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MIPR Participates in 19th Civil Service Day Exhibition

The Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources (MIPR) participated in the 19th Civil Service Day exhibition which was run from the 17-25 October 2012 at the International Convention Centre, Berakas. The exhibition was held in conjunction with the Civil Service Day, which is celebrated on 29 September every year. This year, the Ministry of Development (MOD) was chosen to lead the exhibition which was themed 'Towards Achieving the Brunei Vision 2035', while MIPR was chosen as

Secretariat of the Steering Committee of Ease of Doing Business. The exhibition's focus was on support for the local construction industry - one of the main pillars contributing to the growth and health of Brunei's economy.

A total of 35 civil service officers and staff from 12 government ministries received accolades at the exhibition venue as recognition for their tireless contributions and hard work in the civil service. HRH Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah, the Deputy Sultan, gracing

the event together with HRH Prince Abdul Malik, consented to present the respective individuals with their awards which consisted of a trophy, certificate of appreciation and a cash prize of B\$1,000. The Deputy Sultan also consented to present certificates of service to retiring government officers, who were represented by the Permanent Secretaries from the respective ministries. The Deputy Sultan then went on to tour the exhibition prior to the conclusion of the event.



Deputy Sultan Visits Brunei Agro Technology Park

HRH Prince Haji Al-Muhtadee Billah Ibni Kebawah Duli Yang Maha Mulia Paduka Seri Baginda Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah Mu'izzaddin Waddaulah, the Deputy Sultan and Senior Minister at the Prime Minister's Office, paid a working visit to the Brunei Agro Technology Park in Kg Tungku, on 25 October 2012, as Chairman of the 10th National Development Plan Committee. The Brunei Agro Technology Park is a 500 hectare project falling under the Ministry of Industry and Primary Resources' (MIPR) 10th National Development Plan.

Welcoming the arrival of the prince was the Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awg Haji Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar; the Permanent Secretary of MIPR, Yang Mulia Dyg Hajah Normah Suria Hayati bte Pehin Jawatan Dalam Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama (Dr) Haji Awg Mohd Jamil Al-Sufri and the Deputy Permanent Secretary (Primary Resources Development) of MIPR, Yang Mulia Dyg Hajah Hasnah bte Ibrahim.

Yang Mulia Dyg Hajah Normah, the Permanent Secretary of MIPR, gave a briefing on the Agro Technology Park, stating that the park is part of Brunei Darussalam's economic diversification strategy to produce halal products through the development of the Agro industry. The Agro Technology Park project is projected to generate more than 9,000 jobs, including 2,000 skilled-job openings/posts such as scientists, researchers, quality control officers and managers. Job opportunities in the processing, marketing, hotel and health spa sectors are also expected to open up for locals.

Horticulture Business Centre Receives Special Guest

Mrs Ho Ching, spouse of the Prime Minister of Singapore, His Excellency Mr Lee Hsien Loong, paid a visit to the Horticulture Business Centre in Kampong Rimba, Gadong, on 30 October 2012. She was welcomed and greeted by the Permanent Secretary of MIPR, Yang Mulia Dyg Hajah Normah Suria Hayati bte Pehin Jawatan Dalam Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama (Dr) Haji Awg Mohd Jamil Al-Sufri, and the Deputy

Permanent Secretary of MIPR, Yang Mulia Dyg Hajah Hasnah bte Ibrahim.

A flower and orchid lover, Mrs Ho toured the Orchid Tissue Culture Collection, orchid collection stalls, orchid sales stalls, and viewed the local Brunei handicrafts on display as well as Brunei Halal products ranging from beverages, ready-made sauces, snacks and cookies. Mrs Ho was impressed with the uniqueness of the

local products and even made several purchases of local fruits, flowers and other fruit plants. She also bought some locally-made biscuits, table cloths and wood carvings during her time at the centre. Later on, Mrs Ho joined in for a coffee and tea session with entrepreneurs and women staff of MIPR. Towards the end of her visit, Mrs Ho was invited to plant a 'Weeping Tea' tree to mark her visit to the Horticulture Business Centre.



Coming Together for a Greater Cause



“ ASEAN occupies only 3% of the earth’s surface, yet it contains over 20% of all known species of plants, animals and marine life. Furthermore, with 43% of forest cover as compared to a world average of 30%, ASEAN is also recognised as one of the most densely-forested areas on the planet. Thus, any advancement in our efforts towards conserving and sustainably managing ASEAN’s biodiversity will leave tremendous positive impacts on our planet. ”

Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awg Haji Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar, Minister of Industry and Primary Resources

The Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awg Haji Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar, in his keynote address to mark the official opening of the ASEAN-Korea Biodiversity Cooperation Seminar at Universiti Brunei Darussalam on 25 October 2012, underscored the importance of conservation and sustainable development of the Borneo’s rich biodiversity, adding that this will require transnational efforts and cooperation. Themed “Current and Future Challenges to Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Development in the ASEAN Region”, the seminar was attended by Acting Vice Chancellor, Dr Hj Anita Bipurul Zahrina bte POKLW DSS Hj Awg Abd Aziz; the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Brunei Darussalam,

His Excellency Mr Choi Byung Koo, ambassadors and high commissioners from ASEAN member countries, 15 invited speakers (from Brunei, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Singapore and Korea) and other guests.

