and spouse, Madam Naly Sisoulith, and delegation at the State Welcoming Ceremony held at Istana Nurul Iman (above and below).

Brunei-Bangladesh strengthen bilateral ties

DHAKA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH, October 15 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received a Courtesy Call from His Excellency Dr. A.K. Abdul Momen, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs of People's Republic of Bangladesh.

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Royal Birthday Cycling Recreation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 23 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam took part in the Royal Birthday Cycling Recreation 2022.

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12. His Majesty attends Morning Excursion



13. Re-evaluate curriculum, produce competent educators



25. CHMS BSB 100th Anniversary: Instil Bruneian values, maintain harmony and unity



26. Birthday Reception for Her Majesty



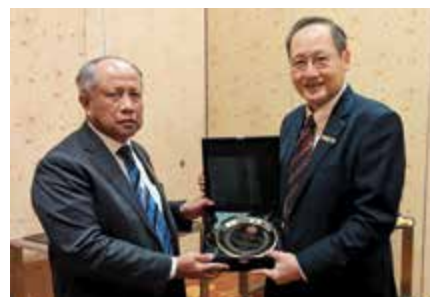
29. President of Lao PDR in Brunei for State Visit



31. HRH Prince Mohamed Bolkiah receives Darjah Kerabat Kelantan Yang Amat Dihormati Al-Yunusi (DK)



31. 5th ISG 2021 discusses national athletes' achievements



32. Brunei Darussalam participates in 15th SIEW 2022



33. Adapt and strengthen efforts to address risks



37. Explore bilateral cooperation in trade and economy



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EDITORIAL Advisory Board:

Siti Bismi Nuruliman Haji Awang Emzah
(bismi.emzah@jpm.gov.bn)

Sastra Sarini Haji Julaini
(sarini.julaini@information.gov.bn)

Chief Editor:

Hjh Hamsah Binti Datu Kerna Hj Jaya
(hamsah.jaya@information.gov.bn)

Editors:

Saadiatul Nur Aqilah Haji Jaman
(aqilah.jaman@information.gov.bn)

Nor Hanizah Haji Abd Halim
(hanizah.halim@information.gov.bn)

Text and translation:

Siti Muslihat Haji Salleh
(muslihat.salleh@information.gov.bn)

Layouts:

Mohammad bin Kahar
(mohammad.kahar@information.gov.bn)

Proofreader:

Nurul Hazwani Binti Abu Omar
(hazwani.omar@information.gov.bn)

Photographs:

Photography Unit of Information Department

General inquiries

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

Information Department

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His Majesty receives audience



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam received in audience at Istana Nurul Iman, Senator the Honourable Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia on October 31.

Her Majesty receives audiences

Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam received in audience at Istana Nurul Iman, female ambassadors and high commissioners to Brunei Darussalam and spouses of foreign diplomatic missions in the country on October 7.



HRH the Crown Prince receives audiences

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



Newly-appointed Brunei Darussalam Envoys: Her Excellency Datin Paduka Malai Hajah Halimah binti Malai Haji Yussof; Her Excellency Datin Paduka Hajah Rakiah binti Haji Abdul Lamit@Hamid; His Excellency Pengiran Muhammad Husaini bin Pengiran Penggawa Laila Bentara Istiadat Diraja Dalam Istana Pengiran Haji Alauddin; His Excellency Garry Ramlee bin Ibrahim; and His Excellency Pengiran Salimin bin Pengiran Mohd. Daud on October 24.

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Her Excellency Boosara Kanchanalai, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to Brunei Darussalam on October 24.



His Excellency Major General (Rtd) Farhat Abbas Sani, Hilal-e-Imtiaz, High Commissioner of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam on October 24.



Her Excellency Ambra Dickie, High Commissioner of Canada to Brunei Darussalam on October 24.

His Majesty sends congratulatory messages

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

- His Excellency Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China and His Excellency Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, the government as well as to the people of the republic on the occasion of its 73rd Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China on October 1.
- His Excellency Yoon Suk-yeol, President of the Republic of Korea (RoK), the government and the people of the RoK on the occasion of its National Foundation Day on October 3.
- His Excellency Frank-Walter Steinmeyer, Federal President of the Federal Republic of Germany and to His Excellency Olaf Scholz, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, the government as well as the people of the Federal Republic of Germany on the occasion of the Day of German Unity on October 3.
- The Right Honourable Rishi Sunak MP, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom (UK) of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on the occasion of his appointment as the new Prime Minister of the UK of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on October 25.
- His Excellency Recep Tayyip Erdogan, President of the Republic of Turkiye, the government and the people of the Republic of Turkiye on the occasion of the Republic Day of the Republic of Turkiye on October 29.

His Majesty presents and receives Letters of Credence

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 20 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presented Letters of Credence to newly-appointed Brunei Darussalam Envoys and received Letters of Credence from newly-appointed Foreign Envoys to Brunei Darussalam at Istana Nurul Iman. After the ceremonies, His Majesty received in audience the newly-appointed Brunei Darussalam Envoys and the newly-appointed Foreign Envoys to Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting a Letter of Credence to Her Excellency Datin Paduka Malai Hajah Halimah binti Malai Haji Yussof, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.



His Majesty presenting a Letter of Credence to Her Excellency Datin Paduka Hajah Rakiah binti Haji Abdul Lamit@Hamid, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to the Republic of France.



His Majesty presenting a Letter of Credence to His Excellency Pengiran Muhammad Husaini bin Pengiran Penggawa Laila Bentara Istiadat Diraja Dalam Istana Pengiran Haji Alauddin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to the Russian Federation.



His Majesty presenting a Letter of Credence to His Excellency Garry Ramlee bin Ibrahim, High Commissioner of Brunei Darussalam to Australia.



His Majesty presenting a Letter of Credence to His Excellency Pengiran Salimin bin Pengiran Mohd. Daud, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Brunei Darussalam to the Arab Republic of Egypt.



His Majesty receiving a Letter of Credence from Her Excellency Boosara Kanchanalai, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Thailand to Brunei Darussalam.

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His Majesty receiving a Letter of Credence from His Excellency Major General (Rtd) Farhat Abbas Sani, High Commissioner of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty receiving a Letter of Credence from Her Excellency Ambra Dickie, High Commissioner of Canada to Brunei Darussalam.

His Majesty welcomes President Lao PDR

Enhancing bilateral cooperation for mutual benefits (continued)



His Excellency President of Lao PDR being introduced to members of the royal family.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam being introduced to members of the Lao PDR delegation.

From front page

spouses.

Shortly after, Their Majesty received in audience the President and spouse,

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Soon after arrival, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri, together with the President of Lao PDR and spouse received a Salute of Honour on the Special Dais, accompanied with the national anthems of both countries and a 21-gun salute.

The two leaders then inspected a Guard of Honour mounted by personnel of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF).

The President and spouse, were then introduced to members of the royal family; Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran-Pengiran Cheteria; the Speaker of the Legislative Council; Cabinet Ministers; Privy Council Members; Deputy Ministers; and Permanent Secretaries from the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA); and Foreign Envoys as well as their respective



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) inspect the Guard of Honour mounted by personnel of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF).



His Majesty and Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam with His Excellency the President of Lao PDR and spouse during the Audience Ceremony.

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as well as the delegation at Cheradi Laila Kenchana, Istana Nurul Iman.

Present at the ceremony were His Majesty's sons, brothers, daughters and sisters: His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at PMO and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab. Rahaman; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul 'Adawiyah binti Pengiran Haji Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah;

Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Rashidah Sa'adatul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the MFA; and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

Also in attendance was His Excellency Saleumxay Kommasith, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR and spouse.

After the Audience Ceremony, His Majesty together with the President proceeded to Baitul Mesyuarah for a Bilateral Meeting.

