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## **Awards ceremony for BEES Programme 2014**

The Brunei Entrepreneurship Education Scheme (BEES) Programme award ceremony for the 2014 Convention was held today at Hua Ho Manggis Mall Ballroom. The BEES Programme is jointly organised by the Curriculum Development Department, Ministry of Education, Universiti Brunei Darussalam and Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn Bhd with the aim to stimulate the development of entrepreneurial behaviour and capability in students through education and learning.

It is also set to instil entrepreneurial awareness and values. This is carried out through forming a company and sales activities which develop students' competency in decision-making, working in teams and collaboration, creativity, communication, business and marketing skills.

Present as the Guest of Honour to grace the event was Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Hamzah Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdullah bin Begawan Mudim Dato Paduka Haji Bakar, the Minister of Communications.

The BEES 2014 Convention marks the end of the third year of this initiative. Since it was introduced in 2012, a total of more than 1,000 students have attended the programme and within three years, all secondary schools in Brunei Darussalam have been running this programme. This year, 349 students from 21 schools participated, with 23 BEES companies created.

The school students participating in the programme learnt how to start, run, and close a business. Among the business skills that they learnt were business planning, management, marketing, finances and reporting. By doing business, the students also gained skills in presentation, teamwork and leadership.

BEES is unique because it is designed to include business features of Islam such as zakat payment and making sure traded ingredients are from legitimate sources.

This afternoon event started with a welcoming address by Mr. Ken Marnoch, the Managing Director of Brunei Shell Petroleum Co Sdn Bhd and was later followed by a speech from Yang Berhormat Pehin Orang Kaya Hamzah Pahlawan Dato Seri Setia Awang Haji Abdullah, the Guest of Honour.

Throughout the BEES programme, the school students underwent training workshops to prepare them to plan and run their businesses. They were also invited to participate in LiveWIRE Brunei's SME promotion event to experience a competitive business environment.

The BEES programme is not a competition but the students were presented with a certificate of participation, and a selected few were recognized for their excellence in their respective achievements. Among the awards that were presented included the most outstanding planner, most innovative company, most entrepreneurial company, most competent company, outstanding BEES and most profitable company.

A final assessment report was delivered by the Head of Judge, Pengiran Redzuan Bin Pengiran Haji Abbas, Director of LiveWIRE Brunei at the event.

In his report he cited that companies were evaluated based on their Business Plan, Financial Statements and Business Reports. Creativity and Innovation are also assessed against timeline given, alongside product handling, effective marketing strategy, Human Resources acquisition and execution of roles and responsibilities; including each team's capability in finance, administration, marketing and teamwork. The creative use of various social media platforms, system of book-keeping and proper recording of company shares and other relevant documents are also taken into account.

It is encouraging to see that although a small number of companies out of the 23 participating companies did not meet their target sales, it is promising that they will continue to become capable and flourish in a competitive environment.

Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sendirian Berhad via LiveWIRE Brunei, the Secretariat platform for the BEES programme has continued to provide excellent entrepreneurship education while further develop and progress in meeting the demands from local industries especially in producing a new enterprising generation to provide technical and services support for the Brunei Petroleum and Gas Industries, alongside other industrial sectors.

For more information and updates on the BEES programme, visit [www.beesprogramme.com](http://www.beesprogramme.com) and our facebook at [www.facebook.com/beesprogramme](http://www.facebook.com/beesprogramme).

**ENDS.**

### **About BEES**

The BEES programme started in 2011 with a Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Education, Universiti Brunei Darussalam, and Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn Bhd. The programme is intended to help students learn about business through participation and practical activities. BEES mission is: To inspire and equip Brunei youths to learn and succeed through enterprise. It is hoped that the BEES programme allows an unlimited exposure to its participants to continually excel and actively generate future young Brunei entrepreneurs.

### **ENQUIRIES:**

**Brunei Shell Petroleum Media Relations**

Notes to Editors: Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn Bhd (BSP) should be referred as BSP or Brunei Shell Petroleum for abbreviation or headline purposes. Brunei Shell Petroleum Company Sdn Bhd's activity is primarily for the exploration and production of crude oil and natural gas from onshore and offshore fields. The Government of Brunei Darussalam and a company in the Royal Dutch Shell Group of Companies each owns a 50% stake in BSP.