A right balance needs to be struck between biodiversity conservation and economic development activities that affect healthy ecosystems, and Brunei Darussalam has set its own policy to achieve this goal – a Biodiversity Law which will institutionalise existing initiatives on biodiversity conservation, the minister added during his speech. The country’s bio-conservation efforts were also boosted with the formalisation of Brunei’s participation in the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) in July 2008, placing the country on par with national and international standards on the sustainable usage of biological and natural resources.



Hybrid Groupers for Hong Kong

The Minister of Industry and Primary Resources, Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Seri Utama Dato Seri Setia Awg Haji Yahya bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar, as the guest of honour, officially launched the harvest

of hybrid groupers for export to Hong Kong by BioMarine Sdn. Bhd. – a floating cage culture company, in a ceremony at Tanjung Pelompong on 25 October 2012.

A total of 45 metric tons of hybrid groupers or the equivalent of 7,500 fishes – each weighing an average of 6 kilograms and amounting to a total value of \$1.2 million, were harvested

for export. The harvest was a historical event marking the first export of live groupers by the company to Hong Kong. BioMarine’s achievement represents a significant milestone by the cage culture industry of Brunei Darussalam. The Department of Fisheries has provided a selection of suitable sites for entrepreneurs wishing to venture into this industry such as the Pelong Rocks and Tanjung Pelompong areas.



MIPR Diary

OCT 16 Agri-Biotechnology Workshop Conducted

The opening ceremony of a three-day workshop entitled 'Workshop on Application of Agri-Biotechnology in Brunei Darussalam' was held on 16 October 2012 at Rizqun International Hotel, Gadong. The guest of honour, Yang Mulia Dyg Hajah Hasnah bte Ibrahim, Deputy Permanent Secretary (Primary Resources Development) of MIPR, officiated the event. Members



of staff from various departments and divisions under MIPR as well as the Attorney General's Chamber participated in the workshop. The workshop involved

theory, interactive group activities and project challenges, providing a broad overview of biotechnology while specifically focusing on the potential applications of biotechnology in agriculture in Brunei Darussalam.

The workshop, part of capacity-building programme activities carried out under the consultancy project 'Department of a Master Plan for Agriculture Biotechnology in Brunei Darussalam', was conducted by DuoDua Agriculture and AbacusBio Limited, New Zealand. The primary aim of the workshop was to enhance the understanding of agricultural biotechnology and to explore the opportunities for applications in Brunei Darussalam.

OCT 17 Congratulations!

The Minister, Permanent Secretary, Deputy Permanent Secretaries, and officers and staff of MIPR and the departments under it would like to congratulate the following recipients of the Anugerah Pekerja Cemerlang award for the year 2012 coinciding with the 19th Civil Service Day celebrations:



Awg Hj Ismail bin Hj Sabtu
Senior Fisheries Licensing Officer,
Fisheries Department



Dyg Hajah Alina bte Haji Jair
Fisheries Assistant,
Fisheries Department



Dyg Hjh Amnah bte Hj Hidup
Clerk Assistant Open Vote,
Fisheries Department

OCT 29 MIPR Korban Ceremony Held



MIPR and the departments under it held a Korban ceremony - organised by the Department of Fisheries, on Monday,

29 October 2012. The ceremony was held at Dewan Setia Pahlawan, MIPR Building. The guest of honour, Yang Mulia Dyg Hajah Normah Suria Hayati bte Pehin Jawatan Dalam Seri Maharaja Dato Seri Utama (Dr) Awg Haji Mohd Jamil Al-Sufri, Permanent Secretary of MIPR, was there to distribute sacrificial meat to members of MIPR and their respective families.

The ceremony was also attended by the Deputy Permanent Secretary (Primary Resources Development) of MIPR, Yang Mulia Dyg Hajah Hasnah bte Ibrahim, Directors and Deputy Directors, officers and employees of MIPR and the departments under it. The Deputy Permanent Secretary also handed out sacrificial meat to a total of 86 'entitled' staffs and members of the

Ministry. A total of four buffaloes and a goat were sacrificed. The ceremony was initiated with the recitation of Surah Al-Fatihah, followed by Korban-related scripture verse reading from the Al-Quran and ended with the recitation of a doa selamat.