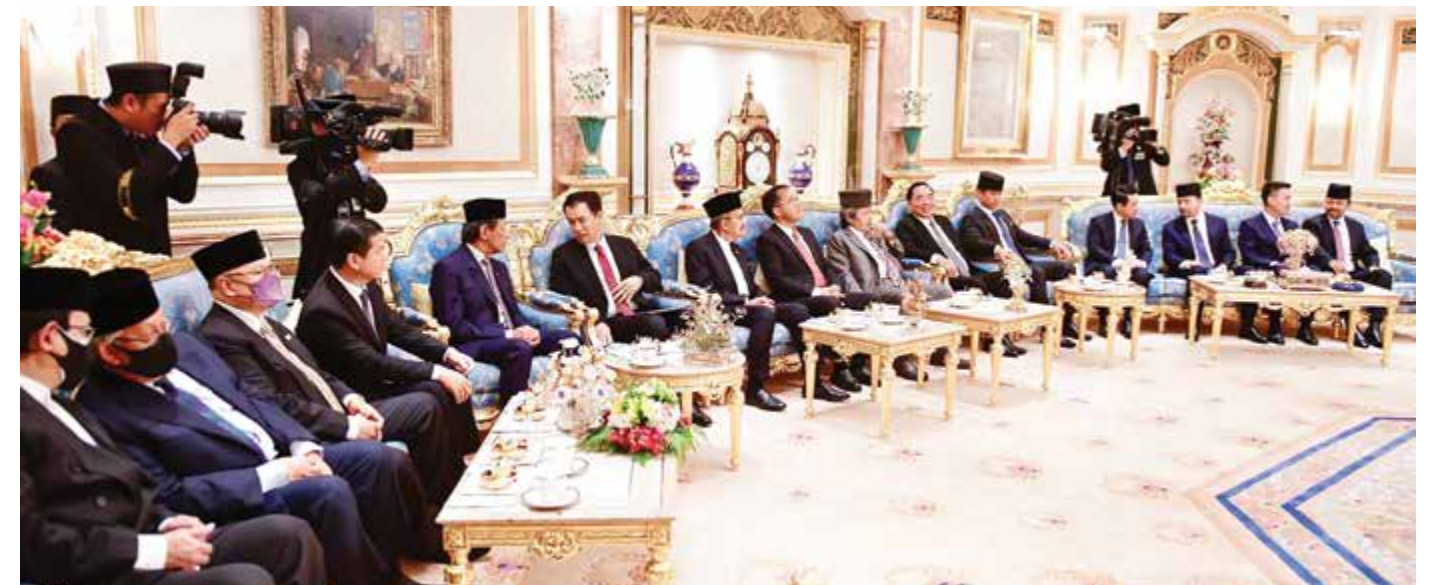
During the meeting, His Majesty and the President welcomed the expansion of

cooperation in existing areas, as well as exploration of new opportunities, towards further strengthening the friendship between the peoples of Brunei Darussalam and Lao PDR.

Both parties also agreed that food and supply chain security was particularly relevant amidst geopolitical uncertainties and welcomed the signing of two agreements between Brunei Darussalam and Lao PDR.

After the meeting, both leaders witnessed the signing of two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) between the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Government of the Lao PDR.

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Also in attendance at the Audience Ceremony were members of the royal family and members of delegation from Lao PDR.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Bilateral Meeting with His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) and delegation.

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Also present to witness the signing was His Royal Highness the Crown Prince.

Signing the MoU on Agricultural Cooperation on behalf of the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam was Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism, while signing on behalf of the Government of the Lao PDR was Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Meanwhile, the MoU on Energy Cooperation was signed by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Minister at PMO and Second Minister of Finance and Economy representing Government of Brunei Darussalam while signing on behalf of the Government of Lao PDR

was His Excellency Daovong Phonekeo, Minister of Energy and Mines.

In the evening, Their Majesties hosted a State Banquet at Istana Nurul Iman in honour of the President and spouse, as well as members of the delegation who are in the country for the three-day State Visit.

Present at the ceremony were members of the royal family and the Lao PDR delegation.

During the State Banquet, His Majesty delivered a *titah* (royal speech), followed by a reciprocal speech from the President.

His Majesty in his *titah* stated that Brunei Darussalam and Lao PDR share warm and close relations through the people-to-people links cultivated over many years.

These ties were marked by mutual respect and confidence, as well as the desire to see each other develop and progress successfully.

This is why His Majesty very much welcomes the signing of the two MoUs, namely in the areas of energy and agricultural which will help to secure energy for growth and food for the people of both countries.

In the multilateral fora, His Majesty is pleased that both countries have worked together closely, including on matters related to the United Nations (UN).

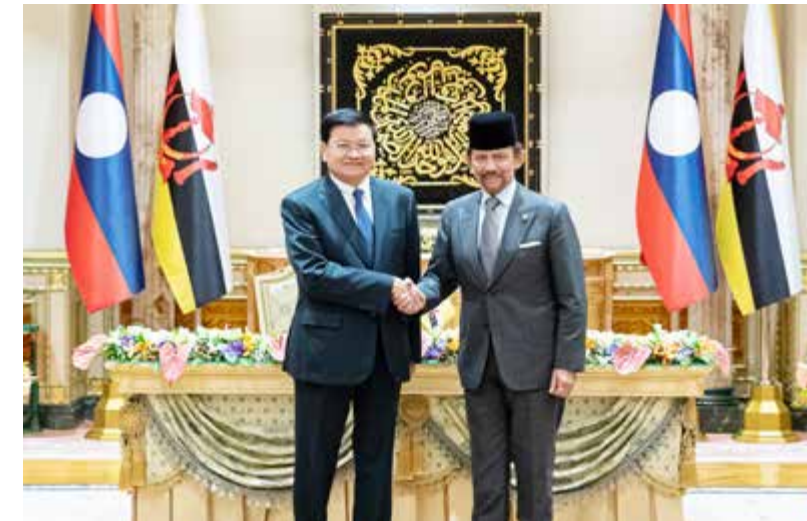
Meanwhile, the President in his speech expressed confidence that bilateral cooperation will continuously be enhanced and bring significant benefits to the people of both countries.

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Members of the royal family and members of delegation from Lao PDR during the Audience Ceremony.

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, President of Lao PDR.



His Majesty and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) during the Bilateral Meeting.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Agricultural Cooperation on behalf of the Government of Brunei Darussalam and His Excellency Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lao PDR signing on behalf of the Government of Lao PDR.



MoU on Energy Cooperation signed by Yang Berhormat Minister at PMO and Second Minister of Finance and Economy signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Energy Cooperation on behalf of the Government of Brunei Darussalam while signing on behalf of the Government of Lao PDR was His Excellency Minister of Energy and Mines.

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) and His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, the President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) delivering a reciprocal speech at State Banquet. Also present was Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemanha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam and Madam Naly Sisoulith (above and below).



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) and Her Royal Highness Paduka Seri Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Sarah binti Pengiran Haji Salleh Ab. Rahaman; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul 'Adawiyyah binti Pengiran Haji Bolkiah at the State Banquet.



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His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah at the State Banquet.



Also present were His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's brothers, daughters and sisters (above and below).



Yang Berhormat the State Mufti reciting the *doa selamat*.

His Majesty attends Morning Excursion

JERUDONG, October 26 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam joined His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, the President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) for a Morning Excursion and Breakfast at The Empire Brunei.

Also joining the excursion was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah ibni His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office.

Both leaders began the Morning Excursion with a tour around The Empire Brunei.

After the Morning Excursion, His Majesty and His Excellency had breakfast.



The two leaders during the morning walk enjoying the fresh air.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attends a Morning Excursion with His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, the President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR). Also joining the excursion was His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (top right).



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, His Royal Highness the Crown Prince, and His Excellency President of the Lao PDR after the Morning Excursion.

Re-evaluate curriculum, produce competent educators



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Chancellor of Religious Teachers University College (KUPU SB) delivering a *titah* (royal speech) (above); and upon arrival at the International Convention Centre (right).

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 1 - All higher education institutions are urged to evaluate, and if necessary, re-draft their respective curriculum programmes to ensure that all knowledge gained can be benefited, not only for the students but also to meet national needs.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei

Darussalam, the Chancellor of Religious Teachers University College (KUPU SB) highlighted the matter in a *titah* (royal speech) at the 12th KUPU SB Convocation held at the International Convention Centre.

KUPU SB shines through with its strong Islamic teaching and co-curriculum programmes to produce competent educators. His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam stressed that KUPU SB as a teaching

institution, needs to be involved in providing teachers with courses or training to strengthen character and pedagogy, so that every teaching and learning session contains pious practices and values.

His Majesty further noted that KUPU SB has responded to the Monarch's call during the last National Youth Day celebration, by providing character development programmes for youths.

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, Chancellor of KUPU SB presenting certificates to recipients.





Graduates with their certificates.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo.

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At the ceremony, His Majesty conferred the degrees and diplomas to 243 graduates.

Prior to His Majesty's *titah*, Dr. Haji Adanan bin Haji Basar, Ra'ees of KUPU SB in his welcoming address among other underscored the establishment of the Faculty of Social Science Education which aims to organise several courses related to Social Science Education that were previously organised by other faculties.

Selawat still relevant, essential

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 8 – Glorification of the Prophet Muhammad's (pbuh) Maulud celebration is an expression of the Muslim ummah's love for the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), even though the Muslim ummah has never met the prophet.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam stated the matter in a *titah* (royal speech) in conjunction with the Maulidur Rasul Celebration for 1444 Hijrah/2022 Masihi broadcasted nation-

wide through Radio Television Brunei last night.

The Monarch added that as Muslims, we seek Syafa'at from Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) especially in the days of hereafter.

As the world's situation still being face with various trials and challenges, His Majesty sees the impact of reciting *selawat* still relevant and in fact, even essential. As part of the efforts to enhance religious teachings and knowledge in the country, His Majesty noted that the Islamic Da'wah Centre is currently updating *da'ie* (religious preachers) training programmes through the Tarbiyah

Scheme.

His Majesty expressed confidence that through the scheme, it would enable local *da'ie* to equip themselves with various skills, so that they can compete with foreign speakers.

Today, His Majesty consented to attend the National Level Maulidur Rasul Assembly to commemorate the birth of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) which was held simultaneously in all districts.

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In the Brunei-Muara District, the Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Mosque was the focal point of the assembly with the theme "*Bersabar, Berikhtiar, Bertawakkal dan Berdoa Menghapi Ujian: Meraih Syafa'at Rasulullah Sallallahu Alaihi Wassalam*".

Also in attendance at the Assembly were His Majesty's sons, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

The event began with a mass recitation of Surah Al-Fatihah led by Yang Berhormat Pehin Udana Khatib Dato Paduka Seri

Setia Ustaz Haji Awang Badaruddin bin Pengarah Dato Paduka Haji Awang Othman, Minister of Religious Affairs followed by Dikir Marhaban presented by officers and staff of the Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications. Twenty-one cannon shots were then fired.

The highlight of the assembly was a religious talk by Awang Haji Abdul Rahman bin Haji Ajak, Assistant Lecturer at Religious Teachers University College (KUPU SB) underlining the intercession of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) on Judgment day.

The event was further enlivened with the Selawat Tafrijiyyah and Munjiyyah by students from the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Arabic School.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech) to mark the Maulidur Rasul Celebration for 1444 Hijrah/2022 Masihi.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam; His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen attending the National Level Maulidur Rasul Assembly for 1444 Hijrah/2022 Masihi at Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Mosque.



Presentation of Selawat Tafrijiyyah and Munjiyyah by students from the Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Arabic School.



Among the attendees present at the Assembly.

State Visit to Bangladesh

Brunei-Bangladesh strengthen bilateral ties (continued)

From front page

During the call, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh welcomed His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam to Dhaka and discussed on potential cooperation to enhance and strengthen the relations between both countries.

In the afternoon, His Majesty visited the National Martyr's Memorial in Savar and was greeted upon arrival by His Excellency A.K. M Mozammel Huq, Minister for Liberation War Affairs; His Excellency Sharif Ahmed, State Minister for Housing and Public Works; and His Excellency Dr. Md. Enamur Rahman, State Minister of for Disaster Management and Relief.

His Majesty laid a wreath on the memorial and was invited to plant a sapling. The National Martyr's Memorial is the national monument of Bangladesh, set up in memory of those who died in the Bangladesh War of Independence in 1971.

His Majesty then attended a meeting with His Excellency Mohammad Abdul Hamid, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh at the Bangabhabun, President's Office.

His Majesty with the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh proceeded to the Banquet Hall for a State Banquet which was

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with His Excellency Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bangladesh during the Courtesy Call.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam at the National Martyr's Memorial in Savar.



His Majesty planting a sapling.



Also in attendance was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

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enlivened with cultural performances to commemorate His Majesty's State Visit.

Earlier, His Majesty's arrival at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA) for the two-day State Visit was welcomed by the President; His Excellency Mr. Tipu Munshi, MP, the Bangladesh Commerce Minister as Minister-in-Attendance; and Her Excellency Nahida Rahman Shumona, High Commissioner of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam.

Upon arrival, a 21-gun-salute was launched. His Majesty, together with the President then proceeded to the Special Dais for the Official Welcoming Ceremony, which began with the national anthems of both countries. After, The Guard Commander invited His Majesty to inspect a Guard of Honour mounted by members of the Armed Forces of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.



Darussalam delegation being introduced to the President.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Majesty's son, His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

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His Majesty and His Excellency President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh at the State Banquet.



His Majesty and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen at the State Banquet.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam being greeted by His Excellency Mohammad Abdul Hamid, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh upon arrival (above); His Majesty and His Excellency President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh at the Special Dais for the Official Welcoming Ceremony (left); and His Majesty inspecting the Guard of Honour (below).



Brunei-Bangladesh explore new opportunities for cooperation

DHAKA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH, October 16 - His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam attended a Bilateral Meeting with Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh at the Office of the Prime Minister.

During the meeting, His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, among other matters, addressed bilateral relations between both countries as well as cooperation through the signing of three Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) in the fields of shipping, labour and energy and an agreement on air services.

Both leaders also discussed on the exploration of new opportunities for cooperation.

Following the Bilateral Meeting, His Majesty together with the Prime Minister witnessed the signing of three MoUs and an

agreement between the Government of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

Signing on behalf of the Government of Brunei Darussalam on Air Services Agreement (ASA); the Field of Cooperation in the Supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and Other Petroleum Products; and the Recognition of Certificates Under the Terms of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, As Amended was Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohd. Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy. Signing on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh were His Excellency Md. Mahbub Ali, State Minister, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism; His Excellency Nasrul Hamid, MP, State Minister of the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources; and His Excellency Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, State Minister for Shipping, respectively.

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His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the Bilateral Meeting with Her Excellency Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh with respective delegates.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam with Her Excellency Prime Minister witnessing the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Air Services Agreement (left) and MoU on the Employment/Recruitment of Bangladeshi Workers (right).



His Majesty with Her Excellency Prime Minister witnessing the signing of MoU on the Field of Cooperation in the Supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and Other Petroleum Products (left) and MoU on the Recognition of Certificates Under the Terms of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, as Amended (right).

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The MoU on ASA is to establish and operate air services between the two countries in recognising the efficient and competitive services, thus enhancing economic growth, trade, tourism, investment and the welfare of consumers as well as acknowledging the importance of the service as a means of creating and fostering relations.

The scope and idea for the extension of the MoU in the Field of Cooperation in the Supply of LNG and Other Petroleum Products is for Brunei Energy Services and Trading (BEST) to identify opportunities to source LNG and other petroleum products such as LPG from third parties to be supplied to Bangladesh.

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His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen during the signing ceremony.

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The MoU on the Recognition of Certificates Under the Terms of the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978, As Amended will bilaterally recognise the training standards and certification issued by both parties and allow seafarers from both nations to work onboard vessels that carry the Brunei or the Bangladeshi flag.

Meanwhile, the MoU on the Employment/ Recruitment of Bangladeshi Workers, was signed by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Ahmaddin bin Haji Abdul Rahman, Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government of Brunei Darussalam, whereas signing on behalf of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was His Excellency Imran Ahmad, Minister of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment.

The objective of this MoU is to establish an effective mechanism to oversee the employment and recruitment of workers from Bangladesh and to ensure the rights and obligations of both workers and employers are enforced in accordance with the laws and regulations of Brunei Darussalam.

Earlier in the afternoon, His Majesty visited the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum and was invited to place a wreath. This was followed with a tour of the Museum's exhibitions.

Bangabandhu Memorial Museum was once the personal residence of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founding father and president of Bangladesh. The house was inaugurated as a museum on August 14, 1994.

Accompanying His Majesty was His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen.

The State Visit is held at the invitation of the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, and the Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. This is His Majesty's first State Visit to the republic.

Diplomatic relations between Brunei and Bangladesh were established on May 5, 1984, in which both countries cooperate extensively in various main areas including defence, education, health, trade and energy.

His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen viewing the exhibition at the Memorial Museum.



His Majesty places a wreath at the Bangabandhu Memorial Museum.



Brunei-Bangladesh to work closely on vital bilateral cooperation

DHAKA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH, October 16 - Brunei Darussalam and People's Republic of Bangladesh have agreed to work closely together as development partners in view of the strong commonalities existing in faith, tradition and culture, and shared vision of prosperity, peace and stability.

This was stated at a Joint Statement issued at the final day of the State Visit of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam to the Bangladesh.

The official talks between His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina, the Prime Minister of People's Republic of Bangladesh were held in a warm and cordial atmosphere, where the two leaders reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations. The two leaders acknowledged with satisfaction that the relationship has reached a new height with the visit of the Prime Minister of People's Republic of Bangladesh to Brunei Darussalam from April 21 to 23, 2019 and His Majesty's first-ever visit to Bangladesh this year.

Both sides agreed to strengthen cooperation to counter the adverse impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Prime Minister conveyed gratitude to His Majesty for the support extended to Bangladesh expatriates living and working in Brunei Darussalam during the difficult period of the COVID-19 outbreak.

The statement also stated that both sides identified trade and investment as areas of vital bilateral cooperation and expressed their keenness in working to increase the volume of two-way trade, which is currently far below the potential. Both sides also welcomed discussions to explore the possibility of a mechanism between the Ministry of Commerce of Bangladesh and the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Brunei Darussalam to widen cooperation in trade, commerce and investment, as well as to seek support for enhanced business-to-business relations and cooperation. Both leaders also agreed to deepen collaboration in the field of Halal trade.

Bangladesh offered Brunei the advantages of the opportunities for investment in the Special Economic Zones of Bangladesh. Brunei took note of the offer and looked forward to discussing potential areas of investment cooperation for the mutual benefit of both countries. Brunei Darussalam also invited Bangladesh to consider investing in its economic diversification activities, such as in the food, agriculture and aquaculture industries.

In view of Bangladesh's growing demand for energy and Brunei's standing as a stable and key regional exporter of energy, both leaders agreed to explore mechanisms for long-term collaboration in the energy sector, particularly in the supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and other petroleum products to Bangladesh.

Brunei acknowledged the contribution of the Bangladeshi expatriates in its continued development process. Brunei and Bangladesh agreed to discuss the possibility of recruiting more workers, including skilled workforce and professionals from Bangladesh to Brunei in the relevant sectors, where necessary. Both sides agreed to govern the recruitment process in a transparent, orderly and ethical manner.

Recalling the respective Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Cooperation signed in 2019, both sides acknowledged the ongoing discussion between the relevant authorities in both countries to explore potential projects under these MoUs. Both sides looked forward to the

convening of the Joint Agriculture Working Committee (JAWC) to be held in November this year in Brunei to progress this further.

Both sides recognised the need for quality education for human resource development.

Bangladesh appreciated Brunei's goodwill by continuing to offer scholarships to Bangladeshi students for higher education. Both sides agreed to further deepen and widen the scope of collaboration in the area of higher education for mutual benefit.

In the context of Bangladesh's growing capacity in the healthcare sector, as well as Brunei Darussalam's capacity for modern and advanced medical infrastructures, both sides noted the importance of signing an MoU on health sector cooperation for the recruitment and training of healthcare professionals, specialised services and pharmaceutical services, as well as other potential areas of cooperation that may be of mutual benefit to both countries.

The two leaders also agreed to work in new and emerging areas including ICT, green technology, blue economy, etc. for mutual benefit.

Emphasising the value of peace, security and stability for socio-economic development, the two leaders agreed to broaden the scope of existing defence and security cooperation, disaster response and humanitarian operations.

Both sides stressed the need for air and maritime connectivity to enhance trade, investment, tourism and people-to-people contacts and agreed to encourage the private sector operators to become involved for better connectivity between the two countries.

The two sides agreed to further deepen mutual cooperation in the regional and international fora, including the UN, OIC, the Commonwealth and ARF on issues of mutual interest and common position.

Brunei appreciated Bangladesh's continued interest in strengthening its relations with ASEAN and assured its support for Bangladesh's bid to become a Sectoral Dialogue Partner of ASEAN.

Bangladesh expressed gratitude to Brunei for its political support for the expeditious repatriation of over a million displaced persons from the Rakhine State, temporarily sheltered in Bangladesh, in a safe, secure, sustainable and dignified manner. His Majesty appreciated the generosity and hospitality of Bangladesh rendered to the displaced persons and assured that his government would continue to support Bangladesh in seeking a durable solution, with a view to ensuring the overall peace and security of the region.

The two leaders welcomed and witnessed the signing of several MoUs and expressed their expectations for the early implementation of the provisions as envisaged in those agreements.

In concluding the statement, His Majesty expressed appreciation to the President and the Prime Minister and the people of Bangladesh for the warm welcome and generous hospitality accorded to His Majesty and the delegation.

Both sides reiterated that the visit of His Majesty would usher in a new chapter in the bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Brunei. They expressed optimism for a stronger and deeper partnership for mutual benefit of the two brotherly countries.

Royal Birthday Cycling Recreation 2022 (continued)



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam leads over 1,000 cyclist at the cycling recreation which began at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien. Also joining the activity were His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah.

From front page

76th Birthday Celebration.

The cycling recreation which began at Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien was part of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam's

Joining His Majesty were His Majesty's sons and brother: His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Crown

Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness

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His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam and members of the royal family cycling along through several main streets in the capital with cycling enthusiasts (above); and among the cyclist participating the ride of 1.9-kilometre route in the capital (right).



His Majesty launching the Brunei Energy Hub Dermaga Diraja.

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Prince 'Abdul Mateen and His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah.

Jalan Pehin Dato Isa, Jalan Tasek, Jalan Kianggeh, Jalan McAthur and ended at the Brunei Energy Hub Dermaga Diraja for a launching ceremony.

Covering a distance of 1.9 kilometres, the cycling recreation passed the main streets in Bandar Seri Begawan: Jalan Pretty, Jalan Elizabeth 2, Jalan Stoney,

The Brunei Energy Hub Dermaga Diraja houses the permanent exhibitions of Brunei Shell Joint Venture (BSJV) of Gallery One, Two and Three with the

The Brunei Energy Hub Dermaga Diraja is open to the public from 9am to 5pm every Saturday to Thursday and is closed on Fridays.

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His Majesty being briefed at the galleries of the permanent exhibitions of Brunei Shell Joint Venture.



His Majesty; His Royal Highness the Crown Prince; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik and His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen in a photo session at one of the galleries.

theme "Our Past: Footsteps in Time"; 'Our Present, Hands On Hearts' and "Our Future, Eyes on Tomorrow" respectively.

Gallery Two is an exhibition of the oil and gas industry. At the 'Ayer Berkunchi' room, His Majesty used a telescope to view the Ayer Berkunchi Area, the first oil well drilling that took place near Brunei Town.

Gallery Three showcases using new technology towards the transformation of a more stable oil and gas industry.

Meanwhile, Gallery Four, known as the 'Art Gallery' showcases a collection of paintings from the Department of Brunei Museums and local artists.

Also exhibited were products from Pusat Bahagia, La Vida and SMATER Brunei, Senior Citizen Activity Centre (PKWE), Al-Ameerah Al-Hajjah Maryam School Construction project and Bank Islam Brunei Darussalam.



His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam viewing the Ayer Bekunchi Area using a telescope.



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam during the visit to one of the galleries.



His Majesty viewing the exhibition held near the Brunei Energy Hub Dermaga Diraja.



His Majesty being briefed on a painting from the Brunei Art Forum.

CHMS BSB 100th Anniversary: Instil Bruneian values, maintain harmony and unity

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 29 - Schools and educators in the country were reminded to never forget to instil Bruneian values among students as this is the only way to maintain harmony and unity.

The Government of Brunei Darussalam will continue to provide support to ensure that equal and inclusive education can be provided to all parties.

The education landscape has gone through various changes and challenges, especially in recent years when the

COVID-19 pandemic hit the global community.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam stated the matter in a *titah* (royal speech) during the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the establishment of Chung Hwa Middle School (CHMS) Bandar Seri Begawan (BSB).

In this regard, His Majesty the Sultan and

Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam hoped that private educational institutions will take this issue seriously of Learning Loss and be responsible in ensuring Learning Recovery can be implemented successfully.

His Majesty noted that education at CHMS is not limited to Chinese students, but it has also become an option among various races in the country.

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Accompanying His Majesty were His Majesty sons and brothers, His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

The ceremony saw His Majesty presenting the Long Service Award to members of 15 CHMS School's Board of Directors.

The ceremony was further enlivened with performances. His Majesty and members of the royal family then took a closer look at the exhibitions held in the classrooms.

His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam delivering a *titah* (royal speech).



His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam presenting the Long Service Award to recipients.



His Majesty touring the academic exhibitions in classrooms.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee, the Crown Prince and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Malik; His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdul Mateen; His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah and His Royal Highness Prince Haji Jefri Bolkiah.

New appointment

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 4 - The Public Service Department, Prime Minister's Office announced that His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam has consented for Dayang Hajah Masliana Yuliah binti Abdullah@Liew Nyok Len, Senior Special Duties Officer at the Department of Agriculture and Agrifood to be promoted as Director of Agriculture and Agrifood at the Department of Agriculture and Agrifood, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism effective September 12.

Birthday Reception for Her Majesty



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam at the Birthday Reception with members of the royal family, hosted by the Group of Wives of Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, and Affiliated Members.

JERUDONG, October 16 - Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam graced Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha's Birthday Anniversary Reception hosted by the Group of Wives of Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Permanent Secretaries, and Affiliated Members.

The event took place at the Royal Berkshire, Jerudong Park and Polo Club.

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Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha upon arrival receiving a bouquet of flowers.



Her Majesty and members of the royal family in a group photo with wives of State Dignitaries.



Her Majesty during the cake-cutting ceremony (left) and receiving a *pesambah* (right).

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Accompanying Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha were Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul Adawiyah binti Pengiran Haji Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Zariah binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah

Nuurul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkiah; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Amal Umi Kalthum Al-Islam.

Datin Hajah Nahriah binti Haji Asbi, the Group's Second Chairperson in her

welcoming remark congratulated Her Majesty and prayed that Her Majesty will be showered with blessings, protection, safety and health.

Her Majesty later consented to cut the birthday cake and received a *pesambah* (souvenir). The ceremony was enlivened with performances by the organising committee.

Royalty graces Special Women Maulidur Rasul Assembly



Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam with members of the royal family at the Special Women Maulidur Rasul Assembly 1444 Hijrah.

JERUDONG, October 22 - Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha binti Al-Marhum Pengiran Pemancha Pengiran Anak Haji Mohamed Alam graced the Special Women Maulidur Rasul Assembly for 1444 Hijrah held at Royal Berkshire, Royal Brunei Polo and Riding Club.

Accompanying Her Majesty Duli Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Hajah Saleha were Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Anak Isteri Pengiran Raabi'atul Adawiyah binti Pengiran Haji Bolkiah; Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Bini Hajah Faizah binti Dato Haji Nasir; Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Majeedah Nuurul Bolkiah; Her

Royal Highness Princess Hajah Hafizah Sururul Bolkiah and Her Royal Highness Princess Hajah Masna, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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Dayang Hanisah binti Haji Othman, Education Officer at the Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkiah Al-Quran Tahfiz Institute delivering a special talk.

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The ceremony began with the recitation of holy verses of Al-Quran, Surah At-Tahrim by Dayang Siti Zahrina binti Abdul Wahab, the third-place winner of the National Level Al-Quran Reading Competition for Adults for 1443 Hijrah.

Dayang Hajah Siti Mahyana binti Pehin Siraja Khatib Dato Paduka Seri Setia Dr. Ustaz Haji Awang Yahya,



Among the attendees at the ceremony.

Co-Chairperson of the Celebration's Working Committee in her welcoming address among others touched on the theme of this year's celebration - "*Bersabar, Berikhtiar, Bertawakal dan Berdoa Menghadapi Ujian: Merah Syafaat Rasulullah Sallallahu 'Alaihi Wassalam*".

The ceremony was enlivened with the Dikir Marhaban by a combination of female officers and staff from Ministry

of Transport and Infocommunications (MTIC) and Brunei Darussalam Women's Council (BDWC).

The ceremony saw a special talk delivered by Dayang Hanisah binti Haji Othman, an Education Officer at the Sultan Haji Hassanah Bolkiah Al-Quran Tahfiz Institute. The ceremony continued with the recitation of Selawat Tafrijiyyah and *Selawat Munjiyyah* by students of Bandar Seri Begawan Arabic Preparatory School.



Female officers and staff from Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications (MTIC) and Brunei Darussalam Women's Council (BDWC) performing the Dikir Marhaban (above).



Students of Bandar Seri Begawan Arabic Preparatory School reciting the Selawat Tafrijiyyah and Selawat Munjiyyah (above).

RBAF Commander bestowed Malaysian Military Honorary Award

KUALA LUMPUR, October 18 - His Majesty the 16th Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia bestowed upon Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Muhammad Haszaimi bin Bol Hassan, Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces (RBAF) with the Honorary Award of the Malaysian Armed Forces Order for Valour – Gallant Commander of Malaysian Armed Forces, First Degree (PGAT) at Istana Negara.

The award is in recognition and appreciation for the RBAF Commander's contributions in strengthening the close bilateral relations and enhancing military-to-military cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and Malaysia.



His Majesty the 16th Yang di-Pertuan Agong of Malaysia, Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Al-Musta'in Billah bestowing upon Major General Dato Paduka Seri Haji Muhammad Haszaimi bin Bol Hassan, Commander of the Royal Brunei Armed Forces with the Honorary Award of the Malaysian Armed Forces Order for Valour – Gallant Commander of Malaysian Armed Forces, First Degree (PGAT).

President of Lao PDR in Brunei for State Visit



His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) and spouse, Madam Naly Sisoulith and delegation upon arrival in Brunei Darussalam for a three-day State Visit. Present at the Brunei International Airport to welcome the President of the Lao PDR and spouse were Yang Berhormat Minister of Home Affairs as the Minister-in-Attendance and spouse on October 24.



His Excellency President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) visiting the Seria Energy Lab (SEL). The SEL is a flagship programme by Brunei Shell Petroleum (BSP) to support the growth of science literacy in the country on October 24.

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His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, President of the Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR) during the visit to Brunei LNG's headquarters in Lumut on October 24.



Madam Naly Sisoulith, the spouse of President of Lao PDR visiting the Royal Regalia Museum on October 26.



Madam Naly Sisoulith visiting the Brunei Arts and Handicrafts Training Centre at Jalan Residency on October 26.

Explore partnerships in business, investment



His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, the President of Lao People's Republic Republic (Lao PDR) at the Brunei Darussalam-Lao PDR Investment and Business Forum.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 26 - Brunei Darussalam and the Lao People's Republic Republic (Lao PDR) have established bilateral relations through people-to-people relations, nurtured by both countries.

Lao Investment and Business Forum, His Excellency Thongloun Sisoulith, the President of Lao PDR said that both countries have reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen and enhance the bilateral relations and cooperation between the two countries as well as government-to-government links.

Speaking at the Brunei Darussalam-

While delivering his speech at the Indera Kayangan Ballroom, The Empire Brunei, the President of Lao PDR further believed that the Business Forum provides a good opportunity for businesses of both countries to exchange and explore partnerships in the field of business and investment.

Towards promoting economic cooperation and economic growth of both countries namely in the field of trade, energy, investment, knowledge, agriculture and agrifood, a signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was held between both countries.

The President left the country in the afternoon after concluding the three-day State Visit. Brunei Darussalam and the Lao PDR share close and long standing relations, in which both countries will commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations in 2023.



The signing of MoU on trade and investment between National Chamber of Commerce and Industry Brunei Darussalam and Lao National Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

HRH Prince Mohamed Bolkiah receives Darjah Kerabat Kelantan Yang Amat Dihormati Al-Yunusi (DK)



His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien receives the Darjah Kerabat Kelantan Yang Amat Dihormati Al-Yunusi (DK) the Most Esteemed Royal Family Order of Kelantan at Balai Penghadapan Bukit Kayangan.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 24 - His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien was awarded the Darjah Kerabat Kelantan Yang Amat Dihormati Al-Yunusi (DK) the Most Esteemed Royal Family Order of Kelantan. The Investiture Ceremony took place at the Balai Penghadapan, Bukit Kayangan.

The award was presented by Yang Amat Mulia Tengku



Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Abdul Qawi receives the Darjah Kebesaran Mahkota Kelantan Yang Amat Mulia SPMK, the Most Illustrious Order of the Crown of Kelantan.

Muhammad Fakhry Petra ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Ismail Petra, Tengku Bendahara Kelantan as a representative of Sultan Muhammad the Fifth of Kelantan.

Meanwhile, the eldest son of His Royal Highness Prince Mohamed Bolkiah, Yang Amat Mulia Pengiran Muda Abdul Qawi was also awarded with the Darjah Kebesaran Mahkota Kelantan Yang Amat Mulia SPMK, the Most Illustrious Order of the Crown of Kelantan.

5th ISG 2021 discusses national athletes' achievements

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 24 - His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) attended the Post-Mortem Meeting for the Fifth Islamic Solidarity Games 2021 which was held in Konya, Republic Turkiye.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Nazmi bin Haji Mohammad, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports in his welcoming address said that although Brunei participation is at a minimal level, such participation is very valuable in terms of improving the friendship between Islamic countries.

The meeting also heard the report on the Islamic Solidarity Games by Dayang Umi Kalthum binti Haji Abdul Karim, Chef de Mission, among others, which emphasised on the analysis of the national athletes' achievements at the game.



His Royal Highness Prince Haji Sufri Bolkiah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddien Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, President of the Brunei Darussalam National Olympic Council (BDNOC) at the Post-Mortem Meeting for the Fifth Islamic Solidarity Games 2021.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture Youth and Sports delivering a speech.



The Chef de Mission delivering a report on the Islamic Solidarity Games.

Brunei Darussalam participates in 15th SIEW 2022



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) in a group photo at the 15th Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW 2022).

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, October 26 - Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), attended the 15th Singapore International Energy Week (SIEW 2022) held from October 25 to 28 at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Marina Bay Sands.

With the theme "A Resilient and

Sustainable Energy Future", the event encompasses a high-level dialogue on energy issues through keynotes, panel discussions and audience participation in various events including the Summit, Singapore-International Energy Agency (IEA) Ministerial Roundtable, Singapore-International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) High-Level Forum, Asia Clean Energy Summit, and Asia Downstream Summit.

On the side-lines of the SIEW 2022, the Minister at PMO paid a courtesy call to His Excellency Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Trade and Industry, Republic of Singapore. The Minister also had a luncheon meeting with His Excellency Dr. Tan See Leng, Minister for Manpower, and Second Minister for Trade and Industry, Republic of Singapore, and His Excellency Francesco La Camera, Director-General, International Renewable Energy Agency.



Yang Berhormat Minister at PMO with His Excellency Minister for Trade and Industry, Republic of Singapore during the courtesy call (left) and with His Excellency Minister for Manpower, and Second Minister for Trade and Industry, Republic of Singapore (right).



USMS project, milestone towards Brunei digital transformation

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 1 - The Official Signing Ceremony of the Unified Smart Metering System (USMS) project, Smart Metering Services Agreement (SMSA) and Statement of Work (SOW) was held in a move to improve the level and quality of services, infrastructures and bringing technology innovation to Bruneian homes.

The signing ceremony held at the Theater Hall, Ministry of Finance and Economy (MoFE) was witnessed by Yang Berhormat Pehin

Datu Lailaraja Major General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd. Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

It is a unified smart solution for both utilities into a single account that aimed to encourage and drive more efficient supply and use of utilities in Brunei Darussalam.

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The SMSA was signed between MoFE, DST Network Sdn. Bhd., and Berakas Power Company Sdn. Bhd.

The SOW was signed between DST Network Sdn. Bhd. With Department of Electrical Services (DES), Department of Water Services and Berakas Power Company.

Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office witnessing one of the signings.



Adapt and strengthen efforts to address risks

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 6 - The COVID-19 outbreak has affected people throughout the world.

This was highlighted by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health at the Official Opening of the 19th South East Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leaders

Meeting.

The Minister in his speech also touched on the need for more effective structures and procedures and the need to adapt and strengthen efforts to address risks, to respond better to crisis and to effectively facilitate humanitarian assistance for a sustainable recovery in this ever-changing

landscape.

This year marks the first youth engagement through a Special Dialogue Session with leaders to discuss challenges that the younger generation is facing and to identify leadership gaps and solutions for future leaders.

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Yang Berhormat Minister of Health delivering a speech at the Official Opening of the meeting,



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health in a group photo with the participants.



Participants at the 19th Southeast Asia Red Cross Red Crescent Leaders Meeting.

Ensure medication safety



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health during the cake-cutting ceremony.

JERUDONG, October 7 - Unsafe medication practices and medication errors are a leading cause of injury and avoidable harm in healthcare systems across the world. Given that medication error is one of the primary causes of preventable deaths, a better point of

view is needed to prevent mortality and morbidity.

The was stated by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health while speaking in his capacity as Chairman

and Executive Director of Jerudong Park Medical Center (JPMC) and Deputy Chairman of Pantai Jerudong Specialist Centre (PJSC) at an event celebrating World Patient Safety Day, World Quality Week and World Pharmacists Day at PJSC building.

The minister urged healthcare workers to adopt a proactive approach to ensure medication safety rather than waiting for a mistake or injury to occur.

Given the complexity of the healthcare system, it is imperative that all healthcare professionals, notably doctors, nurses, pharmacists, and other clinical support staff were advised to work together to find gaps in our healthcare system and encourage better use of medications.

Earlier, a welcoming remark was delivered by Jeffry Damit, Quality Assurance Manager of JPMC, sharing JPMC and PJSC's quality and patient safety journey throughout the years.

The theme of this year's World Patient Safety Day 2022 is "Medication Safety" with the slogan "Medication Without Harm".

Mental Health Action Plan launch

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 10 - The COVID-19 pandemic had a profound effect on mental health. Globally, routine health services including mental health services were impacted during the outbreak, in fact Brunei Darussalam was not an exception.

Themed "Make Mental Health and Well-Being for All a Global Priority", Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health in his message in conjunction with World Mental Health Day 2022 said that during the beginning of the second wave, last year, Talian Harapan 145 received 1,058 calls within two months compared to an average of 445 calls per month in 2020.

According to Bru-HIMS data for year 2021 stated that 1,515 individuals were diagnosed with anxiety disorder and more than 900 individuals also experienced depressive disorders.

This has shown that the COVID-19 pandemic has a vast effect on mental health.

COVID-19 resulted in an increase of stress as well as high level of anxiety and depression, affecting one in four individuals during the first year of the pandemic.

"Children and teenagers' learning were also affected as they cannot attend school physically and were discouraged from

meeting friends and family from different households.

"This also affected the vulnerable groups, such as victims of domestic abuse with increase isolation and had difficulties to access assistance during the pandemic.

"With global uncertainties such as income insecurities, there's an increased risk of mental health issues like stress and emotional disorders," added the Minister of Health.

In addition, mental health in workplace should also be given priority. The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimated that 12 billion working days are lost every year due to depression and anxiety in the workplace causing global economic losses around USD1 trillion.

The Minister said that mental health and well-being also affects individuals' performance and productivity. Unsafe working environment, unhealthy work relationship, and unemployment can contribute to poor mental health or worsen existing issues not forgetting that discrimination of gender, race and disabilities are also contributors to mental health issues in the workplace.

In conjunction with World Health Day, the Minister also mentioned that the Ministry of Health and stakeholders will organise activities and events to increase public awareness on the importance of mental health through roadshows and workshops.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health.

The Ministry of Health will launch a Mental Health Action Plan for Brunei Darussalam, which is an important step to emphasise the country's commitment to mental health care.

The action plan aims to fulfil World Health Organization (WHO) Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan 2013-2030 to ensure that mental health will be given appropriate attention.

The Minister later encouraged Brunei citizens and residents to prioritise mental healthcare, and to conduct beneficial activities such as *zikir* or meditation regularly.

Teamwork, dedication, competency towards quality healthcare



BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 12 - Healthcare requires teamwork to achieve the best service for patients and without it, the quality of the care provided can be affected and can lead to longer bed stays, mismanaged cases and eventually become an overall burden to the healthcare system.

This was highlighted by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health at the Launching Ceremony of Jerudong Park Medical Centre (JPMC) College of Health Sciences (JCHS) at Block 2B, Jalan Ong Sum Ping.

Yang Berhormat Minister of Health speaking at the Opening Ceremony of Jerudong Park Medical Centre (JPMC) College of Health Sciences (JCHS).

Speaking as Chairman of the JCHS, the Minister of Health highlighted that a team of health professionals require individuals to have a certain level of dedication, competency and attitude where quality of care is at the centre of it all.

JCHS is the first private Health Sciences College in the country established by JPMC, wholly owned by Darussalam Assets Sdn. Bhd. (DA), in collaboration with the Far Eastern University (FEU) from the Republic of the Philippines.

Some 54 students enrolled to begin their study at the college which offers a Foundation in Science Certification and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

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Yang Berhormat Minister of Health with JCHS management, students and parents in a group photo.

Review WPR, global key public health issues

MANILA, REPUBLIC OF PHILIPPINES, October 26 – The 73rd Regional Committee Meeting of the World Health Organization (WHO) for the Western Pacific Region (WPR) held from October 24 to 28 is attended by health ministers and representatives from 37 member countries of the WHO Western Pacific Region.

The delegation from Brunei Darussalam was led by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health.

Among the topics discussed were communication for health, cervical cancer, mental health, Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), and basic healthcare.

The Minister of Health also paid a courtesy call to Her Excellency Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab, WHO Officer-in-Charge for the WPR and among others, discussed emergency preparedness including the

management of COVID-19, access to medicines and vaccines.

Also held was a bilateral discussion on cooperation in the field of health with the Malaysian Health Minister; Advisor to Minister of Welfare, Labour and Health of

Japan and Officer-in-Charge of the Health Department of the Republic of Philippines.

The Minister also visited the Far Eastern University to discuss and learn more about health science, especially in the field of nursing.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health at the 73rd Regional Committee Meeting in Manila.

Slight increase in COVID-19 cases in October

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 31 - The number of reported cases of COVID-19 in Brunei Darussalam showed a slight increase in a week time where the average daily number of cases last week was 485 cases per day, compared to 437 cases per day in the previous week.

A total of 41,068 Antigen Rapid Test (ART) results were uploaded to the BruHealth application within the week of which 8.2 per cent were positive.

This was shared by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohammad Isham bin Haji Jaafar, Minister of Health during the weekly press conference on the COVID-19 situation held at the Al-Afiah Hall, Ministry of Health (MoH).

The Minister of Health added that there were no cases in Category 5 requiring treatment in the Intensive Care Unit

(ICU), while three cases in Category 4 required respiratory assistance and close supervision.

"As of October 30, the rate of vaccination coverage of COVID-19 in Brunei Darussalam remains at a high with 78.6 per cent of all citizens and residents having received the third dose of vaccine and 10.8 per cent have also received the fourth dose.

"The public are reminded to remain vigilant and take preventive measures such as self-isolation if experiencing signs of infection and avoiding crowded places," urged the Minister.

MoH also invited the public to continue to participate in the 20 Billion Steps Together Challenge, which is currently underway and is targeted to be achieved by the end of this year.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Health during the weekly press conference on the COVID-19 situation, held at the Al-Afiah Hall, Ministry of Health.

Explore bilateral cooperation in trade and economy

DHAKA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH, October 16 - During the State Visit of His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Haji Omar 'Ali Saifuddin Sa'adul Khairi Waddien, Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Yang Berhormat Dato Dr. Amin Liew bin Abdullah, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy attended a Business Dialogue.

Also present were Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Paduka Haji Ahmaddin bin Haji Abdul Rahman, Minister of Home Affairs and Dr. Hajah May Fa'ezah binti Haji Ahmad Ariffin, Permanent Secretary (Economy, Trade and Industry) at the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

Discussions focused on strengthening bilateral trade and economic cooperation between Brunei Darussalam and People's Republic of Bangladesh in several sectors such as retail, finance, the food industry and the halal food sector.

The Dialogue was also attended by His Excellency Tipu Munshi MP, Minister of Commerce of Bangladesh; His Excellency Salman F. Rahman, Adviser to the Honourable Prime Minister on Private Industry and Investment and members from several Chambers of Commerce in Bangladesh.



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy at the Business Dialogue (above) and witnessing the signing of MoU between Ghanim International Corporation Sdn. Bhd. and Zes Trading (below).



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Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy at the Launching Ceremony of BruneiHalalfood products. Also present was Yang Berhormat Minister of Home Affairs.



Following the Business Dialogue, the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ghanim International Corporation Sdn Bhd and Zes Trading was held.

The MoU was signed by Dr. Nur Rahman, Chief Executive Officer

(CEO) and Dr. Kazi Ertaza Hassan, Chairperson of Vorerpata Group of Industries and Director of the FBCCI.

A Launching Ceremony of BruneiHalalfood products were also held.

ABAC: Regaining the long-term growth momentum



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Ministry of Finance and Economy receiving the ABAC 2022 Report from ABAC Brunei Members, Hafimi Abdul Haadii, Executive Director of LVK Group of Companies and Suzanna Suharju, Chief Executive Officer of Imagine Sdn Bhd.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 25 - Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Advisory Council (ABAC) Brunei Members, Hafimi Abdul Haadii, Executive Director of LVK Group of Companies and Suzanna Suharju, Chief Executive Officer of Imagine Sdn Bhd., has presented ABAC's 2022 Report to Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Awang Haji Mohd. Amin Liew Abdullah,

Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy.

ABAC is the sole non-governmental entity with an official role in the APEC Economic Leaders Summit through a formal dialogue.

The report presentation took place at the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

The report contains ABAC's recommendations to APEC Leaders to meet the unprecedented economic crises faced by the Asia-Pacific region arising from the consequences of the continuing pandemic, geo-political conflict, inflation, and supply chain disruptions which impact directly on business, both large and small.

These recommendations will be the basis of discussions when APEC Leaders meet during ABAC annual dialogue on November 18 in Bangkok.

The goals of ABAC's recommendations are to speed up the region's economic recovery and to regain momentum for dynamic, sustainable, inclusive, and resilient long-term growth.

Tackling inflation, food insecurity, restrictions on the movement of essential goods and services to tackle the pandemic, and the reopening borders safely to restore economic activity will be key to speeding recovery.

Regaining the momentum for long-term growth will require actions to address the consequences of climate change, furthering regional economic integration by supporting the global rules-based trading system and accelerating the

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realisation of the Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific, enhancing support for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) – including women-owned and indigenous businesses – to foster inclusion, encouraging the faster and wider uptake of digital technologies, and pursuing fiscal consolidation and structural reform.

In a statement, Hafimi Abdul Haadii, ABAC Brunei Member and Executive Director of LVK Group of Companies, said that as APEC reopens for business, this is also an opportunity to accelerate and transition many aspects of regional trade that can embrace innovation in the way APEC trades across borders; enable better platforms of collaboration between the public and private sectors and ensure the inclusion of the underserved and underrepresented; engage through digital innovation and sustainable development.

Crucial to all of this is the underlying importance for economies to promote their MSMEs and enabling pivotal changes to the MSME support agenda can have a profound trickle-down effect and impact that allow them to survive and thrive.

Meanwhile, in a statement, Suzanna Suharju, ABAC Brunei Member and Chief Executive Officer of Imagine Sdn Bhd.



Yang Berhormat Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Second Minister of Finance and Economy with Hafimi Abdul Haadii, ABAC Brunei Member and Executive Director of LVK Group of Companies, during the report presentation.

said the recommendations speak of the need for us to act together to ensure we restore economic activities that promote a sustainable, dynamic, inclusive, and resilient long-term growth.

"What the pandemic has shown us is the importance of digital adoption across all businesses including MSMEs. We play a role in ensuring accessibility and inclusion for all to take advantage of this opportunity," she added.

APEC Member Economies comprise Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; Philippines; Russia; Singapore; Chinese Taipei; Thailand; United States of America; and Viet Nam.

ABAC was created by APEC Leaders in 1995 to be the primary voice of business in APEC.

Highlight related issues on food, agriculture and forestry



Yang Berhormat Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism in one of the meetings held virtually.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 27 - The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on food, agriculture and forestry sectors, and the potential disruption to the food supply chain in the region is a major concern.

At the 44th Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers

on Agriculture and Forestry (44th AMAF Meeting) held virtually, the ministers emphasised on the importance of the food, agriculture and forestry sector to ensure that essential, safe and nutritious produce can continue to reach the ASEAN market, including the continuous functioning of business activities and services to the

food and agriculture systems.

The meeting via video conference was attended by Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Dr. Haji Abdul Manaf bin Haji Metussin, Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism.

The conference was chaired by His Excellency Dr. Phet Phomphiphak, Minister of Agriculture and Forestry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism of Brunei Darussalam emphasised the importance of ASEAN's focus on economic recovery and digital economy integration, especially on issues related to food crisis, food and agricultural price increases that have led to increase in the cost of logistics and production.

On the same day, the Minister of Primary Resources and Tourism also joined the 22nd Meeting of the ASEAN Ministers on Agriculture and Forestry Plus Three (22nd AMAF + 3) and the 7th ASEAN India Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture and Forestry (7th AIMMAF), which was also held virtually.

Digital Transformation of Education Systems in ASEAN



Yang Berhormat Minister of Education of Brunei Darussalam in a group photo at the meeting held in Hanoi.

HANOI, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM October 14 – The 12th ASEAN Education Ministers' Meeting (12th ASEED), 6th ASEAN Plus Three Education Ministers' Meeting (6th APT EMM) and the 6th East Asia Summit Education Ministers' Meeting (6th EAS EMM) held from October 13 to 14, were organised by the Viet Nam's Ministry of Education and Training Viet Nam with the theme "Joint efforts to reimagine learning

and building resilience of education systems in ASEAN and beyond in the new context".

Towards creating a more resilient education system, Yang Berhormat Datin Seri Setia Dr. Hajah Romaizah binti Haji Md. Salleh shared that Brunei Darussalam's Ministry of Education's Digital Transformation Plan focuses on three main areas: education

technology; management technology; and enabling policies and infrastructure. The plan aims to ensure, among others, that digital learning will continue to be a norm in the education system. The meetings also saw the endorsement of the Declaration on Digital Transformation of Education Systems in ASEAN to be presented for adoption at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits.

World Postal Day : Post for Planet

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 9 - World Postal Day with the theme, "Post for Planet" aims to raise awareness of the importance on the post's role in the environment and the impact of daily activities that lead to climate change. The theme also supports the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) towards a resilient environment.

Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Setia Shamhary bin Pengiran Dato Paduka Haji Mustapha, the Minister of Transport and Infocommunications in a message in conjunction with World Post day 2022 highlighted that all Postal Services Providers are responsible for contributing towards a resilient environment.

As the main contributor to the letter and parcel delivery industry, the Postal Service Department (PSD) and courier companies in the country are advised to jointly implement initiatives to further increase awareness of the environment.

The demand to provide more environmentally friendly mail and parcel

delivery services is timely and innovation plays an important role in addressing it.

It also coincides with the Vision of the Strategic Plan of the Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications (MTIC 2025), which is to achieve Environment Sustainability.

The Minister of Transport and Infocommunications pointed out that several challenges still need to be overcome, especially when it comes to creating an efficient and viable traditional mail delivery service, such as the shift to the use of electronic mail has resulted in a decrease in the amount of physical correspondence, which usually generates revenue.

Realising this fact, PSD's business model needs to go through current changes and transitions.

This includes their continuous efforts to provide more environmentally friendly services, such as making advance travel and destination planning more organised.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Transport and Infocommunications.

Apart from increasing productivity, it is also more efficient and economical.

To protect the environment, PSD will always strive to implement strategies and progress with the times and will always remain relevant to meet the customers' needs.

28th ATM discusses ongoing transport cooperation

BALI, INDONESIA, October 17 - The 28th ASEAN Transport Ministers (ATM) Meeting held on October 16 to 17 has adopted two key documents, namely: the ASEAN Agreement on Aeronautical and Maritime Search and Rescue Cooperation (ASEAN SAR Agreement); and the ASEAN-European Union Comprehensive Air Transport Agreement (AE-CATA).

Attending the meeting was Yang Berhormat Pengiran Dato Seri Setia Shamhary bin Pengiran Dato Paduka

Haji Mustapha, Minister of Transport and Infocommunications.

The meeting was officiated by His Excellency Mr. Budi Karya Sumadi, the Minister of Transportation of Indonesia.

The ASEAN SAR Agreement would develop and strengthen aeronautical and maritime SAR cooperation among the ASEAN Member States.

Meanwhile, the AE-CATA, as the world's first bloc-to-bloc air transport agreement

in the world, would also help bolster air connectivity between the regions and enhance opportunities between the two sides as air transport move towards recovery following the COVID-19 pandemic.

The meeting adopted and agreed on the following documents, reflecting recent global trends in sustainable development and digitalisation.

The meeting also agreed to the establishment of the ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (STOM) Task Force on Sustainable Transport, which will look to respond to emerging issues and new initiatives, among others, in the areas of sustainable development, decarbonisation and digitalisation of the transport sector.

The 28th ATM was followed by meetings with ASEAN Dialogue Partners.

Also held were the 54th ASEAN Senior Transport Officials Meeting (54th STOM) and Associated Dialogue Partner Meetings.



Yang Berhormat Minister of Transport and Infocommunications with Brunei delegates at the meeting (upper left) and in a group photo with Brunei delegates (bottom left).

International Day of Older Persons : To reach old age with dignity



Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN, October 1 – With the theme "The Resilience and Contributions of Older Women", the

celebration of the International Day of Older Persons aims to raise the public's awareness on the growing number of elderly people in Brunei Darussalam, and the need to ensure everyone with the opportunity to reach old age with dignity.

Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Nazmi bin Haji Mohamad, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports explained the matter in the message in conjunction with the International Day of Older Persons 2022.

According to the Preliminary Count of Total Population 2021 under the Population and Housing Census 2021, the elderly aged 60 and above account for 10.1 per cent of the total population in Brunei Darussalam.

This shows that our country has reached the 'Population Ageing' phenomenon. Therefore, preparations to manage the implications related to this phenomenon

need to be strengthened nationally and in an integrated manner, taking into account the needs of the elderly, in all policies, strategies and programmes.

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, added "Towards this, Brunei Darussalam gives priority to the development, welfare and well-being of the elderly through the Action Plan under the National Council of Social Issues. A new plan has been developed focusing on a strategy for successful ageing."

In line with the theme for this year, the Minister stressed out that the strategy for successful ageing will also take into account the needs of elderly women in an inclusive manner.

At the same time, society also needs to be sensitive to the elderly who require additional care and support due to being bedridden or infirm, living alone as well as those who suffering from dementia.

Youth empowerment agenda - forefront of ASCC's deliverables



PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA, October 13 - Yang Berhormat Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Nazmi bin Haji Mohamad, Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, attended the 28th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council Meeting from October 12 to 13.

During the meeting, the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport outlined that youth empowerment remains in the forefront of ASCC's deliverables and stressed the need to continue to offer youth platforms.

The Minister further reaffirmed the role of cultural and creative industries

as an enabler and driver for ASEAN socio-economic growth.

The Siem Riep Declaration will allow ASEAN to embrace new emerging trends, and further uplift the livelihood of the cultural and creative workers.

ASCC Ministers also welcomed developments on ASEAN Plus China sports cooperation, as well as the implementation of the ASEAN Framework on Care Economy, through the ASEAN Comprehensive Recovery Framework and the designation of care economy as a Research and Development Platform



Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports delivering a speech at the meeting (above); and in a group photo with Brunei delegates at the 28th ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community (ASCC) Council Meeting (left).

under ASCC.

The ASCC Ministers endorsed and noted the ASCC outcome documents that will be submitted to the ASEAN Leaders at the 40th and 41st ASEAN Summits to be held in November in Phnom Penh.

On the side-lines, the Minister held a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of Cambodia and ASCC Council 2022 Chair; and ASCC Council Minister and Coordinating Minister for Human Development and Cultural Affairs of Indonesia, and as the incoming ASCC Council 2023 Chair.

Commander of RBN receives Meritorious Service Medal

REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE, October 18 - First Admiral Dato Seri Pahlawan Spry bin Haji Seruji @ Haji Seruji, Commander of the Royal Brunei Navy (RBN), was conferred Singapore's prestigious military award, the Meritorious Service Medal [(Military) [MSM(M)] by Her Excellency Dr. Hajah Halimah binti Yacob, President of the Republic of Singapore.

It was presented by His Excellency Dr. Ng Eng Hen, Minister of Defence, Republic of Singapore to Commander RBN at an investiture held at the Ministry of Defence Singapore. The award was in recognition of his significant contributions towards strengthening the naval cooperation between the RSN and the RBN. Both navies have enhanced their bilateral cooperation and interactions through official visits, courses and professional exchanges.

Their cooperation has also deepened in multiple areas, such as maritime domain awareness, maritime interoperability, and the development of confidence-building measures through multilateral platforms such as the ASEAN



First Admiral Dato Seri Pahlawan Spry bin Haji Seruji @ Haji Seruji, Commander of the Royal Brunei Navy (RBN) was conferred Singapore's prestigious military award, the Meritorious Service Medal (Military).

Navy Chiefs' Meeting, which has yielded significant professional benefits for Brunei Darussalam and the Republic of Singapore.

Prior to the investiture, Commander RBN inspected the Guard of Honour followed by a courtesy call to His Excellency Dr. Ng Eng Hen; Lieutenant General Melvyn Ong, Chief of Defence Force,

and Rear Admiral Aaron Beng, Chief of the Republic of Singapore Navy (RSN).

First Admiral Dato Seri Pahlawan Spry who is in Singapore from October 15 to October 19, also had the opportunity to visit SAFTI Military Institute (SAFTI MI) and RSN's Naval Diving Unit (NDU).